

The CNMI is an unincorporated territory of the United States (U.S.) whose relationship with the U.S. is governed by the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, Public Law 94-241, 90 Stat. 263 (1976), as amended (Covenant). The Covenant was recently modified by Congress in Title VII of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act, Public Law 110-229, Title VII, Subtitle A, 122 Stat. 754, 853 (2008) (CNRA). The CNRA applies the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and other U.S. immigration laws to the CNMI beginning on November 28, 2009, with a transition period that will end on December 31, 2014, unless certain provisions are extended by the Department.

The CNMI Department of Labor, as of November 28, would normally be charged with the issuance of PWDs under the various regulations governing such determinations. Since there is very little time between November 28, 2009, and January 1, 2010, the Department has determined it is more feasible for the Department to receive such requests directly rather than have the CNMI receive and process such requests. All requests for a PWD for a job opportunity on CNMI made in connection with a potential filing in a labor certification program must be made in the manner described in "Filing Procedures," below.

Regulations

All employers submitting PWD requests and related actions must follow the prevailing wage requirements set forth in 20 CFR 655.10, 655.11, 655.731, 655.1112, 656.40 and 656.41, as applicable.

Filing Procedures

a. PWD Requests

1. Requestors must submit PWD requests using the Application for Prevailing Wage Determination, Form ETA-9141.

2. Requestors must submit PWD requests to the NPWHC by U.S. Mail or comparable physical delivery service at the following address: U.S. Department of Labor-ETA, National Prevailing Wage and Helpdesk Center, Attn: PWD Request; 1341 G Street, NW., Suite 201, Washington, DC 20005-3142.

Note: On and after November 28, 2009, for the CMNI and on and after January 1, 2010, the NPWHC will only process PWD requests received by mail in hard copy.

The Department is in the process of developing an electronic means for the submission of PWD requests and will

publish a notice in the **Federal Register** informing the public when such a process becomes available.

3. Employer Provided Wage Documentation for H-1B, H-2B and Permanent Labor Certification Programs.

The NPWHC will consider wage information provided by the employer in making a PWD. Where not present in the survey submitted, an employer should provide the following information pertaining to its survey, except when McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act (SCA) or Davis Bacon Act (DBA) wages have been requested.

- i. The name of the published survey, when appropriate;
- ii. The publication schedule for the survey, when appropriate. This should include the publication date of the requested survey, the date of the previous version of the survey and the date of the next release of the survey (actual or anticipated);
- iii. When the data was collected;
- iv. A description of the job duties or activities used in the survey;
- v. The methodology used in the survey;
 - A. How the universe is defined;
 - B. How the sample size was determined;
 - C. How the participants were selected; and

1. The number of employers surveyed for the occupation in the area;
2. The number of wage value responses (employees) for the occupation in the area;

D. A list of employer participants or explanation of how the cross industry nature of the survey was maintained;

E. How the presented wage was determined and if it is mean or median;

F. Any other appropriate information on the survey's methodology;

G. The area covered by the survey or relevant portion and an explanation of any expansion of the area beyond normal commuting distance, when applicable;

4. Employer-Provided Wage Documentation for SCA/DBA.

No employer-provided wage documents are initially required for SCA/DBA wage rate requests but NPWHC staff may require the requestor to submit additional documentation, if needed to make a PWD.

b. Redeterminations

All requests for prevailing wage redeterminations must be sent to the: U.S. Department of Labor-ETA; National Prevailing Wage and Helpdesk Center, Attn.: PW Redetermination, 1341 G Street, NW., Suite 201, Washington, DC 20005-3142.

c. OFLC Review

Requests for OFLC review or PWD challenges must be mailed to the: U.S. Department of Labor-ETA; National Prevailing Wage and Helpdesk Center; Attn.: PWD Review, 1341 G Street, NW., Suite 201, Washington, DC 20005-3142.

d. BALCA Review of PWDs

For all programs, requests for review by the Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals (BALCA) must be in writing and must be made no more than 30 days after determination. Employers must send their requests for BALCA review to the following address: U.S. Department of Labor-ETA, National Prevailing Wage and Helpdesk Center, Attn.: PWD Appeal, 1341 G Street, NW., Suite 201, Washington, DC 20005-3142.

e. State Workforce Agencies and Chicago NPC to Cease Processing PWD Requests Received on and After January 1, 2010

State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) and the Chicago NPC, where PWD requests are currently submitted, will complete any PWD requests received on or prior to December 31, 2009. The Chicago NPC or SWA will maintain responsibility for processing PWD requests and review requests (including all challenges and appeals) under 20 CFR 656.40 or 656.41 or 20 CFR 655.10 or 655.11, as appropriate, so long as the original PWD request was received on or prior to December 31, 2009.

Any PWD request, using the ETA Form 9141, received from January 1, 2010, up to and including January 15, 2010, will be forwarded by the SWA or the Chicago NPC to the NPWHC. Requests received after January 15, 2010, will be returned to the requestor with a cover letter that includes instructions on where to send the request and where to obtain a copy of the ETA-9141.

Signed in Washington, DC, this 25th day of November 2009.

Jane Oates,

Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration.

[FR Doc. E9-28963 Filed 12-3-09; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Proposal Review; Notice of Meetings

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation (NSF) announces its intent to hold proposal review meetings throughout the year. The purpose of

these meetings is to provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to the NSF for financial support. The agenda for each of these meetings is to review and evaluate proposals as part of the selection process for awards. The review and evaluation may also include assessment of the progress of awarded proposals. The majority of these meetings will take place at NSF, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Virginia 22230.

These meetings will be closed to the public. The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act. NSF will continue to review the agenda and merits of each meeting for overall compliance of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

These closed proposal review meetings will not be announced on an individual basis in the **Federal Register**. NSF intends to publish a notice similar to this on a quarterly basis. For an advance listing of the closed proposal review meetings that include the names of the proposal review panel and the time, date, place, and any information on changes, corrections, or cancellations, please visit the NSF Web site: <http://www.nsf.gov>. This information may also be requested by telephoning, 703/292-8182.

Dated: December 1, 2009.

Susanne Bolton,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. E9-28943 Filed 12-3-09; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541)

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of Permit Applications Received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by January 4, 2010. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 292-7405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas a requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

The applications received are as follows:

1. Applicant

Permit Application No. 2010-021
Sam Feola, Raytheon Polar Services Company, 7400 South Tucson Way, Centennial, CO 80112.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested

Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Areas. The applicant plans to enter Cape Crozier (ASPA 124) to conduct occasional operations, maintenance, construction and rehabilitation to open and close facilities used for scientific research.

Location

Cape Crozier (ASPA 124).

Dates

January 1, 2009 to September 20, 2014.

2. Applicant

Permit Application No. 2010-022
Paul Morin, Department of Geology and Geophysics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested

Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Areas. The applicant proposes to enter Cape Crozier (ASPA 124), Cape Royds (ASPA 121), and Cape Bird, Ross Island to collect ground control points (GCP) as part of a project to accurately rectify

high-resolution satellite imagery in the McMurdo Sound region. The high-resolution satellite imagery is used for planning, logistics, search and rescue maps, and scientific analysis. In order to assure the highest accuracy possible, these images need to be corrected by locating reliable, distinguishable features on the ground.

Location

Cape Crozier (ASPA 124), Cape Royds (ASPA 121), and Cape Bird, Ross Island.

Dates

January 7-14, 2010.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. E9-28949 Filed 12-3-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 72-10; NRC-2009-0534]

Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact; For the Amendment of U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission License No. SNM-2506 for Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kellee Jamerson, Environmental Project Manager, Environmental Review Branch, Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection, Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Rockville, Maryland 20852. Telephone: (301) 415-7649; Fax: (301) 415-5370; E-mail: Kellee.Jamerson@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

By letter dated March 28, 2008, as supplemented August 29, 2008, Northern States Power Company (NSP), formerly Nuclear Management Company, LLC, submitted a request to the NRC to amend materials license SNM-2506 for the Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (PIISFSI). The license amendment request proposes the design modification of the TN-40 cask to the TN-40HT cask. The modified cask design will accommodate the dry