

determination of the Chairman of May 14, 1998, these sessions will be closed to the public pursuant to subsection (c)(4), (6), and (9)(B) of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code.

Further information with reference to this meeting can be obtained from Ms. Kathy Plowitz-Worden, Panel Coordinator, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC 20506, or call (202) 682-5691.

Kathy Plowitz-Worden,

Panel Coordinator, National Endowment for the Arts.

[FR Doc. 98-31087 Filed 11-19-98; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Arts; Partnership Advisory Panel

Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), as amended, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Partnership Panel, Regional Section B, (Regional Partnership Agreements category) to the National Council on the Arts will be held on December 15, 1998. The panel will meet in teleconference from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Room 726 at the Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506.

This meeting is for the purpose of Panel review, discussion, evaluation, and recommendation on applications for financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, including information given in confidence to the agency by grant applicants. In accordance with the determination of the Chairman of May 14, 1998, these sessions will be closed to the public pursuant to subsection (c)(4), (6) and (9)(B) of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code.

Further information with reference to this meeting can be obtained from Ms. Kathy Plowitz-Worden, Panel Coordinator, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC 20506, or call (202) 682-5691.

Dated: November 16, 1998.

Kathy Plowitz-Worden,

Panel Coordinator, National Endowment for the Arts.

[FR Doc. 98-31088 Filed 11-19-98; 8:45 am]

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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 views with respect to these permit applications by December 19, 1998. Permit applications may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, 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) 306-1030.

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 Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Special Protected Areas and Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

The applications received are as follows:

Permit Application No. 99-011

1. *Applicant:* Erland A. K. Fogelberg, Vice President, Orient Lines, 1510 S.E. 17th Street, Suite 400, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Areas. The applicant proposes to conduct educational visits, for passengers and staff members of the R/

V Marco Polo, to the following Ross Island areas: Hut and associated artifacts, Backdoor Bay, Cape Royds (ASPA #156), and Cape Evans Historic Site (ASPA #154), and Discovery Hut, Hut Point (ASPA #157). All visits will be conducted in accordance with the relevant Management Plans for each site.

Location: ASPA #154—Cape Evans, Ross Island, ASPA #156—Cape Royds, Ross Island, and ASPA #157—Hut Point, Ross Island.

Dates: February 1, 1999—February 28, 2004.

Permit Application No. 99-014

2. *Applicant:* Bruce Rheins, CBS News, 7800 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90036, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

Activity for Which Permits is Requested: Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Areas. The applicant proposes to enter Antarctic Specially Protected Areas to film scientific projects in the field for educational purposes. Access to these sites will be on an opportunistic basis and the film team will be under constant supervision and direction.

Location:

ASPA #105—Beaufort Island, Ross Sea
ASPA #106—Cape Hallett, Victoria Land

ASPA #116—"New College Valley",
Caughley Beach, Cape Bird
ASPA #118—Cryptogram Ridge, Mount Melbourne

ASPA #119—Forlidas Pond & Davis Valley Ponds

ASPA #121—Cape Royds, Ross Island
ASPA #122—Arrival Heights, Hut Point Peninsula

ASPA #123—Barwick Valley, Victoria Land

ASPA #124—Cape Crozier, Ross Island
ASPA #130—Tramway Ridge, Mt. Erebus

ASPA #131—Canada Glacier, Lake Fryxell, Taylor Valley

ASPA #137—Northwest White Island, McMurdo Sound

ASPA #138—Linneaus Terrace, Asgard Range

Dates: January 5, 1999—January 24, 1999.

Permit Application No. 99-015

3. *Applicant:* Ronald G. Koger, Project Director, Antarctic Support Associates, 61 Inverness Drive East, Suite 300, Englewood, Colorado 80112.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area. The applicant proposes to enter the U.S. Research Station, "Copacabana", located within ASPA #128, Western Shore of Admiralty Bay, King George Island. Access to the sites

is for purposes of moving research personnel and supplies from the ship to shore via zodiac, tasks associated with station opening and closing, and maintenance and servicing of station facilities and equipment. Landings at the site will be conducted via zodiac, with personnel transiting from the shoreline to the hut on foot.

Location: ASPA #128—Western Shore of Admiralty Bay, King George Island.

Dates: January 1, 1999–April 1, 2000.

Permit Application No. 99–016

4. *Applicant:* Donal T. Manahan, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California 90089–0371.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Introduction of a Non-indigenous Species into Antarctica. The applicant proposes to introduce cultures of *E. coli* which are a component of several molecular biology DNA cloning kits that will be used in a course in Integrative Biology and Adaptation of Antarctic Marine Organisms. *E. coli* will be used to replicate DNA during gene cloning and the bacterial stocks will be transported, with other kit reagents, frozen on dry ice (–80°). All experiments will be conducted in the Cray laboratory facilities at McMurdo Station.

Immediately after an experiment, using *E. coli* cultures, all media and materials coming into contact with the bacteria will be sterilized by autoclaving. Standard P–2 containment guidelines will be followed for the subsequent disposal of all materials and supplies. All *E. coli* cultures will be sterilized and killed at the end of the project.

Location: Cray Science and Engineering Laboratory, McMurdo Station, Antarctica Island.

Dates: December 29, 1998–February 15, 1999.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 98–30995 Filed 11–19–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL SKILL STANDARDS BOARD

Notice of Open Meeting

AGENCY: National Skill Standards Board.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Skill Standards Board was established by an Act of Congress, the National Skill Standards Act, Title V, Pub. L. 103–227. The 27-member National Skill Standards Board serves as a catalyst for the development

and implementation of a national system of voluntary skill standards and certification through voluntary partnerships. These partnerships will have the full and balanced participation of business, industry, labor, education and other key groups.

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to approximately 12:30 p.m. on Friday, December 11, in the Hotel Washington located at 515 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC.

AGENDA: The agenda for the Board Meeting will include: an update on the Board's Strategic Plan; reports from the Board's committees; presentations from the Voluntary Partnerships—Manufacturing, Installation and Repair (Manufacturing Skill Standards Council) and Retail Trade, Wholesale Trade, Real Estate & Personal Services (Sales and Services); and reports from Convening Groups representing the following industry clusters: Business & Administrative Services; Construction; Education and Training; Finance & Training; Restaurants, Lodging, Hospitality & Tourism, and Amusement & Recreation; and Telecommunications, Computers, Arts & Entertainment, and Information.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The meeting is open to the public. Seating is limited and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. (Seats will be reserved for the media.) If special accommodations are needed contact Michele Russo at (202) 254–8628 extension 10.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tracy Marshall, Director of Operations at (202) 254–8628 extension 13.

Signed in Washington, DC, this 13th day of November 1998.

Edie West,

Executive Director, National Skill Standards Board.

[FR Doc. 98–31080 Filed 11–19–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–23–M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–269, 50–270, and 50–287]

Duke Energy Corporation (Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3); Exemption

I

The Duke Energy Corporation (Duke/the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR–38, DPR–47, and DPR–55, that authorize operation of the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Oconee), respectively. The licenses provide,

among other things, that the facilities are subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

The facilities consist of pressurized water reactors located on Duke's Oconee site in Seneca, Oconee County, South Carolina.

II

Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 50, § 50.46(a)(1)(i), requires that each pressurized light-water nuclear power reactor must be provided with an emergency core cooling system (ECCS) that is designed so that its calculated cooling performance following postulated loss-of-coolant accidents conforms to the criteria set forth in paragraph 50.46(b). ECCS cooling performance must be calculated in accordance with an acceptable evaluation model and must be calculated for a number of postulated loss-of-coolant accidents (LOCAs) of different sizes, locations, and other properties sufficient to provide assurance that the most severe postulated small and large break LOCAs are calculated that will ensure adequate long-term cooling.

By letter dated September 17, 1998, the licensee described a modification that would add voltage and frequency protection for the Oconee loads when they are supplied from a Keowee hydro unit. The protection would separate Oconee loads from a Keowee unit if that unit's voltage or frequency becomes greater than 110 percent or less than 90 percent of rated value at any time after loading. The planned design would also delay energizing the Oconee loads on the underground power path until the Keowee unit reaches greater than 90 percent voltage and frequency. The existing design allows early loading of the underground path Keowee unit at approximately 60 percent voltage. During the design phase of this modification, while considering the frequency overshoot that the Keowee units normally experience during an emergency start, questions arose concerning whether the emergency power system should be loaded at 60 percent or 90 percent. To provide needed data to resolve this question, the Keowee Emergency Power and Engineered Safeguards Functional (KEP/ESF) Test is planned.

The test is scheduled during the Unit 3 outage, will be performed on the Keowee underground path, and will consist of two parts. One part will load the Keowee unit at its present design of approximately 60 percent rated voltage