ACTION: Request for information and comment; Extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On July 23, 2021, the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) published in the Federal Register a document entitled “Request for Information (RFI) on an Implementation Plan for a National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource” and invited comments to inform the work of the National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource (NAIRR) Task Force (“Task Force”). The Task Force has been directed by Congress to develop an implementation roadmap for a shared research infrastructure that would provide Artificial Intelligence (AI) researchers and students across scientific disciplines with access to computational resources, high-quality data, educational tools, and user support. In response to requests by prospective commenters that they would benefit from additional time to adequately consider and respond to the RFI, OSTP and NSF have determined that an extension of the comment period until October 1, 2021, is appropriate.


ADDRESSES: Comments submitted in response to 86 FR 39081 may be sent by any of the following methods:

- Email: NAIRR-responses@nitr.d.gov. Email submissions should be machine-readable and not be copy-protected. Submissions should include “RFI Response: National AI Research Resource” in the subject line of the message.
- Mail: Attn: Wendy Wigen, NCO, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA.

Instructions: Response to this RFI (86 FR 39081) is voluntary. Each individual or institution is requested to submit only one response. Submissions must be in 12 point or larger font, include a page number on each page, and not exceed 10 pages. Responses should include the name of the person(s) or organization(s) filing the comment. Responses should refer to the particular topic number(s) and letter(s), as listed below, to which the comments pertain.

Responses to this RFI (86 FR 39081) may be posted online at www.ai.gov. Therefore, responses must be appropriate for posting publicly without change or redaction, and we request that no business proprietary information, copyrighted information, or personally identifiable information be submitted in response to this RFI. Please submit your comments using only one method.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wendy Wigen and NAIRR-responses@nitr.d.gov, (202) 459–9683. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–487–8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 23, 2021, OSTP and NSF published in the Federal Register a document inviting comments on the work of the NAIRR Task Force (86 FR 39081). The Task Force has been directed by Congress to develop an implementation roadmap for a shared research infrastructure that would provide AI researchers and students across scientific disciplines with access to computational resources, high-quality data, educational tools, and user support. The RFI was issued to seek input from a broad array of stakeholders on options, models and priorities to consider for the NAIRR implementation roadmap, as well as how the NAIRR can reinforce principles and practices of ethical and responsible research and development of AI. Comments from the public will be used to inform the Task Force’s development of an implementation roadmap. The document stated that the comment period would close on September 1, 2021. OSTP and NSF have received requests to extend the comment period. An extension of the comment period will provide additional opportunity for the public to consider the RFI and prepare comments to address the questions posed therein. Therefore, OSTP and NSF are extending the end of the comment period for the RFI from September 1, 2021, until October 1, 2021.

Submitted by the National Science Foundation and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy on August 13, 2021.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,
Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

Stacy Murphy,
Operations Manager, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[OCR–2021–0153]

Site Characterization Investigations for Nuclear Power Plants

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Draft regulatory guide; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing for public comment a draft regulatory guide (DG), DG–1392, “Site Characterization Investigations for Nuclear Power Plants.” It is proposed Revision 3 of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.132. DG–1392 proposes guidance on field investigations for determining the geologic, geotechnical, geophysical, and hydrogeologic characteristics of a prospective site for engineering analysis and design of nuclear power plants.

DATES: Submit comments by October 4, 2021. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. Although a time limit is given, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods, however, the NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the Federal Rulemaking website:

- Federal Rulemaking Website: Go to https://www.regulations.gov and search for Docket ID NRC–2021–0153. Address questions about Docket IDs in Regulations.gov to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301–415–0624; email: Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individuals listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document.
- Mail comments to: Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWFN–7–A60M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001, ATTN: Program Management, Announcements, and Editing Staff.

FOR ADDITIONAL DIRECTION ON OBTAINING INFORMATION AND SUBMITTING COMMENTS, SEE “OBTAINING INFORMATION AND SUBMITTING COMMENTS” IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SECTION OF THIS DOCUMENT.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
The DG, entitled, “Site Characterization Investigations for Nuclear Power Plants” is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML21194A176.

Attention: The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of public documents, is currently closed. You may submit your request to the PDR via email at prd.resource@nrc.gov or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

B. Submitting Comments


The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC will post all comment submissions at https://www.regulations.gov as well as enter the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment into ADAMS.

II. Additional Information

The NRC is issuing for public comment a DG in the NRC’s “Regulatory Guide” series. This series was developed to describe methods that are acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the agency’s regulations, to explain techniques that the staff uses in evaluating specific issues or postulated events, and to describe information that the staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The DG, entitled, “Site Characterization Investigations for Nuclear Power Plants” is proposed Revision 3 of RG 1.132, which is temporarily identified by its task number, DG–1392. It proposes guidance on field investigations for determining the geologic, geotechnical, geophysical, and hydrogeologic characteristics of a prospective site for engineering analysis and design of nuclear power plants.

The staff is also issuing for public comment a draft regulatory analysis for revision of RG 1.132 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21194A177). The staff develops a regulatory analysis to assess the value of issuing or revising a regulatory guide as well as alternative courses of action.

III. Backfitting, Forward Fitting, and Issue Finality

Issuance of DG–1392, if finalized, would not constitute backfitting as that term is defined in section 50.109 of title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), “Backfitting,” and as described in NRC Management Directive (MD) 8.4, “Management of Backfitting, Forward Fitting, Issue Finality, and Information Requests”; constitute forward fitting as that term is defined and described in MD 8.4; or affect issue finality of any approval issued under 10 CFR part 52. “Licenses, Certificates, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants.” As explained in DG–1392, applicants and licensees are not required to comply with the positions set forth in DG–1392.

Dated: August 12, 2021.