

Action 5.5.1 to support a public dialogue on developing research priorities to enhance fundamental understanding of space weather and its drivers to develop and continually improve predictive models.

This RFI seeks inputs from the research community on setting research priorities, which will then be used as guidance by various concerned agencies in planning for space weather related research programs. Examples of space weather research topics include ionospheric irregularities and structure, thermospheric neutral density and neutral wind response to external drivers, forecasting of GICs, radiation belt dynamics, SEP events, flare and CME initiation and propagation, forecasting of EUV and proxy F10.7, predictions of ICME amplitudes and directions, magnetosphere-ionosphere coupling during space weather events, etc.

### III. Response Instructions

The specific objective of this RFI is to seek information that will assist the Action 5.5.1 Working Group in determining a list of space weather research priorities.

*Disclaimer:* Federal agencies may or may not use any responses to this RFI as a basis for a subsequent project, program, or funding opportunity. Responses to this RFI will not be returned. The National Science Foundation is under no obligation to acknowledge receipt of the information received, or provide feedback to respondents with respect to any information submitted under this RFI. No requests for a bid package or solicitation will be accepted; no bid package or solicitation exists. In order to protect the integrity of any possible future acquisition, no additional information will be provided and no appointments for presentations will be made in reference to this RFI. This RFI is issued solely for information and planning purposes and does not constitute a solicitation. Responders to this RFI will have no competitive advantage in receiving any awards related to the submitted input on a potential space weather-related research priority.

*Confidential Information:* Some contents of the submissions may be made public. Therefore, responses must be unclassified and should not contain any information that might be considered proprietary, confidential, business sensitive, or personally identifying (such as home address or social security number).

*Instructions:* One page documents per topic, multiple documents are allowed.

Responses must include the following sections; (1) Title—short and descriptive, (2) Brief Summary of Impacts—a bulleted list of systems impacted by the potential study, (3) Description—a succinct discussion of the topic, its importance, and relevant supporting evidence or arguments, (4) 5–10 year Imperatives—a bulleted list of the steps necessary to carry out the research including comments on relative importance to other. A section including references can be added if needed. Responses should follow the template outlined below. Responses may be no longer than 1 page type written in 12-point font.

#### Response Template

Title of the priority

Brief Summary of Impacts

- One sentence summary of impact 1
- One sentence summary of impact 2

Background and Relevance

A few paragraphs explaining the background of the space weather research priority, its relevance to SWAP Goal 5.5.1 and supporting justification of why this is a high priority issue.

5–10 Year Goals

Over the next 5 to 10 years it is imperative to:

- One sentence summary of goal 1
- One sentence summary of goal 2

References

Include essential references only

References:

*National Space Weather Strategy*, [https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/final\\_nationalspaceweatherstrategy\\_20151028.pdf](https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/final_nationalspaceweatherstrategy_20151028.pdf)

*National Space Weather Action Plan*, [https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/final\\_nationalspaceweatheractionplan\\_20151028.pdf](https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/final_nationalspaceweatheractionplan_20151028.pdf)

Dated: March 7, 2018.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

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**BILLING CODE 7555–01–P**

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC–2018–0001]

### Sunshine Act Meetings

**DATES:** Weeks of March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9, 16, 2018.

**PLACE:** Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

**STATUS:** Public and Closed.

### Week of March 12, 2018—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of March 12, 2018.

### Week of March 19, 2018—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of March 19, 2018.

### Week of March 26, 2018—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of March 26, 2018.

### Week of April 2, 2018—Tentative

*Wednesday, April 4, 2018*

10:30 a.m.

Discussion of Management and Personnel Issues (Closed Ex. 2, 6, & 9).

*Thursday, April 5, 2018*

10:00 a.m.

Meeting with Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (Public) (Contact: Mark Banks: 301–415–3718).

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov/>.

### Week of April 9, 2018—Tentative

*Tuesday, April 10, 2018*

10:00 a.m.

Briefing on the Annual Threat Environment (Closed Ex. 1).

*Thursday, April 12, 2018*

9:00 a.m.

Briefing on Accident Tolerant Fuel (Public) (Contact: Andrew Proffitt: 301–415–1418).

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov/>.

### Week of April 16, 2018, 2018—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of April 16, 2018.

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The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. For more information or to verify the status of meetings, contact Denise McGovern at 301–415–0681 or via email at [Denise.McGovern@nrc.gov](mailto:Denise.McGovern@nrc.gov).

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The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/schedule.html>.

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The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these public meetings, or need this meeting notice or the transcript or other information from the public meetings in another format (e.g.,

braille, large print), please notify Kimberly Meyer-Chambers, NRC Disability Program Manager, at 301-287-0739, by videophone at 240-428-3217, or by email at [Kimberly.Meyer-Chambers@nrc.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Meyer-Chambers@nrc.gov). Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

\* \* \* \* \*

Members of the public may request to receive this information electronically. If you would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555 (301-415-1969), or you may email [Patricia.Jimenez@nrc.gov](mailto:Patricia.Jimenez@nrc.gov) or [Wendy.Moore@nrc.gov](mailto:Wendy.Moore@nrc.gov).

Dated: March 7, 2018.

**Denise L. McGovern**,  
Policy Coordinator Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018-04980 Filed 3-8-18; 11:15 am]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2017-0130]

### Qualification of Safety-Related Lead Storage Batteries for Nuclear Power Plants

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Regulatory guide; issuance.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing Revision 1 to Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.158, "Qualification of Safety-Related Vented Lead-Acid Storage Batteries for Nuclear Power Plants." RG 1.158 endorses (with clarifying regulatory positions) the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Standard (Std.) 535-2013, "IEEE Standard for Qualification of Class 1E Vented Lead Acid Storage Batteries for Nuclear Power Generating Stations." IEEE 535-2013 contains procedures for qualifying batteries with duty cycles of less than 8 hours and also for batteries with duty cycles longer than 8 hours.

**DATES:** Revision 1 to RG 1.158 is available on March 12, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2017-0130 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- **Federal Rulemaking website:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2017-0130. Address questions about NRC dockets to Jennifer Borges; telephone: 301-287-9127;

email: [Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individuals listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- **NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):** You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "ADAMS Public Documents" and then select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document.

- **NRC's PDR:** You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lilliana Ramadan, telephone: 301-415-2463, email: [Liliana.Ramadan@nrc.gov](mailto:Liliana.Ramadan@nrc.gov), or Stephen Burton, telephone: 301-415-7000, email: [Stephen.Burton@nrc.gov](mailto:Stephen.Burton@nrc.gov). Both are staff of the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Discussion

The NRC is issuing a revision to an existing guide in the NRC's "Regulatory Guide" series. This series was developed to describe and make available to the public information regarding methods that are acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the agency's regulations, techniques that the NRC staff uses in evaluating specific issues or postulated events, and data that the NRC staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

Revision 1 of RG 1.158 was issued with a temporary identification of Draft Regulatory Guide, DG-1338. This revision provides updated guidance on the methods and type-test procedures for two different battery applications. One application is for batteries with duty cycles equal to or less than 8 hours and the other application is for batteries with duty cycles longer than 8 hours. The 2013 revision of IEEE Std. 535 provides a qualification process for both

applications to ensure battery performance and provides a normative annex with example testing regimens. The NRC staff determined that RG 1.158 should be revised to endorse the 2013 version of IEEE Std. 535 to support new reactor license applications, design certifications, and applications for license amendments.

##### II. Additional Information

The NRC published a notice of the availability of DG-1338 in the **Federal Register** on May 31, 2017 (82 FR 24996) for a 60-day public comment period. The public comment period closed on July 31, 2017. Public comments on DG-1338 and the staff responses to the public comments are available under ADAMS under Accession No. ML17256A103.

##### III. Congressional Review Act

This RG is a rule as defined in the Congressional Review Act (5 U.S.C. 801-808). However, the Office of Management and Budget has not found it to be a major rule as defined in the Congressional Review Act.

##### IV. Backfitting and Issue Finality

Revision 1 to RG 1.158 endorses, with certain clarifications, the 2013 revision of IEEE Std. 535 which refines the methods and type-test procedures for two different battery applications. One application is for batteries with duty cycles equal to or less than 8 hours and the other application is for batteries with duty cycles longer than 8 hours. The 2013 revision of IEEE Std. 535 demonstrates and outlines the qualifying process for both applications to ensure battery performance. It also provides a comprehensive document for qualifying batteries with additional normative annexes.

Issuance of Revision 1 to RG 1.158 does not constitute backfitting as defined in 10 CFR 50.109 (the Backfit Rule) and is not otherwise inconsistent with the issue finality provisions in 10 CFR part 52, "Licenses, Certifications and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants." The subject of this regulatory guide, as described above, is an NRC-defined process which does not fall within the purview of subjects covered by either the Backfit Rule or the issue finality provisions in 10 CFR part 52.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 6th day of March 2018.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Thomas H. Boyce**,  
Chief, Regulatory Guidance and Generic Issues Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 2018-04828 Filed 3-9-18; 8:45 am]

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