

Special Emphasis Panel in the Division of Electrical and Communications Systems

1. *Date:* December 1–2, 1997.

Contact: Radhakishan Baheti, Saifur Rahman, George Lea, and Paul Werbos, Program Directors, Knowledge, Modeling and Computational Intelligence, Division of Electrical and Communications Systems, Room 675, 703–306–1339.

Type of Proposal: Knowledge, Modeling and Computational Intelligence CAREER proposals.

2. *Date:* December 1–2, 1997.

Contact: Rajinder Kholas, T.P. Lee, Program Directors, Physical Foundation and Enabling Technologies, Division of Electrical and Communications Systems, Room 675, 703–306–1339.

Type of Proposal: Physical Foundation and Enabling Technologies CAREER proposals.

Times: 8:30 to 5:00 p.m. each day.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA.

Type of Meetings: Closed.

Purpose of Meetings: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate proposals submitted to the Directorate as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97–29978 Filed 11–13–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences; Notice of Meeting**

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences (1756).

Date and Time: December 2–3, 1997; 8:30 am–5:00 pm.

Place: Room 725, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Michael R. Reeve, Section Head, Division of Ocean Sciences, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Room 725, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306–1582.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate LTER proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97–29979 Filed 11–13–97; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Special Emphasis Panel in Human Resource Development; Notice of Meeting**

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Human Resource Development #1199.

Date and Time: December 2 and 3, 1997, 8:30 am–5:00 pm.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA., Rooms 365, 370, 375.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Lawrence Scadden & Mary Kohlerman, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306–1636.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate Programs for Persons with Disabilities proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97–29981 Filed 11–13–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Advisory Committee for Mathematical and Physical Sciences; Meeting**

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Advisory Committee for Mathematical and Physical Sciences.

Date and Time: December 4, 1997 8:00 am–5:30 pm; December 5, 1997 8:00 am–2:00 pm.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 375, Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Open.

Contact Person: Adriaan de Graaf, Executive Officer, MPS, Room 1005, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, Telephone: (703) 306–1800.

Minutes: May be obtained from the contact person listed above.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations on development of MPS strategic planning mechanisms; provide advice on the appropriateness of current disciplinary boundaries; evaluate the current MPS interfaces with academia and industry; and advise on methods of achieving overall program excellence in MPS.

Agenda

December 4, 1997

AM

Introductory Remarks
Discussion on Science and Education
Themes for the 21st Century

PM

Roundtable Discussion—Assessing the Value of Basic Research
Review of NSF GPRA documents and PHY COV Report

December 5, 1997

AM

Strategic Planning/Science and Education Themes

PM

Report on DMS Benchmarking Activity
Meeting Wrap-up/Future Business

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97–29982 Filed 11–13–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–346]

In the Matter of Toledo Edison Company, Centerior Service Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1); Exemption

I

Toledo Edison Company, Centerior Service Company, and The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (the licensees) are the holders of Facility Operating License No. NPF–3, which authorizes operation of the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station (DBNPS), Unit 1 (the facility). The license provides, among other things, that the facility is subject to all the rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

The facility is a pressurized-water reactor located at the licensees' site in Ottawa County, Ohio.

II

Section 70.24 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "Criticality Accident Requirements," requires that each licensee authorized to possess special nuclear material maintain a criticality accident monitoring system in each area where such material is handled, used, or stored. Subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) of 10 CFR 70.24 specify detection and sensitivity requirements that these monitors must meet. Subsection (a)(1) also specifies that all areas subject to criticality accident monitoring must be covered by two detectors. Subsection (a)(3) of 10 CFR 70.24 requires licensees to maintain emergency procedures for each area in which this licensed special nuclear material is handled, used, or stored and provides that (1) the procedures ensure that all personnel withdraw to an area of safety upon the sounding of a criticality accident monitor alarm, (2) the procedures must include drills to familiarize personnel with the evacuation plan, and (3) the procedures designate responsible individuals for determining the cause of the alarm and placement of radiation survey instruments in accessible locations for use in such an emergency. Subsection (b)(1) of 10 CFR 70.24 requires licensees to provide the means for identifying quickly any personnel who have received a dose of 10 rads or more. Subsection (b)(2) of 10 CFR 70.24 requires licensees to maintain personnel decontamination facilities, to maintain arrangements for a physician and other medical personnel qualified to handle radiation emergencies, and to maintain arrangements for the transportation of contaminated individuals to treatment facilities outside the site boundary. Paragraph (c) of 10 CFR 70.24 exempts Part 50 licensees from the requirements of paragraph (b) of 10 CFR 70.24 for special nuclear material used or to be used in the reactor. Subsection (d) of 10 CFR 70.24 states that any licensee that believes that there is good cause why it should be granted an exemption from all or part of 10 CFR 70.24 may apply to the Commission for such an exemption and shall specify the reasons for the relief requested.

III

The special nuclear material that could be assembled into a critical mass at DBNPS is in the form of nuclear fuel. The quantity of special nuclear material other than fuel that is stored onsite in any given location is small enough to preclude achieving a critical mass. The Commission's technical staff has evaluated the possibility of an

inadvertent criticality of the nuclear fuel at DBNPS and has determined that it is extremely unlikely that such an accident will occur if the licensees meet the following seven criteria:

1. Only one new fuel assembly is allowed out of a shipping cask or storage rack at one time;
2. The k-effective does not exceed 0.95, at a 95% probability, 95% confidence level, in the event that the fresh fuel storage racks are filled with fuel of the maximum permissible U-235 enrichment and flooded with pure water;
3. If optimum moderation occurs at low moderator density, the k-effective does not exceed 0.98, at a 95% probability, 95% confidence level, in the event that the fresh fuel storage racks are filled with fuel of the maximum permissible U-235 enrichment and flooded with a moderator at the density corresponding to optimum moderation;
4. The k-effective does not exceed 0.95, at a 95% probability, 95% confidence level, in the event that the spent fuel storage racks are filled with fuel of the maximum permissible U-235 enrichment and flooded with pure water;
5. The quantity of special nuclear material, other than nuclear fuel, stored onsite in any given area is less than the quantity necessary for a critical mass;
6. Radiation monitors, as required by General Design Criterion 63, are provided in fuel storage and handling areas to detect excessive radiation levels and to initiate appropriate safety actions; and
7. The maximum nominal U-235 enrichment is limited to 5.0 weight percent.

By letter dated January 30, 1997, as supplemented May 28 and October 3, 1997, the licensees requested an exemption from 10 CFR 70.24. In this request, the licensees addressed the seven criteria given above. The Commission's technical staff has reviewed the licensees' submittals and has determined that DBNPS meets the criteria for prevention of inadvertent criticality. Therefore, the staff has determined that it is extremely unlikely an inadvertent criticality will occur in the handling of special nuclear materials or in their storage areas at DBNPS.

The purpose of the criticality monitors required by 10 CFR 70.24 is to ensure that if a criticality were to occur during the handling of special nuclear material, personnel would be alerted to that fact and would take appropriate action. The staff has determined that it is extremely unlikely that such an

accident could occur. Furthermore, the licensees have radiation monitors, as required by General Design Criterion 63, in fuel storage and handling areas. These monitors will alert personnel to excessive radiation levels and allow them to initiate appropriate safety actions. The low probability of an inadvertent criticality, together with the licensees' adherence to General Design Criterion 63, constitutes good cause for granting an exemption to the requirements of 10 CFR 70.24.

The Commission has determined that pursuant to 10 CFR 70.14, this exemption is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest. Therefore, the Commission hereby grants the licensees an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 70.24 for DBNPS.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will not result in any significant adverse environmental impact (62 FR 59908).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of November 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Samuel J. Collins,

Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 97-29977 Filed 11-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

Interest Assumption for Determining Variable-Rate Premium; Interest Assumptions for Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of interest rates and assumptions.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the interest rates and assumptions to be used under certain Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation regulations. These rates and assumptions are published elsewhere (or are derivable from rates published elsewhere), but are collected and published in this notice for the convenience of the public. Interest rates are also published on the PBGC's home page (<http://www.pbgc.gov>).

DATES: The interest rate for determining the variable-rate premium under part 4006 applies to premium payment years beginning in November 1997. The interest assumptions for performing