1954 and has been conducted annually since FY 1972. The survey represents one facet of the research and development component of NCSES’s statistical program, which includes R&D surveys on the business, federal government, higher education, state government, and nonprofit sectors. NCSES proposes amending the survey to collect new information on R&D personnel. Details are below.

Description of New Information: The Higher Education R&D Survey is one of several surveys at NCSES that collect comparable information on R&D from different sectors of the economy (e.g., businesses, nonprofits, government). However, it does not currently collect as much information about the personnel carrying out R&D activities as some of the other NCSES R&D sector surveys, making it less useful for measurements of the R&D workforce in the United States. NCSES intends to address this shortcoming by collecting data on the number (headcounts) of R&D personnel by function, and the number of full-time equivalents (FTEs) by R&D function. These specific data are not available through other NCSES or federal surveys.

NCSES intends to revise the current question on R&D personnel headcounts and add a question on the number of full-time equivalents for those personnel to the HERD questionnaire. The revised question will collect headcounts on three categories of R&D personnel (researchers, R&D technicians, R&D support staff) by sex and citizenship. Headcounts of researchers will also be collected by highest level of education completed. The previous version of the question collected headcounts for two categories: principal investigators and all other personnel, without demographics. NCSES decided to make the revised personnel headcount question confidential and only publish these data in the aggregate because some institutions expressed reluctance to publish detailed demographics on employees and students. The subsequent new question will collect the full-time equivalents of the R&D personnel accounted for in the revised R&D personnel headcount question.

Use of the New Information: The United States is the only Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) member country that does not report higher education sector FTEs as published in the OECD’s Main Science and Technology Indicators report. These new R&D personnel variables will allow NCSES to provide internationally comparable information available elsewhere to data users interested in science policy, the nature of the science and engineering workforce, and U.S. R&D competitiveness.

Expected respondents: The R&D personnel questions will only appear on the HERD standard form that is administered to approximately 650 institutions reporting at least $1 million in R&D in the previous year. Neither the HERD short form respondents (those reporting at least $150 thousand but less than $1 million), nor the Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs), will receive these questions.

Estimate of burden: Since many institutions will need to create new internal reports to assemble these data and calculate the full-time equivalents, the average burden is estimated to increase by 10 hours (to a total of 64 hours per institution) for the approximately 650 institutions reporting at least $1 million in R&D expenditures. This estimate is based on 32 interviews with 16 respondents conducted over two rounds between April and July 2020.

Comments: Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed addition to the 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 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.


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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC–2020–0212]

Performance Review Boards for Senior Executive Service

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Appointments.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has announced appointments to the NRC Performance Review Board (PRB) responsible for making recommendations on performance appraisal ratings and performance awards for NRC Senior Executives and Senior Level System employees and appointments to the NRC PRB Panel responsible for making recommendations to the appointing and awarding authorities for NRC PRB members.

DATES: October 2, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2020–0212 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 https://www.regulations.gov and search for Docket ID NRC–2020–0212. Address questions about Docket IDs in Regulations.gov to Jennifer Borges; telephone: 301–287–9127; email: Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual 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 https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. To begin the search, select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737, or by email to pdr.resource@nrc.gov.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Mary A. Lamary, Secretary, Executive Resources Board, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001; telephone: 301–415–3300, email: Mary.Lamary@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following individuals appointed as members of the NRC PRB are responsible for making recommendations to the appointing and awarding authorities on performance appraisal ratings and performance awards for Senior Executives and Senior Level System employees:

Margaret M. Doane, Executive Director for Operations
Marian L. Zobler, General Counsel
Daniel H. Dorman, Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs, Office of the Executive Director for Operations
Laura A. Dudes, Regional Administrator, Region II.
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.; Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 2 and 3

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Exemption; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued a partial exemption in response to the October 22, 2019, request from Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee). The issuance of the exemption will grant Entergy a partial exemption from regulations that require the retention of records for certain systems, structures, and components associated with Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 2 and 3 (Indian Point 2 and 3) until the termination of the respective Indian Point operating license.

DATES: The exemption was issued on September 28, 2020.

ADDRESS: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2020–0205 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 https://www.regulations.gov and search for Docket ID NRC–2020–0205. Address questions about NRC docket IDs in Regulations.gov. (In the future, the NRC will provide additional information here.

- By letter dated October 22, 2019 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19295F894), Entergy submitted a request for the exemption. Entergy provided notification to the NRC of its intent to permanently cease power operations at Indian Point 2 no later than April 30, 2020, and at Indian Point 3 no later than April 30, 2021, subject to operating extensions through, but not beyond, 2024 and 2025, respectively.

By letter dated May 12, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20133F902), Entergy provided notification that power operations ceased at Indian Point 2 on April 30, 2020, and at Indian Point 3 on May 12, 2020. Entergy further acknowledged that the Indian Point 2 Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 50 license no longer authorizes operation of the reactor or emplacement or retention of fuel into the reactor vessel. However, the license is still authorized to possess and store irradiated nuclear fuel for Indian Point. Irradiated fuel is currently being stored onsite in spent fuel pool (SFP) and in independent spent fuel storage installations (ISFSI) dry casks. The irradiated fuel will be stored in the ISFSI until it is shipped off site. With the reactor emptied of fuel, the reactor, reactor coolant system, and secondary system is no longer in operation and has no function related to the safe storage and management of irradiated fuel. Since Entergy certifies that it has permanently defueled the Indian Point 3 reactor vessel and that the fuel is being stored now or hereafter in effect. The Indian Point 2 and 3 facility consists of two pressurized-water reactors located in Buchanan, New York.

By letter dated February 8, 2017 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML17044A004), Entergy submitted a request for NRC approval from the Department of Commerce, Office of Management and Budget, for final action having been taken for the widow's full payment program for OMA. Entergy submitted a request for NRC approval from the Department of Commerce, Office of Management and Budget, for final action having been taken for the widow's full payment program for OMA. Entergy provided notification to the NRC of its intent to permanently cease power operations at Indian Point 2 no later than April 30, 2020, and at Indian Point 3 no later than April 30, 2021, subject to operating extensions through, but not beyond, 2024 and 2025, respectively.

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For further information contact:


The ADAMS accession number for this document is ML20133F902.