

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to request reinstatement and clearance for this collection. In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506 (c)(2) (A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are providing opportunity for public comment on this action. After obtaining and considering public comment, NSF will prepare the submission requesting OMB clearance of this collection for no longer than three years.

Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information of respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written comments should be received by April 11, 2011, to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding the information collection and requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 295, Arlington, VA 22230, or by e-mail to splimpton@nsf.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne Plimpton on (703) 292-7556 or send e-mail to splimpton@nsf.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title of Collection:* Informal Science Education (ISE) Program.

Evaluation for the National Science Foundation

OMB Number: 3145-0158.

Expiration Date of Approval: Not applicable.

Type of request: Reinstatement.

Abstract:

Informal Science Education (ISE) is an NSF program that supports innovation in anywhere, anytime, lifelong learning,

through investments in research, development, infrastructure, and capacity-building for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning outside formal school settings. Informal science experiences can serve to spark young people's interest in pursuing careers in STEM fields as well as to improve public engagement with STEM, contributing to science learning for most citizens. For over 40 years, NSF ISE programming has supported efforts to engage the public in science and science learning. The program is charged with advancing public understanding of STEM content and processes and promoting engagement with informal STEM education experiences. Since the last major evaluation of NSF ISE (COSMOS Corporation, 1998), ISE has taken strategic steps to support the growing maturation of the informal science field, producing seminal documents such as Framework for Evaluating Impacts of Informal Science Education Projects (Friedman, 2008) and Learning Science in Informal Environments (NRC, 2009), and supporting field-wide resources such as the InformalScience.org Web site and the Center for the Advancement of Informal Science Education (CAISE). The program's grant solicitations have reflected a growing professionalization for the informal science community with new expectations for rigorous research on implementation and outcomes.

The ISE program evaluation will characterize changes in the informal science arena since 1999 and delineate the role in those changes of the NSF ISE program between 1999 and the present. The evaluation will do so by analyzing NSF ISE-funded projects over that time frame, attending in particular to the impact on informal science infrastructure, the rigor of individual project evaluations, the learning outcomes for diverse audiences, and the features of exemplary projects. The ISE program evaluation will employ a mixed-method approach including extensive document review of solicitations, proposals, reports, and published literature; qualitative and quantitative analyses of surveys and interviews with researchers and practitioners in the field; and case studies of influential projects, initiatives, and ideas. This information collection request will include a survey instrument for principal investigators of past and current ISE projects, one survey instrument for project evaluators, and protocols for follow-up interviews

with a sample of principal investigators and evaluators.

Estimate of Burden:

Respondents: Individuals.

Frequency: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1010.

Estimated Burden Hours on Respondents: 550.

Dated: February 7, 2011.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2011-2976 Filed 2-9-11; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-271; License No. DPR-28; NRC-2010-0191]

Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.; Notice of Issuance of Director's Decision

Notice is hereby given that the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, has issued a Director's Decision with regard to a petition dated April 19, 2010, filed by Congressman Paul W. Hodes, U.S. House of Representatives, hereinafter referred to as the "Petitioner." The petition was supplemented by letters dated May 14 and June 16, 2010. The petition concerns the operation of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (Vermont Yankee).

The petition requested that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) not allow Vermont Yankee, operated by Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy or the licensee), to restart in May 2010, after its scheduled refueling outage, until the completion of all environmental remediation work and relevant reports on leaking tritium at the plant. Specifically, the petition asked the NRC to prevent Vermont Yankee from resuming power production until the following efforts have been completed to the Commission's satisfaction: (1) The tritiated groundwater remediation process; (2) the soil remediation process scheduled to take place during the refueling outage, to remove soil containing tritium and radioactive isotopes of cesium, manganese, zinc, and cobalt; (3) Entergy's root cause analysis; and (4) the Commission's review of the documents presented by Entergy as a result of the Commission's demand for information imposed on the licensee on March 1, 2010.

The petition raises concerns originating from the licensee's report to the NRC on January 7, 2010, that water samples taken from a monitoring well on site at Vermont Yankee showed tritium levels above background. Tritium is another name for the radioactive nuclide hydrogen-3. Tritium occurs naturally in the environment because of cosmic ray interactions and is also produced by nuclear reactor operations. Tritium is chemically identical to normal hydrogen (hydrogen-1), and like normal hydrogen tends to combine with oxygen to form water, which is referred to as tritiated water. The detection of tritiated water in the monitoring well indicated there was abnormal leakage from the nuclear plant. The licensee later identified a leak from underground pipe in the Advanced Off-Gas system as the source of the leak.

This petition was assigned to the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) for review. NRR's Petition Review Board (PRB) met on May 3, 2010, and made an initial recommendation to accept this petition for review. The NRC communicated this decision to the Petitioner's staff, who told the PRB that the Petitioner did not desire to address the PRB. The PRB's final recommendation was to accept the petition for review. By letter dated May 20, 2010, Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML101310049, the NRC informed the Petitioner of the PRB's recommendation and also stated that the NRC did not find cause to prohibit the restart of Vermont Yankee.

The NRC sent a copy of the proposed Director's Decision to the Petitioner for comment on November 18, 2010, and to the licensee for comment on November 29, 2010. The Petitioner did not provide any comments and the licensee provided minor comments. The licensee's comments have been addressed in the Director's Decision.

The NRR staff has determined that the activities requested by the Petitioner have been completed, with the exception of preventing the restart of Vermont Yankee. Therefore, the Director of NRR concludes that the petition has been granted in part and denied in part. The reasons for this decision are explained in the Director's Decision (DD-11-01) pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) 2.206, "Requests for action under this subpart."

Copies of the petition, ADAMS Accession No. ML101120663, and the Director's Decision, ADAMS Accession No. ML110060072, are available for inspection at the Commission's Public

Document Room (PDR) at One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, and from the NRC's ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room on the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The supplemental letters are under ADAMS Accession Nos. ML101370031 and ML101720485. NRC Management Directive 8.11, "Review Process for 10 CFR 2.206 Petitions," ADAMS Accession No. ML041770328, describes the petition review process. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who have problems in accessing the documents in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

A copy of the Director's Decision will be filed with the Secretary of the Commission for the Commission's review in accordance with 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations. As provided for by this regulation, the Director's Decision will constitute the final action of the Commission 25 days after the date of the decision, unless the Commission, on its own motion, institutes a review of the Director's Decision in that time.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 27th day of January 2011.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Eric J. Leeds,

Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 2011-3026 Filed 2-9-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology; Notice of Meeting; Partially Closed Meeting of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology

ACTION: Public notice.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and summary agenda for a partially closed meeting of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), and describes the functions of the Council. Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C., App.

DATE: March 8, 2011.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Marriott Metro Center, 775 12th Street NW., Junior Ballroom, Washington, DC.

Type of Meeting: Open and Closed.
Proposed Schedule and Agenda: The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) is scheduled to meet in open session on March 8, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a lunch break from 12:15 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Open Portion of Meeting: During this open meeting, PCAST is tentatively scheduled to hear presentations on defense nuclear nonproliferation research and the Federal statistical system. Representatives from the Department of Health and Human Services will update PCAST on the implementation status of recommendations PCAST made in its reports on influenza. PCAST members will also discuss reports they are developing on the topics of advanced manufacturing; biodiversity preservation and ecosystem sustainability; and the first two years of undergraduate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education. Additional information and the agenda will be posted at the PCAST Web site at: <http://whitehouse.gov/ostp/pcast>.

Closed Portion of the Meeting: PCAST may hold a closed meeting of approximately 1 hour with the President on March 8, 2011, which must take place in the White House for the President's scheduling convenience and to maintain Secret Service protection. This meeting will be closed to the public because such portion of the meeting is likely to disclose matters that are to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1). The precise date and time of this potential meeting has not yet been determined.

Public Comments: It is the policy of the PCAST to accept written public comments of any length, and to accommodate oral public comments whenever possible. The PCAST expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted oral or written statements.

The public comment period for this meeting will take place on March 8, 2011 at a time specified in the meeting agenda posted on the PCAST Web site at <http://whitehouse.gov/ostp/pcast>. This public comment period is designed only for substantive commentary on PCAST's work, not for business marketing purposes.

Oral Comments: To be considered for the public speaker list at the meeting, interested parties should register to speak at <http://whitehouse.gov/ostp/pcast>, no later than 12 p.m. Eastern Time on Tuesday, March 1, 2011. Phone