

not a delegation or grant of government authority; however, recognition enables employers to use products approved by the NRTL to meet OSHA standards that require product testing and certification.

The agency processes applications by a NRTL for initial recognition, as well as for an expansion or renewal of recognition, following requirements in Appendix A to 29 CFR 1910.7. This appendix requires that the agency publish two notices in the **Federal Register** in processing an application. In the first notice, OSHA announces the application and provides the preliminary finding. In the second notice, the agency provides the final decision on the application. These notices set forth the NRTL's scope of recognition or modifications of that scope. OSHA maintains an informational web page for each NRTL, including PTL, which details that NRTL's scope of recognition. These pages are available from the OSHA website at <http://www.osha.gov/dts/otpca/nrtl/index.html>.

PTL currently has one facility (site) recognized by OSHA for product testing and certification, with the headquarters located at: SolarPTL, LLC, 1107 West Fairmont Drive, Tempe, Arizona 85282. A complete listing of PTL's scope of recognition is available at <https://www.osha.gov/nationally-recognized-testing-laboratory-program/solarptl>.

## II. General Background on the Application

PTL submitted an application, dated December 21, 2018 (OSHA-2010-0013-0007) to request one additional standard to the NRTL scope of recognition. The standard requested UL 61730 was referenced in the application as a single standard, however this standard has two parts. This application was amended on October 30, 2023 (OSHA-2010-0013-0008), clarifying that the expansion request was for both parts of the standard. OSHA staff performed a detailed analysis of the application packets and reviewed other pertinent information. OSHA performed an on-site assessment related to this application on August 16-17, 2022, where OSHA found nonconformances with the requirements of 29 CFR 1910. PTL has addressed the nonconformances adequately. OSHA has no objection to the addition of this standard to the NRTL scope of recognition.

Table 1 shows the test standards found in PTL's amended application for expansion for testing and certification of products under the NRTL Program.

TABLE 1—PROPOSED APPROPRIATE TEST STANDARD FOR INCLUSION IN PTL'S NRTL SCOPE OF RECOGNITION

Test standard	Test standard title
UL 61730.	Photovoltaic (PV) Module Safety Qualification—Part 1: Requirements for Construction; and Photovoltaic (PV) Module Safety Qualification—Part 2: Requirements for Testing.

## III. Preliminary Finding on the Application

PTL submitted an acceptable application for expansion of the scope of recognition. OSHA's review of the application file and pertinent documentation, together with the results of the on-site assessment and follow-up information, preliminarily indicate that PTL can meet the requirements prescribed by 29 CFR 1910.7 for expanding its recognition to include the addition of the test standard shown in Table 1, above, for NRTL testing and certification. This preliminary finding does not constitute an interim or temporary approval of PTL's application.

OSHA seeks public comment on this preliminary determination.

## V. Public Participation

OSHA welcomes public comment as to whether PTL meets the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.7 for expansion of recognition as a NRTL. Comments should consist of pertinent written documents and exhibits.

Commenters needing more time to comment must submit a request in writing, stating the reasons for the request by the due date for comments. OSHA will limit any extension to 10 days unless the requester justifies a longer time period. OSHA may deny a request for an extension if it is not adequately justified.

To review copies of the exhibits identified in this notice, as well as comments submitted to the docket, contact the Docket Office, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. These materials also are generally available online at <https://www.regulations.gov> under Docket No. OSHA-2010-0013 (for further information, see the "Docket" heading in the section of this notice titled **ADDRESSES**).

OSHA staff will review all comments to the docket submitted in a timely manner. After addressing the issues raised by these comments, staff will make a recommendation to the Assistant

Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health on whether to grant PTL's application for expansion of the scope of recognition. The Assistant Secretary will make the final decision on granting the application. In making this decision, the Assistant Secretary may undertake other proceedings prescribed in Appendix A to 29 CFR 1910.7.

OSHA will publish a public notice of the final decision in the **Federal Register**.

## VI. Authority and Signature

James S. Frederick, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210, authorized the preparation of this notice. Accordingly, the agency is issuing this notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. 657(g)(2), Secretary of Labor's Order No. 8-2020 (85 FR 58393; Sept. 18, 2020), and 29 CFR 1910.7.

Signed at Washington, DC.

**James S. Frederick,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.*

[FR Doc. 2023-25691 Filed 11-20-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-26-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Notice of Intent To Seek Approval To Establish an Information Collection

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, and as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the Evaluation and Assessment Capability (EAC), National Science Foundation (NSF) Office of Integrative Activities (OIA) is inviting the general public or other Federal agencies to comment on this proposed information collection.

**DATES:** Written comments on this notice must be received by January 22, 2024 to be assured consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable. Send comments to the address below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite E7400, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; 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).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Comments:* Comments are invited on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Foundation, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Foundation's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of collecting the information on the respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

*Title of Collection:* Generic Clearance for the Evaluation of the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Broader Impacts Review Criterion.

*OMB Number:* 3145–NEW.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* Not applicable.

*Type of Request:* New information collection.

*Description:* NSF is conducting an evaluation to assess (1) how NSF's Broader Impacts review criterion is applied across the Foundation and (2) its effectiveness in meeting the goals established in section 526 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 1862p-14) (America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010). This evaluation is congressionally directed in section 10341 of the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors [CHIPS] for America Fund Act 2022. As part of the evaluation, NSF is conducting a literature review, document analysis, extant data analysis, interviews with NSF staff, and focus groups with NSF principal investigators (PIs) and reviewers. NSF will map findings from the evaluation activities to current NSF policies and practices to identify strategies for improving how NSF applies the review criterion.

The subject of this request is related to the planned focus groups with PIs and reviewers. The focus groups will answer the following research questions (RQs):

- RQ1. In what ways do the interpretations of the Broader Impacts review criterion among PIs and reviewers vary, and what factors might contribute to these variations?
- RQ2. How do external reviewers assess the Broader Impact review criterion?

- RQ3. In what ways do PIs and reviewers perceive that variations in interpretation and assessment can advance or hinder the merit review of proposals?

Findings from the focus groups described in this request will be used to inform interpretation of other evaluation activities within the larger project (including informing interpretation of interviews with NSF staff, document review analyses, and interpretation of extant data analysis of review analyses). For example, we anticipate that participants in these focus groups may raise issues around their understanding and interpretation of Broader Impacts, which can be compared to perceptions that NSF staff report during interviews.

*Background:*

NSF sets forth an ambitious vision for the United States: a nation that leads the world in science and engineering research and innovation, to the benefit of all, without barriers to participation. Toward this end, NSF promotes the progress of science by investing in research and capacity-building activities that expand knowledge in science, engineering, and education. In fiscal year (FY) 2022, NSF evaluated almost 40,000 proposals for research and education activities, making nearly 11,000 new awards totaling more than \$8.5 billion.

At the cornerstone of NSF's mission and its investments is its merit review process. NSF program directors with technical and programmatic expertise lead this process, with support from external experts who help evaluate submitted proposals for two main criteria: (1) Intellectual Merit—the potential to advance knowledge; and (2) Broader Impacts—the potential to contribute to society and achieve specific, desired societal outcomes. With these two criteria, NSF has established a commitment to projects that provide tangible benefits to society beyond advancing knowledge.

It is critically important that NSF implement its merit review process in a way that is fair, thorough, competitive, and transparent, and that those internal and external to NSF recognize the process as such. However, as NSF noted, PIs and reviewers might lack clarity about the Broader Impacts criterion, despite NSF's efforts to provide additional guidance. NSF has also noted a lack of consistency in how NSF implements the criterion across directorates, divisions, and programs. Specific challenges related to the understanding and application of Broader Impacts include a lack of consensus on how to define Broader Impacts, and a disconnect between the

Broader Impacts requirements stated in the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide and how panelists review these activities (National Alliance for Broader Impacts 2018). The purpose of this work, then, is to “assess how the Broader Impact review criterion is applied across the Foundation and make recommendations for improving the effectiveness for meeting the goals established in section 526 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 1862p-14)” (America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010). This evaluation is congressionally directed in section 10341 of the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors [CHIPS] for America Fund Act 2022.

*Methodology:* Focus groups will be conducted with two types of respondents: PIs and reviewers.

The evaluation will include three PI focus groups of up to seven people each. Participants in these groups will be PIs who submitted a proposal within the last five years. The study team will select participants via a stratified random sample by NSF directorate, institutional characteristics (such as Carnegie classification, MSI status, and locale), and participant characteristics (such as race/ethnicity, gender, years since terminal degree, and new investigator status). PIs have firsthand experience addressing the Broader Impacts review criterion in their proposals. Among this group, key insights include the following:

1. Questions they have about how to address the Broader Impacts review criterion in their research and proposals.

2. Strategies they have employed as a PI in addressing the Broader Impacts review criterion in their research and proposals.

3. Resources or supports received from their respective institutions for developing well-thought-out proposals that address the Broader Impacts review criterion.

Reviewer focus groups will consist of three focus groups of up to seven people each. Participants in these groups will be people who served on a review panel within the last five years. The study team will select participants via a stratified random sample by directorate and participant characteristics (such as how long they have been reviewing NSF proposals). Reviewers have firsthand knowledge about applying the Broader Impacts review criterion. Among this group, key insights include the following:

1. Interpreting and applying the criterion as a reviewer (and compared with as a PI).

2. Reviewer training and guidance.  
*Affected Public:* NSF reviewers and PIs.

AVERAGE EXPECTED ANNUAL NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES

Collection method	Estimated lower bound (number of responses)	Estimated upper bound (number of responses)	Estimated average response time (min)	Approximate lower bound response burden (hours)	Approximate upper bound response burden (hours)
Focus groups .....	4*6=24	7*6=42	90	(24*90)/60=36	(42*90)/60=72

*Respondents:* Lower-bound estimate of 24 individuals and upper-bound estimate of 48 individuals.

*Average Minutes per Response:* 90.

*Burden Hours:* Lower- and upper-bound estimates of approximately 36 and 72 hours.

Dated: November 16, 2023.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

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BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

[NRC-2023-0118]

**Information Collection: Domestic Licensing of Special Nuclear Material**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Renewal of existing information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) invites public comment on the renewal of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for an existing collection of information. The information collection is entitled, “Domestic Licensing of Special Nuclear Material.”

**DATES:** Submit comments by January 22, 2024. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods (unless this document describes a different method for submitting comments on a specific subject); 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-2023-0118. 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 individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- *Mail comments to:* David C. Cullison, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Mail Stop: T-6 A10M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

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:** David C. Cullison, Office of the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-2084; email: *Infocollects.Resource@nrc.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments**

*A. Obtaining Information*

Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2023-0118 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly available information related to this action by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2023-0118.
- *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 (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, at 301-415-4737, or by email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov*. The supporting statement and burden spreadsheet are available in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML23249A195 and ML23249A196.
- *NRC’s PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of

publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov* or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *NRC’s Clearance Officer:* A copy of the collection of information and related instructions may be obtained without charge by contacting the NRC’s Clearance Officer, David C. Cullison, Office of the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-2084; email: *Infocollects.Resource@nrc.gov*.

*B. Submitting Comments*

The NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the Federal rulemaking website (<https://www.regulations.gov>). Please include Docket ID NRC-2023-0118, in your comment submission.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information in comment submissions that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. All comment submissions are posted at <https://www.regulations.gov> and entered into ADAMS. Comment submissions are not routinely edited 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 comment submissions are not routinely edited to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment into ADAMS.

**II. Background**

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the NRC is requesting public comment on its intention to request the OMB’s approval for the