

techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Agency:* National Endowment for the Humanities.

*Title of Proposal:* Generic Clearance Authority for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

*OMB Number:* 3136-0134.

*Affected Public:* Applicants to NEH grant programs, reviewers of NEH grant applications, and NEH award recipients.

*Total Respondents:* 8,762.

*Frequency of Collection:* On occasion.

*Total Responses:* 8,762.

*Average Time per Response:* Varied according to type of information collection.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 74,979 hours.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request. They will also become a matter of public record.

**Brett Bobley,**

*Chief Information Officer, National Endowment for the Humanities.*

[FR Doc. E6-3234 Filed 3-7-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7536-01-P

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

**Notice of the Availability of an Environmental Assessment**

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of a draft Environmental Assessment for proposed activities in the Arctic Ocean.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation gives notice of the availability of a draft Environmental Assessment for proposed activities in the Arctic Ocean.

The Office of Polar Programs (OPP) has prepared an Environmental Assessment of a marine geophysical survey by the Coast Guard cutter *Healy* in the western Canada Basin, Chukchi Borderland and Mendeleev Ridge, Arctic Ocean, during July–August, 2006. Given the United States Arctic Program's mission to support polar research, the proposed action is expected to result in substantial benefits to science. The draft Environmental Assessment is available for public review for a 30-day period.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before April 7, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the draft Environmental Assessment are available upon request from: Dr. Polly A. Penhale, National Science Foundation, Office of Polar Programs, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Suite 755, Arlington, VA 22230 at 703-292-8031 or [ppenhale@nsf.gov](mailto:ppenhale@nsf.gov) or at the agency's Web site at

[http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/arctic/arc\\_envir/healy\\_ea\\_06.pdf](http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/arctic/arc_envir/healy_ea_06.pdf).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The University of Texas, Austin, with research funding from the National Science Foundation plans to conduct a marine seismic survey in the western Canada Basin, Chukchi Borderland and Mendeleev Ridge, Arctic Ocean, during the period of 15 July to 25 August 2006 (approximately). This project will include collection of seismic reflection and refraction data as well as sediment coring intended to collect crustal structure samples. The purpose of the seismic survey is to study the origin and kinematics of the Amerasian Basin's opening. The data collected will be used to analyze the internal structure of the ridges and plateaus of the Amerasian basin allowing current theories of its formation to be tested. The proposed study will consist of a geophysical survey in the Arctic Ocean with seven interspersed periods of coring.

Several species of cetaceans and pinnipeds inhabit the Arctic Ocean. The increased underwater noise from the research may result in avoidance behavior by some marine mammals and fish, and other forms of disturbance. An integral part of the planned survey is a monitoring and mitigation program to minimize impacts of the proposed activities on marine species present, and on fishing and subsistence activities, and to document the nature and extent of any effects. Injurious impacts to marine mammals have not been proven to occur near equipment proposed to be used in this research; however, the planned monitoring and mitigation measures would minimize the possibility of such effects should they otherwise occur.

With the planned monitoring and mitigation measures, unavoidable impacts to each of the species of marine mammal that might be encountered are expected to be limited to short-term localized changes in behavior and distribution near the seismic vessel. At most, such effects may be interpreted as falling within the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) definition of "Level B Harassment" for those species managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service. No long-term or significant effects are expected on individual marine mammals, or the

populations to which they belong, or their habitats. The agency is currently consulting with both the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Fish & Wildlife Service regarding species potentially affected by this proposed activity.

Copies of the draft Environmental Assessment entitled "Environmental Assessment of a Marine Geophysical Survey by the USCG *Healy* of the Western Canada Basin, Chukchi Borderland and Mendeleev Ridge, Arctic Ocean, July–August 2006" are available upon request from: Dr. Polly A. Penhale, National Science Foundation, Office of Polar Programs, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Suite 755, Arlington, VA 22230 at 703-292-8031 or [ppenhale@nsf.gov](mailto:ppenhale@nsf.gov) or at the agency's website at [http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/arctic/arc\\_envir/healy\\_ea\\_06.pdf](http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/arctic/arc_envir/healy_ea_06.pdf).

The National Science Foundation invites interested members of the public to provide written comments on this draft Environmental Assessment.

**Polly A. Penhale,**

*Environmental Officer, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. 06-2192 Filed 3-7-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

**NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION**

**Sunshine Act; Regular Board of Directors Meeting**

**TIME AND DATE:** 9:30 a.m., Friday, March 10, 2006.

**PLACE:** Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, DBA NeighborWorks® America, 1325 G Street NW., Suite 800, Boardroom, Washington, DC 20005.

**STATUS:** Open/Closed.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Jeffrey T. Bryson, General Counsel/Secretary. 202-220-2372; [jbryson@nw.org](mailto:jbryson@nw.org).

**AGENDA:**

I. Call to Order: Chairman Curry.

**Summary Agenda**

No substantive discussion of the following items is anticipated. These matters will be resolved with a single vote unless a member of the Board of Directors requests that an item be moved to the discussion agenda.

II. Approval of the Minutes: December 19, 2005 Regular Meeting.

III. Summary Report of the Audit Committee: January 20, 2006 Meeting. (Ms. Williams will be available to answer questions.)

IV. Summary Report of the Finance, Budget and Program Committee: February 2, 2006 Meeting. (Mr. Reich will be available to answer questions.)

- Treasurer's Report for the Quarter ending December 31, 2005. (Mr. Tuminaro will be available to answer questions.)

V. Resolution Recognizing Doug Dylla's Contributions.

#### Closed Session

After conclusion of the Discussion Agenda, the Board will meet in closed session to discuss personnel issues concerning performance evaluations and compensation for the officers and internal audit director.

VI. Corporate Administration Committee Report: March 9, 2006, Mr. Hood.

#### Discussion Agenda

VII. Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Management Report: Mr. Wade.

- NHSA Update: Ms. Widener.

VIII. Katrina Rebuilding Initiative: Mr. Fitzgerald.

IX. Strategic Plan Update: Mr. Wade.

X. Adjournment: Chairman Curry.

**Jeffrey T. Bryson,**

*General Counsel/Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 06-2232 Filed 3-3-06; 5:01 pm]

BILLING CODE 7570-01-M

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

**ACTION:** Notice of pending NRC action to submit an information collection request to OMB and solicitation of public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The NRC is preparing a submittal to OMB for review of continued approval of information collections under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Information pertaining to the requirement to be submitted:

1. *The title of the information collection:* 10 CFR part 62—"Criteria and Procedures for Emergency Access to Non-Federal and Regional Low-Level Waste Disposal Facilities."

2. *Current OMB approval number:* 3150-0158.

3. *How often the collection is required:* The collection would only be required upon application for an

exemption or when access to a non-Federal low-level waste disposal facility is denied, which results in a public health and safety and/or common defense and security concern.

4. *Who is required or asked to report:* Generators of low-level waste who are denied access to a non-Federal low-level waste facility.

5. *The estimated number of annual respondents:* 2 (No exemptions or requests for emergency access has been recorded to date).

6. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 233.

7. *Abstract:* 10 CFR part 62 sets out the information which must be provided to the NRC by any low-level waste generator seeking emergency access to an operating low-level waste disposal facility. The information is required to allow NRC to determine if denial of disposal constitutes a serious and immediate threat to public health and safety or common defense and security. 10 CFR part 62 also provides that the Commission may grant an exemption from the requirements in this Part upon application of an interested person or upon its own initiative.

Submit, by May 8, 2006 comments that address the following questions:

1. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the NRC to properly perform its functions? Does the information have practical utility?

2. Is the burden estimate accurate?

3. Is there a way to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?

4. How can the burden of the information collection be minimized, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

A copy of the draft supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Room O-1 F21, Rockville, MD 20852. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide Web site: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/doc-comment/omb/index.html>. The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the NRC Clearance Officer, Brenda Jo. Shelton, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, T-5 F53, Washington, DC 20555-0001, by telephone at 301-415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail to [INFOCOLLECTS@NRC.GOV](mailto:INFOCOLLECTS@NRC.GOV).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of March 2006.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Brenda Jo. Shelton,**

*NRC Clearance Officer, Office of Information Services.*

[FR Doc. E6-3292 Filed 3-7-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-271]

### Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.; Notice of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Final Determination of No Significant Hazards Consideration

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) has issued Amendment No. 229 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-28, issued to Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (the licensee), which revised the Technical Specifications (TSs) and License for operation of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VYNPS) located in Windham County, Vermont. The amendment was effective as of the date of its issuance.

The amendment increases the maximum authorized power level for VYNPS from 1593 megawatts thermal (MWt) to 1912 MWt, which is an increase of approximately 20 percent. The increase in power level is considered an extended power uprate.

The application for the amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment.

The Commission published a "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Opportunity for a Hearing" related to this action in the **Federal Register** on July 1, 2004 (69 FR 39976). This Notice provided 60 days for the public to request a hearing. On August 30, 2004, the Vermont Department of Public Service and the New England Coalition filed requests for hearing in connection with the proposed amendment. By Order dated November 22, 2004, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) granted those hearing requests and by Order dated December 16, 2004, the ASLB issued its decision to conduct a hearing using the procedures in 10 CFR part 2, subpart L,