

cost of such participation, that of transatlantic travel. It remains today a significant means for young scientists and engineers to develop contact with their peers throughout the world in their respective fields of specialization.

The Advanced Study Institutes (ASI) travel awards are offered primarily to advanced graduate students, but include recent postdoctoral students and new science faculty members, to attend one of the NATO's ASIs held in the NATO-member and partner countries of Europe. The NATO ASI program is targeted to those individuals nearing the completion of their doctoral studies in science, mathematics, and engineering who can take advantage of opportunities to become familiar with progress in their respective fields of specialization in other countries.

The following describes the procedures for the administration of the Foundation's NATO Advanced Study Institute (ASI) Travel Awards, which provide travel support for a number of U.S. graduate students and postdoctoral participants to attend the ASIs scheduled for Europe.

Advanced Study Institute Determination

Once NATO has notified us that the schedule of institutes is final, and we have received the descriptions of each institute, we determine which institutes NSF will support. The ASI travel award program supports those institutes that offer instruction in the fields of science traditionally supported by NSF as published in *Guide to Programs*. The program will not support institutes that deal with clinical topics, biomedical topics, or topics that have disease-related goals. Examples of areas of research that will not be considered are epidemiology; toxicology; the development or testing of drugs or procedures for their use; diagnosis or treatment of physical or mental disease, abnormality, or malfunction in human beings or animals; and animal models of such conditions. However, the program does support institutes that involve research in bioengineering, with diagnosis or treatment-related goals that apply engineering principles to problems in biology and medicine while advancing engineering knowledge. The program also supports bioengineering topics that aid persons with disabilities. Program officers from other Divisions in NSF will be contacted should scientific expertise beyond our own be required in the determination process.

• Solicitation for Nominations

Following the final determination as to which Advanced Study Institutes

NSF will support, we contact each institute director to ask for a list of up to 5 nominations to be considered for NSF travel support.

• EHR Contact With the Individuals Nominated

Each individual who is nominated by a director will be sent the rules of eligibility, information about the amount of funding available, and the forms (NSF Form 1379, giving our Finance Office electronic banking information; NSF Form 1310 (already cleared), and NSF Form 192 (Application for International Travel Grant) necessary for our application process.

• The Funding Process

Once an applicant has been selected to receive NSF travel award support, his or her application is sent to our Finance office for funding. They electronically transfer the amount of \$1000 into the bank or other financial institution account identified by the awardee.

Our plan is to have the \$1000 directly deposited into the awardee's account prior to the purchase of their airline ticket. An electronic message to the awardee states that NSF is providing support in the amount of \$1000 for transportation and miscellaneous expenses. The letter also states that the award is subject to the conditions in F.L. 27, *Attachment to International Travel Grant*, which states the U.S. flag-carrier policy.

As a follow-up, each ASI director may be asked to verify whether all NSF awardees attended the institute. If an awardee is identified as not utilizing the funds as prescribed, we contact the awardee to retrieve the funds. However, if our efforts are not successful, we will forward the awardee's name to DGA, which has procedures to deal with that situation.

We also ask the awardee to submit a final report on an NSF Form 250, which we provide as an attachment to the electronic award message.

• Selection of Awardees

The criteria used to select NSF Advanced Study Institute travel awardees are as follows:

1. The priority of selection is by the status level of the applicant:
 - (a) Advanced graduate student, or
 - (b) Recent post-doc (Ph.D. received no earlier than three years before the ASI).
 - (c) New faculty with Ph.D.'s received no earlier than three years before the ASI).
2. We shall generally follow the order of the nominations, listed by the

director of the institute, within priority level.

3. Those who have not attended an ASI in the past will have a higher priority than those who have.

4. Nominees from different institutions and research groups have higher priority than those from the same institution or research group. (Typically, no more than one person is invited from a school or from a research group.)

Use of the Information: For NSF Form 192, information will be used in order to verify eligibility and qualifications for the award. For NSF Form 250, information will be used to verify attendance at Advanced Study Institute and will be included in Division annual report.

Estimate of Burden: Form 192—1.5 hours. Form 250—2 hours.

Respondents: Individuals.

Estimated Number of Responses per Award: 150 responses, broken down as follows: For NSF Form 250, 75 respondents; for NSF Form 192, 75 respondents.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 262.5 hours, broken down by 150 hours for NSF Form 250 (2 hours per 75 respondents); and 112.5 hours for NSF Form 192 (1.5 hours per 75 respondents).

Frequency of Responses: Annually.

Comments: Comments are invited on (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; or (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: October 31, 2001.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer.

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nadene G. Kennedy, Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, Rm. 755, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 29, 2000, the National Science Foundation published a notice in the **Federal Register** of a permit applications received. A permit was issued on October 17, 2001 to: Moody Gardens, Inc., Permit No. 2001-017.

Nadene G. Kennedy,
Permit Officer.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-369 and 50-370]

Duke Energy Corporation; McGuire Nuclear Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2; Notice of Partial Denial of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Opportunity for Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has partially denied a request by Duke Energy Corporation (the licensee) for an amendment to Facility Operating License (FOL) Nos. NPF-9 and NPF-17 issued to the licensee for operation of the McGuire Nuclear Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, respectively, located in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was published in the **Federal Register** on November 1, 2001 (65 FR 65341).

The purpose of the licensee's amendment request was to revise the FOLs by (a) deleting the license conditions (LCs) that have been fulfilled by actions that have been completed or are imposed by other regulatory requirements, (b) changing the license conditions that have been superseded by the current plant status, and (c) incorporating other administrative changes.

The NRC staff has concluded that the licensee's request cannot be fully granted with regard to the following elements for Unit 1:

License Condition 2.G, Reporting of Violations

The licensee's basis for deletion of license condition 2.G which requires the reporting of violations of the requirements of license conditions 2.C(1), Maximum Power Level, 2.C(4) Fire Protection program, and 2.E, on safeguards and security, is that the primary reporting requirements for these license conditions are covered by 10 CFR 50.72 and 10 CFR 50.73. However, the staff does not find that the licensee has shown that specific issues addressed by these LCs are encompassed by the provisions of 10 CFR 50.72 and 10 CFR 50.73 and, on this basis denies the request to delete license condition 2.G as it applies to license condition 2.C(1), 2.C(4) and 2.E. The licensee's request to delete portions of license condition 2.G as it applies to other license conditions has been granted.

The NRC staff has concluded that the licensee's request cannot be fully granted with regard to the following elements for Unit 2:

License Condition 2.C(11), Protection of the Environment

The NRC staff determined that the license condition must be retained on the basis that the requirement of the license condition is an ongoing requirement and will be germane for the life of the license. Licensee compliance with some environmental regulations is, in fact, monitored by the State of North Carolina and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. However, in its role as a licensing agency, the NRC is responsible for monitoring compliance with other regulations. Examples include the Endangered Species Act and the Historic Preservation Act. In order to meet its responsibilities, the NRC must be made aware of planned licensee activities which may result in a significant adverse environmental impact that was not evaluated or that is significantly greater than that evaluated in the Final Environmental Statement or any other environmental impact statement (EIS) relevant to the site (e.g., an EIS associated with license renewal). Therefore, staff finds that this requirement must remain in place and that its request for deletion is denied.

License Condition 2.F, Reporting of Violations

The licensee's basis for deletion of license condition 2.F which requires the reporting of violations of the requirements of license conditions 2.C(1), Maximum Power Level, 2.C(7) Fire Protection, 2.C(11) Protection of the

Environment, and 2.E, on safeguards and security, is that the primary reporting requirements for these license conditions are covered by 10 CFR 50.72 and 10 CFR 50.73. However, the staff does not find that the licensee has shown that the specific issues addressed by these LCs are encompassed by the provisions of 10 CFR 50.72 and 10 CFR 50.73 and, on this basis denies the request to delete license condition 2.G as it applies to license condition 2.C(1), 2.C(7), 2.C(11) and 2.E. The licensee's request to delete portions of license condition 2.F as it applies to other license conditions has been granted.

Accordingly, this aspect of the licensee's proposed license amendment is denied. The licensee was notified of the Commission's denial of the proposed change by a letter dated October 19, 2001.

By December 5, 2001, the licensee may demand a hearing with respect to the denial described above. Any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a written petition for leave to intervene.

A request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001 Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, or may be delivered to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Public Document Room, Washington, DC 20555-0001, by the above date.

A copy of any petitions should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to Ms. Lisa F. Vaughn, Duke Energy Corporation, 422 South Church Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28201-1006 attorney for the licensee.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated June 13, 2000, as supplemented August 30 and September 10, 2001, and (2) the Commission's letter to the licensee dated October 19, 2001.

Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, and accessible electronically through the ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of October 2001.