

will be held on March 3, 2016, as follows: The policy discussion session (open to the public) will convene at 10:30 a.m. until approximately 11:30 a.m., followed by the discussion of specific grant applications and programs before the Council (closed to the public) from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Digital Humanities: Room 4089  
Education Programs: Room P002  
Preservation and Access: Room 2002  
Public Programs/Federal/State

Partnership: Room P003

Research Programs: Room 4002

In addition, the Humanities Medal Committee (closed to the public) will meet from 2:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. in Room 4002.

The plenary session of the National Council on the Humanities will convene on March 4, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Center at Constitution Center. The agenda for the morning session (open to the public) will be as follows:

A. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

B. Reports

1. Chairman's Remarks
2. Deputy Chairman's Remarks
3. Presentation by guest speaker Mannie Jackson
4. Congressional Affairs Report
5. Budget Report
6. Reports on Policy and General Matters
  - a. Digital Humanities
  - b. Education Programs
  - c. Preservation and Access
  - d. Public Programs
  - e. Federal/State Partnership
  - f. Research Programs

The remainder of the plenary session will be for consideration of specific applications and therefore will be closed to the public.

As identified above, portions of the meeting of the National Council on the Humanities will be closed to the public pursuant to sections 552b(c)(4), 552b(c)(6) and 552b(c)(9)(b) of Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The closed sessions will include review of personal and/or proprietary financial and commercial information given in confidence to the agency by grant applicants, and discussion of certain information, the premature disclosure of which could significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency action. I have made this determination pursuant to the authority granted me by the Chairman's Delegation of Authority to Close Advisory Committee Meetings dated July 19, 1993.

Please note that individuals planning to attend the public sessions of the meeting are subject to security screening procedures. If you wish to attend any of the public sessions, please inform NEH as soon as possible by contacting Ms. Katherine Griffin at (202) 606-8322 or

[kgriffin@neh.gov](mailto:kgriffin@neh.gov). Please also provide advance notice of any special needs or accommodations, including for a sign language interpreter.

Dated: February 8, 2016.

**Elizabeth Voyatzis,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2016-03063 Filed 2-11-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7536-01-P**

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Sunshine Act Meeting; National Science Board

The National Science Board's Committee on Education and Human Resources (CEH), pursuant to NSF regulations (45 CFR part 614), the National Science Foundation Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1862n-5), and the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b), hereby gives notice of the scheduling of a teleconference for the transaction of National Science Board business, as follows:

**DATE AND TIME:** Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 5:00-6:00 p.m. EST.

**SUBJECT MATTER:** Committee Chair's opening remarks; approval of minutes of November 19, 2015 meeting; update and discussion of recent CEH activities regarding the "grand challenges in STEM" activity; and Committee Chair's closing remarks.

**STATUS:** Open.

This meeting will be held by teleconference. A public listening line will be available. Members of the public must contact the Board Office (call 703-292-7000 or send an email message to [nationalsciencebrd@nsf.gov](mailto:nationalsciencebrd@nsf.gov)) at least 24 hours prior to the teleconference for the public listening number. Please refer to the National Science Board Web site for additional information and schedule updates (time, place, subject matter or status of meeting) which may be found at <http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/notices/>. Point of contact for this meeting is Matt Wilson ([mbwilson@nsf.gov](mailto:mbwilson@nsf.gov)).

**Kyscha Slater-Williams,**

*Program Specialist to the National Science Board.*

[FR Doc. 2016-03126 Filed 2-11-16; 11:15 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to request renewal of the Generic Clearance of the National Center for Science & Engineering Statistics Survey Improvement Projects (3145-0174). In accordance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), we are providing opportunity for public comment on this action. After obtaining and considering public comment, NSF will prepare the submission requesting that OMB approve clearance of this collection for three years.

*Comments:* Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the NSF, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the NSF's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, use, 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 on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Written comments on this notice must be received by April 18, 2016 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

*For Additional Information or Comments:* Contact Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 295, Arlington, Virginia 22230; telephone (703) 292-7556; or send email to [splimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:splimpto@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, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including federal holidays). You also may obtain a copy of the data collection instrument and instructions from Ms. Plimpton.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title of Collection:* Generic Clearance of the National Center for Science & Engineering Statistics Improvement Projects.

*OMB Control Number:* 3145-0174.

*Expiration Date of Current Approval:* May 31, 2016.

*Type of Request:* Intent to seek approval to extend an information collection for three years.

*Abstract.* Established within the National Science Foundation by the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 § 505, codified in the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended, the National Center for Science & Engineering Statistics (NCSES) serves as a central Federal clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, analysis, and dissemination of objective data on science, engineering, technology, research and development for use by practitioners, researchers, policymakers, and the public. NCSES conducts about a dozen nationally representative surveys to obtain the data for these purposes. The Generic Clearance will be used to ensure that the highest quality data are obtained from these surveys. State of the art methodology will be used to develop, evaluate, and test questionnaires and survey concepts as well as to improve survey methodology. This may include field or pilot tests of questions for future large scale surveys, as needed. The Generic Clearance will also be used to test and evaluate data dissemination tools and methods, in an effort to improve access for data users.

*Use of the Information.* The purpose of these studies is to use the latest and most appropriate methodology to improve NCSES surveys, evaluate new data collection efforts, and evaluate data dissemination tools and mechanisms. Methodological findings may be presented externally in technical papers at conferences, published in the proceedings of conferences, or in journals. Improved NCSES surveys, data collections, and data dissemination will help policymakers in decisions on research and development funding, graduate education, and the scientific and technical workforce, as well as contributing to reduced survey costs.

*Expected Respondents.* The respondents will be from industry, academia, nonprofit organizations, members of the public, and State, local, and Federal governments. Respondents will be either individuals or institutions, depending on the topic under investigation. Qualitative procedures will generally be conducted in person, online (using Skype, Webex, or other conferencing tools), or over the phone. Quantitative procedures may be conducted using mail, Web, email, or phone modes, depending on the topic under investigation. Up to 8,680 respondents will be contacted across all

projects. No respondent will be contacted more than twice in one year under this generic clearance. Every effort will be made to use technology to limit the burden on respondents from small entities.

Both qualitative and quantitative methods will be used to improve NCSES's current data collection instruments and processes and to reduce respondent burden, as well as to develop new surveys and new or improved data dissemination tools. Qualitative methods include, but are not limited to expert review; exploratory, cognitive, and usability interviews; focus groups; and respondent debriefings. Cognitive and usability interviews may include the use of scenarios, paraphrasing, card sorts, vignette classifications, and rating tasks. Quantitative methods include, but are not limited to, telephone surveys; behavior coding, split panel tests, and field tests.

*Estimate of Burden.* NCSES estimates that a total reporting and recordkeeping burden of 11,180 hours will result from activities to improve its surveys. The calculation is shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1—POTENTIAL SURVEYS FOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, WITH THE NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS AND BURDEN HOURS

	Number of respondents	Number of hours
Graduate Student Survey .....	2000	2500
SESTAT Surveys (National Survey of College Graduates; Survey of Doctorate Recipients) .....	1000	500
Early Career Doctorate Survey .....	500	1000
Survey of Earned Doctorates .....	600	600
Higher Education Research & Development Survey .....	300	540
State Government Research & Development Survey .....	150	300
Survey of Nonprofit Research Activities .....	230	415
Business Research & Development and Innovation Survey .....	50	150
Microbusiness Survey .....	250	500
Survey of Scientific & Engineering Facilities .....	400	400
Innovation Survey .....	1500	3000
Public Understanding of Science & Engineering Survey .....	550	125
Data dissemination tools and mechanisms .....	150	150
Other surveys and projects not specified .....	1000	1000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>8,680</b>	<b>11,180</b>

Dated: February 3, 2016.  
**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**  
*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*  
 [FR Doc. 2016-03029 Filed 2-12-16; 8:45 am]  
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**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

[Docket No. 40-38367-ML; ASLBP No. 16-945-01-MLA-BD01]

**Rare Element Resources, Inc.; Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board**

Pursuant to delegation by the Commission, *see* 37 FR 28,710 (Dec. 29, 1972), and the Commission's

regulations, *see, e.g.*, 10 CFR 2.104, 2.105, 2.300, 2.309, 2.313, 2.318, 2.321, notice is hereby given that an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (Board) is being established to preside over the following proceeding:

RARE ELEMENT RESOURCES, INC.  
 (Bear Lodge Project)

This proceeding involves an application by Rare Element Resources, Inc. for a license to possess and use source material associated with its Bear