

Standards, Regulations, and Variances, MSHA, at triebsch.george@dol.gov (email); 202–693–9440 (voice); or 202–693–9441 (facsimile). These are not toll-free numbers.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Underground coal mine operators must designate at least two mine rescue teams to provide mine rescue coverage at an underground coal mine at all times when miners are underground. The MINER Act requires coal mine operators to annually certify the qualifications of these designated teams. MSHA provides the criteria for certifying the qualifications of coal mine rescue teams under 30 CFR 49.50. The MINER Act requires MSHA to update these criteria every 5 years. The revised instruction guides do not change these criteria.

Initial criteria to certify the qualifications of mine rescue teams include: (1) Team is available at all times when miners are underground; (2) Except where alternative compliance is permitted, team has five members and one alternate; (3) Members have experience working in an underground coal mine; (4) Team is available within 1 hour ground travel time from the mine rescue station to the mine; (5) Appropriate mine rescue equipment is provided, inspected, tested, and maintained; (6) Members are physically fit; and (7) Members have completed initial training.

Annual criteria to maintain mine rescue team certification include: (1) Members are properly trained annually; (2) Members are familiar with the operations of each covered mine; (3) Members participate in at least two local mine rescue contests annually; (4) Members participate in mine rescue training at each covered mine; and (5) Members are knowledgeable about the operations and ventilation of each covered mine.

Existing § 49.18(b)(4) requires advanced mine rescue training and procedures as prescribed by MSHA's Office of Educational Policy and Development (EPD). Under this section, EPD prescribes Instruction Guide IG7, "Advanced Mine Rescue Training—Coal Mines", which includes best practices, handouts, visuals, and text materials for the classroom and activities or exercises for practice using equipment and developing teamwork. MSHA revised this instruction guide to add realistic hands-on exercises for skills training on equipment.

The existing lessons and exercises from the current Instruction Guide IG7 were reorganized. The materials for classroom training are retained as Instruction Guide IG7, "Advanced Mine

Rescue Training—Coal Mines", and the practice exercises are moved to new Instruction Guide IG7a, "Advanced Skills Training—Activities for Coal Mine Rescue Teams". These revised instruction guides will assist coal mine rescue team trainers in providing team members with the necessary knowledge and skills to respond effectively in the event of an emergency.

MSHA is requesting comments on revised Instruction Guides IG7 and IG7a to improve the quality and effectiveness of instruction and skills training for mine rescue teams. The revised instruction guides are posted on www.regulations.gov and on the Agency's Web site at <http://www.msha.gov/MineRescue/Training/TeamTraining.asp>.

Authority: 30 U.S.C. 811, 825(e).

Dated: September 16, 2013.

Joseph A. Main,

Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health.

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation of 1978, Public Law 95–541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Adrian Dahood, ACA Permit Officer, Division of Polar Programs, Rm. 755, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230. Or by email: ACApermits@nsf.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 7, 2013 the National Science Foundation published a notice in the **Federal Register** of a permit application received. After carefully considering all comments received and responses from the applicant, the permit was issued on September 18, 2013 to: Eric Stangeland, Quark Expeditions Permit No. 2014–006

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Polar Coordination Specialist, Division of Polar Programs.

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation of 1978, Public Law 95–541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Adrian Dahood, ACA Permit Officer, Division of Polar Programs, Rm. 755, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230. Or by email: ACApermits@nsf.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 12, 2013 the National Science Foundation published a notice in the **Federal Register** of a permit application received. After carefully considering all comments received and responses from the applicant, the permit was issued on September 18, 2013 to: Ted Cheeseman, Permit No. 2014–004.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Polar Coordination Specialist, Division of Polar Programs.

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BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

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 a 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 October 24, 2013. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Division of Polar Programs, National