

participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitor's register. Visitors will be requested to provide photo identification (e.g., driver's license) and sign for a visitor's badge from the Goddard Space Flight Center Main Gate Receptionist in Building 9.

Dated: August 25, 1997.

**Leslie M. Nolan,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer,  
National Aeronautics and Space  
Administration.*

[FR Doc. 97-23050 Filed 8-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-M

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice (97-126)]

### NASA Advisory Council, Advisory Committee on the International Space Station (ACISS); Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces a meeting of the NASA Advisory Council, Advisory Committee on the International Space Station.

**DATES:** Tuesday, September 9, 1997, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; and Wednesday, September 10, 1997, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and from noon to 1:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** SSPF Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Space Station Processing Facility, Industry Drive, Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. W. Michael Hawes, Code M-4, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC 20546, 202/358-0242.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the room. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Extravehicular Activity/ISS Assembly and Maintenance
- Sustaining Engineering
- Test and Verification
- Task Group Reports

It is imperative that the meeting be held on these dates to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitor's register.

Dated: August 25, 1997.

**Leslie M. Nolan,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer,  
National Aeronautics and Space  
Administration.*

[FR Doc. 97-23051 Filed 8-28-97; 8:45 am]

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## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice (97-124)]

### NASA Advisory Council (NAC), Space Science Advisory Committee (SScAC), Structure and Evolution of the Universe Advisory Subcommittee; Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. 92-463, as amended, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces a forthcoming meeting of the NASA Advisory Council, Space Science Advisory Committee, Structure and Evolution of the Universe Subcommittee.

**DATES:** Monday, September 29, 1997, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Tuesday, September 30, 1997, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** NASA Headquarters, Conference Room MIC 5-A/B West, 300 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20546.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dr. Alan N. Bunner, Code SA, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC 20546, 202/358-0364.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting will be open to the public up to the capacity of the room. The agenda for the meeting includes the following topics:

- News from NASA Headquarters
- Summary Of Strategic Plan and Budget Situation
- Report from SScAC and Other Committees
- TGSA Summary
- Update on OSS Missions
- Public Relations
- Long Duration Balloon Program Update

It is imperative that the meeting be held on these dates to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitor's register.

Dated: August 25, 1997.

**Leslie M. Nolan,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer,  
National Aeronautics and Space  
Administration.*

[FR Doc. 97-23049 Filed 8-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-M

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541)

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of permit applications received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or reviews with respect to these permit applications by September 23, 1997. Permit applications may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 775, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 306-1033.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), has developed regulations that implement the "Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora" for all United States citizens. The Agreed Measures, developed by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties, recommended establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctic and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations established such a permit system to designate Specially Protected Areas and Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

The application received is as follows:

Permit Application No. 98-007

1. *Applicant:* Arthur L. DeVries, Department of Physiology, 524 Burrill

Hall, University of Illinois, 407 South Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, Illinois 61801-3704

*Activity for Which Permit is*

*Requested:* Introduction of Non-indigenous Species into Antarctica.

Fifteen (15) specimens of New Zealand black cod, *Notothenia angustata*, will be cold acclimated in a closed seawater system in the aquarium at McMurdo Station. The cold acclimated specimens will be used in experiments to determine the role of the antifreeze glycopeptides in freezing avoidance, and for isolating DNA. The DNA will be screened for the presence of an "unexpressed" antifreeze glycopeptide gene. Sensitive blood serum freezing habit tests suggest cold acclimated black cod synthesize small amounts of antifreeze glycopeptide after acclimation to +4°C for 6 weeks.

Some specimens will be injected with purified antifreeze glycopeptides to determine if the presence of the antifreeze glycopeptides in the circulation is sufficient to provide avoidance of freezing or if it needs to be integrated into the membranes of protected cells by synthetic ice crystals and the fate of the ice is determined.

The integument of the cod will also be used in experiments to determine whether it is a barrier to ice propagation due to its physical properties or whether antifreeze glycopeptides provide a physico-chemical barrier in conjunction with the integument. Brain lipids will also be analyzed to determine the degree of unsaturation of the phospholipid fatty acids.

Upon completion of experiments, the black cod will be sacrificed and preserved in 10% formalin.

*Location:* McMurdo Station, Ross Island, Antarctica.

*Dates:* October 1, 1996–March 31, 1997.

Permit Application: 98-008

2. *Applicant:* Ian Whillans, Department of Ecological Sciences, Ohio State University, 125 South Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210

*Activity for Which Permit is*

*Requested:* Enter Specially Protected Area.

The applicant proposes to enter Beaufort Island, Specially Protected Area No. 5, to measure the motion of the island with respect to the Transantarctic Mountains due to mountain building activity and related processes. Access to the area will be by twin otter or helicopter to an area above sea level to install GPS receivers. The GPS will operate for 5 days or less and then be removed. Small markers will be left

behind for reoccupation in 1998/99 and again 10 years later. Every effort will be made to avoid disturbance to wildlife.

*Location:* Beaufort Island, Specially Protected Area No. 5, Ross Sea.

*Dates:* November 1, 1997–February 25, 1998.

Permit Application: 98-009

3. *Applicant:* Thomas A. Day, Department of Botany, Arizona State University, Box 871601, Tempe, AZ 85287-1601

*Activity for Which Permit is*

*Requested:* Taking, Enter Specially Protected Areas and Sites of Special Scientific Interest, and Import into the U.S. Strong evidence indicates the climate of the Antarctic Peninsula has changed appreciably this century. In addition, springtime ozone depletion events have resulted in well-documented increases in UV-B radiation levels. The applicant's previous work with two plant species collected near Palmer Station, indicate both species are sensitive to higher air temperatures and limited in ability to acclimate photosynthetically to warmer temperatures. The applicant proposes to enter Biscoe Point (SSSI #20) and Admiralty Bay (SSSI #8) to collect up to 50 shoots and up to 500 seeds of antarctic grass hair (*Deschampsia antarctica*) of antarctic periwort (*Colobanthus quitensis*). Both plant species will be grown in the lab to examine changes in photosynthesis, growth and reduction following warming or exclusion of different UV components. The species collected from the Specially Protected areas will be used to determine whether different populations from contrasting weather regimes differ in their acclimation abilities. In addition, the applicant plans to visit Litchfield Island (SPA #17) on a site visit to assess animal damage to plant communities. The need for both shoots and seeds of each species is that in all but very favorable growing seasons, the vast majority of seeds produced by these plants are not viable. If seeds are not viable, plants must be propagated from shoots.

*Location:* Biscoe Point (SSSI #20), Admiralty Bay (SSSI #8), and Litchfield Island (SPA #17), Antarctic Peninsula.

*Dates:* October 15, 1997 to April 30, 1999.

Permit Application No. 98-010

4. *Applicant:* Donald Croll, Institute of Marine Science, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

*Activity for Which Permit is*

*Requested:* Taking; Import into the U.S.; and, Enter Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The applicant proposes to collect blood, tracheal swabs, and coecal swab samples from 125 adult Adelie penguins per colony (10 colonies total) for analysis of antibody presence.

Additional blood will be taken from 10 Adelies per colony to test for the presence of trace metal or trace organic contamination. The objectives of this study are to test the hypothesis that introduced avian diseases are more likely to be present in penguins whose rookeries are located in areas of high human use than those located in areas of low human use. A second hypothesis will be tested predicting penguins in high human use colonies will have higher contaminate levels than those in lower human use colonies. While visiting the colonies, the applicant also proposes to collect up to 30 adult Adelie carcasses and 15 South Polar Skua carcasses, if found, for contaminant analysis and archival storage for future research needs.

*Location:* From 5 of the six high human contact colonies and 5 of the eight low human contact colonies listed below:

*High Human Contact:* Pt. Thomas, King George Island, Lions Rump (SSSI #34), King George Island, Arthur Harbor, Anvers Island, Hope Bay, Trinity Peninsula, Paulet Island, Petermann Island

*Low Human contact:* Cone Island, Margueritte Bay, Barcroft Island, Fish Island, Grandidier Channel, Avian Island, Margueritte Bay, Andressen Island, Crystal Sound, North Pitt Island, Grandidier Channel, Danger Island, Three Sisters Point, King George Island

*Dates:* December 1, 1997–March 1, 1999.

Permit Application No. 98-011

5. *Applicant:* Bill J. Baker, Department of Chemistry, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne FL 32901

*Activity for Which Permit is*

*Requested:* Introduce Non-indigenous species into Antarctica.

The applicant proposes to introduce 2 slants each of the following species; *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Escherichia coli*, *Micrococcus luteus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Aspergillus niger*, and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. These eight species of non-pathogenic microorganisms will be used for bioassay of marine invertebrate extracts. The microorganisms will be propagated for each bioassay, then disposed of by sterilization at the conclusion of the field season. Sterile techniques will be used to handle the microbes to ensure they remain contained.

*Location:* Crary Lab, McMurdo Station, Antarctica.

*Dates:* October 1, 1997–December 31, 1997.

Permit Application No. 98–012

6. *Applicant:* Donald B. Siniff, Dept. of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, 100 Ecology Building, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

*Activity for Which Permit is*

*Requested:* Taking. Import into the U.S.

The applicant plans to tag and release approximately 350 Weddell adult seals and approximately 550 Weddell pups as part of a continuing investigation of the McMurdo Sound Weddell seal population, which was begun in the early 1960's and has continued to the present. In addition, blood and tissue samples will be taken from up to 300 individuals and imported to the U.S. for DNA extraction and toxins analysis. These samples are primarily to supplement future research into the paternity and genetic characteristics of the McMurdo populations specifically and Antarctic seals in general. Aspects of this research are: (1) To continue the long-term tagging studies by tagging all pups born into the McMurdo Sound population and to replace tags on previously tagged individuals so they will not be lost from the tagged population; (2) to update estimates of population parameters annually, using mark-recapture surveys, to continue the analyses and test of hypotheses associated with this data base; (3) collect blood and tissue samples for research examining the social structure and behavioral ecology of Weddell seals. The samples will be analyzed at the Universities of Minnesota and Alberta for DNA fingerprinting; (4) Previous research of stomach samples from harvested seals indicated that Antarctic silver fish is the major prey constituent during the austral summer. Since stomach content is no longer a viable option, and otoliths from fecal samples are often too eroded for accurate age estimation, lavage techniques (performed under supervision of a marine mammal veterinarian) offer a non-lethal technique of obtaining this data; and (5) VHF radio transmitters will be used to monitor the activity of territorial males during the breeding season in conjunction with the studies of behavioral ecology and paternity. The radio transmitters will be attached with marine epoxy and removed after use. If animals cannot be recaptured, the radios will fall off during their annual molt.

*Location:* McMurdo Sound vicinity, Antarctica.

*Dates:* October 1, 1997–September 30, 1998.

Permit Application No. 98–013

7. *Applicant:* Donald B. Siniff, Dept. of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, 100 Ecology Building, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

*Activity for Which Permit is*

*Requested:* Take. Import into the U.S. Enter Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The applicant proposes to enter the White Island Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI#18) to tag up to 15 adult Weddell seals, and tag and draw blood samples from approximately 5–8 Weddell pups, as part of a continuing population biology study. The White Island seal population has been a focus of interest dating to the early 1960's. This group of seals represents an isolated population that is very small and the evidence suggests it has very limited exchange of individuals with the McMurdo Sound population. Since intensive censusing was begun in the late 1980's, no new (tagged) adults have appeared in the population. Thus, the genetics of this population is of interest because it will increase understanding of such concepts as inbreeding depression and genetic drift.

*Location:* SSSI#18—North-west White Island, McMurdo Sound, Antarctica.

*Dates:* October 1, 1997–September 30, 1998.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 97–22985 Filed 8–28–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–266 and 50–301]

### Wisconsin Electric Power Company; Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR–24 and DPR–27, issued to Wisconsin Electric Power Company, (the licensee), for operation of the Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, located in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin.

#### Environmental Assessment

##### Identification of the Proposed Action

By letter dated January 21, 1997, the licensee proposed to change Technical Specification (TS) 15.6.11, "Radiation Protection Program" by revising all references to 10 CFR part 20, section

20.203 to section 20.1601, and by revising the footnote associated with this TS to indicate dose rates are those measured at no more than 30 centimeters from the source of radioactivity in accordance with 10 CFR 20.1601(a)(1).

#### The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed for the licensee to be consistent with 10 CFR part 50, Appendix I, in implementing the revised 10 CFR part 20.

#### Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revision to the TS and concludes that the administrative changes associated with updating the references to 10 CFR part 20 will not increase the types or amounts of effluents that may be released offsite, nor increase individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that this proposed action would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

The change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, no changes are being made to the authorized power level, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does involve features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

#### Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.