

range of strategies for main control room abandonment, and the potential impact of fire-induced spurious electrical effects on crew performance.

Due to the detailed nature of the processes described in this report and the level of effort required to provide a quality review, a request was submitted to the NRC for an extension of the public comment period for NUREG-1921 (EPRI 1019196). NRC-RES reviewed this request and has agreed to extend the public comment period an additional 32 days to March 19, 2010.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 26th day of January, 2010.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Mark Salley,

Chief, Fire Research Branch, Division of Risk Analysis, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 2010-2289 Filed 2-2-10; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 75 FR 4429 (January 27, 2010).

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE: Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 11 a.m.

CHANGES IN THE MEETING: The Commission is adding item no. 13—discussion of confidential commercial information relative to a potential Commission contract (closed) to its February meeting agenda. This action is being taken pursuant to a determination of the Commission, by recorded vote, as to the need for the change in the agenda, the status of the new agenda item, and the inability to provide earlier notice. There is a related General Counsel certification as to the appropriateness of closing agenda item no. 13 to public observation.

CONTACT PERSON FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, Postal Regulatory Commission, at 202-789-6820 or stephen.sharfman@prc.gov.

Dated: February 1, 2010.

Shoshana M. Grove,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2010-2450 Filed 2-1-10; 4:15 pm]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[License No. 01/01-0414]

Ironwood Mezzanine Fund II, L.P.; Notice Seeking Exemption Under Section 312 of the Small Business Investment Act, Conflicts of Interest

Notice is hereby given that Ironwood Mezzanine Fund II, L.P. 200 Fisher Drive, Avon, CT 06001-3723, a Federal Licensee under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended (“the Act”), in connection with the financing of a small concern, has sought an exemption under Section 312 of the Act and Section 107.730, Financials which Constitute Conflicts of Interest of the Small Business Administration (“SBA”) Rules and Regulations (13 CFR 107.730). Ironwood Mezzanine Fund II, L.P. proposes to provide debt/equity security financing to Action Carting Environmental Services, Inc., 451 Frelinghuysen Avenue, Newark, NJ 07114. The financing is contemplated as part of a debt/equity issuance, the proceeds of which will be used for planned acquisitions.

The financing is brought within the purview of § 107.730(a) of the Regulations because Ironwood Equity Fund, L.P., an Associate of Ironwood Mezzanine Fund II, L.P., owns more than ten percent of Action Carting Environmental Services, Inc., and this transaction is considered a Financing of an Associate requiring an exemption to the Regulations.

Notice is hereby given that any interested person may submit written comments on the transaction, within 15 days of the date of publication, to the Associate Administrator for Investment, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416.

Dated: January 19, 2010.

Sean Greene,

Associate Administrator for Investment.

[FR Doc. 2010-2225 Filed 2-2-10; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Grand Challenges of the 21st Century; Request for Information

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On September 21, 2009, President Barack Obama released his “Strategy for American Innovation.” The strategy outlines the Administration’s plans to foster innovation for sustainable growth and the creation of high-quality jobs.

One of the goals of the President’s strategy is to harness science and technology to address the “grand challenges” of the 21st century. This Request for Information (RFI) is designed to collect input from the public regarding (1) The grand challenges that were identified in the strategy document; (2) other grand challenges that the Administration should consider, such as those identified by the National Academy of Engineering; (3) partners (e.g., companies, investors, foundations, social enterprises, non-profit organizations, philanthropists, research universities, consortia, etc.) that are interested in collaborating with each other and the Administration to achieve one or more of these goals, and (4) models for creating an “architecture of participation” that allows many individuals and organizations to contribute to these grand challenges.

RFI Guidelines: Responses to this RFI should be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 15, 2010. Responses to this RFI must be delivered electronically as an attachment to an e-mail sent to challenge@ostp.gov.

Responses to this notice are not offers and cannot be accepted by the Government to form a binding contract or issue a grant. Information obtained as a result of this RFI may be used by the government for program planning on a non-attribution basis. Do not include any information that might be considered proprietary or confidential.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any questions about the content of this RFI should be sent to challenge@ostp.gov.

Additional information regarding this RFI is at <http://www.ostp.gov/grandchallenges/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Obama Administration believes that grand challenges should be an important organizing principle for America’s science, technology and innovation policy. Grand challenges can address key national priorities, catalyze innovations that catalyze economic growth and quality jobs, spur the formation of multidisciplinary teams of researcher and multi-sector collaborators, bring new expertise to bear on important problems, strengthen the “social contract” between science and society, and inspire students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

There are multiple types of grand challenges. Some define important problems in a particular field of science and engineering. For example, in 1900, the German mathematics professor David Hilbert posed 23 “mathematical