

disseminate technology assessment and testbed results. The agendas, minutes, and other meeting materials and information can be found on the FASTER website at: <https://www.nitrd.gov/nitrdgroups/index.php?title=FASTER>.

**DATES:** The FASTER CoP meetings will be held over the course of the year (February 2018–December 2018) at the NITRD National Coordination Office, 490 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Suite 8001, Washington, DC 20024. Please note that public seating for these meetings is limited and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. WebEx and/or Teleconference participation is available for each meeting. Please reference the FASTER CoP website for meeting dates, times, and location changes. Further information about the NITRD may be found at: <https://www.nitrd.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Alex Thai at [thai@nitrd.gov](mailto:thai@nitrd.gov) or (202) 459-9674.

*Public Comments:* The government seeks individual input; attendees/participants may provide individual advice only. Members of the public are welcome to submit their comments to [magic-comments@nitrd.gov](mailto:magic-comments@nitrd.gov). Please note that under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), all public comments and/or presentations will be treated as public documents and may be made available to the public via the MAGIC Team website.

Submitted by the National Science Foundation in support of the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) National Coordination Office (NCO) on February 6, 2018.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. 2018-02711 Filed 2-9-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Notice of Permit Modification Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of permit modification request.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of requests to modify permits issued to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice of a requested permit modification.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by March 14, 2018. Permit applications may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nature McGinn, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address, 703-292-8030, or [ACApermits@nsf.gov](mailto:ACApermits@nsf.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the 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 Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

*Description of Permit Modification Requested:* The Foundation issued a permit (ACA 2015-011) to Ari Friedlaender on December 3, 2014. The issued permit allows the permit holder to take biopsy samples and photographs for identification of humpback (n = 200 biopsy & photo-ID), Antarctic minke (n = 50 biopsy; 200 photo-ID), killer (n = 50; 200 photo-ID), and Arnoux's beaked (n = 50; 200 photo-ID) whales in the Southern Ocean. The permit also allowed for 10 satellite-tagging takes of humpback whales.

A recent modification to this permit, dated December 31, 2015, permitted the applicant to increase the number of satellite-tagging takes of humpback whales to 20 and to add 10 dart tag takes and 20 suction cup tag takes for both humpbacks and Antarctic minke whales. Now the permit holder proposes a modification to his permit to increase biopsy takes to 250 for all four whale species listed on the original permit. Of those 250 biopsy takes, 50 would be associated with approaches that would also include tagging and the remaining 200 biopsy takes would occur during approaches that do not involve tagging. The proposed modification would also increase the number of dart tags takes of humpback whales (from 10 to 30) and Antarctic minke whales (from 10 to 20) and increase the number of suction cup tagging takes of Antarctic minke whales from 20 to 30. In addition, the permit

holder proposes to add takes for dart tagging (n = 10) and suction cup tagging (n = 40) of Arnoux's beaked whales as well as 50 suction cup tagging takes for killer whales. Finally, the permit holder would add southern right whales to his ACA permit and is requesting 250 biopsy takes, 200 photo-ID takes, and 50 suction cup tagging takes for this species. This ACA permit modification would increase the consistency of takes with those allowed under the most recent amendment of National Marine Fisheries Service Permit No. 14809-03 on which the ACA permit holder is an approved Co-Investigator.

*Location:* Antarctic Peninsula between Marguerite Bay and the Gerlache Strait, inshore waters.

*Dates of Permitted Activities:* March 1–December 31, 2018.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Polar Coordination Specialist, Office of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2018-02705 Filed 2-9-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2018-0023]

### Qualification and Training of Personnel for Nuclear Power Plants

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Draft regulatory guide; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing for public comment draft regulatory guide (DG), DG-1329, "Qualification and Training of Personnel for Nuclear Power Plants." The proposed revision describes methods acceptable to the NRC staff for complying with those portions of the Commission's regulations associated with the selection, qualifications, and training for nuclear power plant personnel. This proposed guide, Revision 4, updates the guidance with additional experience gained since Revision 3 was issued in 2000 by endorsing ANSI/ANS 3.1 2014, "Selection, Qualification and Training of Personnel for Nuclear Power Plants."

**DATES:** Submit comments by April 13, 2018. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. Although a time limit is given, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or

improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods (unless this document describes a different method for submitting comments on a specified subject):

- *Federal Rulemaking website:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC–2018–0023. Address questions about NRC dockets to Jennifer Borges; telephone: 301–287–9127; email: [Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individuals listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- *Mail comments to:* May Ma, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: OWFN–2A13, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.

For additional direction on accessing information and submitting comments, see “Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments” in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** James Kellum, Office of New Reactors; telephone: 301–415–5305; email: [Jim.Kellum@nrc.gov](mailto:Jim.Kellum@nrc.gov); and Stephen Burton, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research; telephone: 301–415–7000; email: [Stephen.Burton@nrc.gov](mailto:Stephen.Burton@nrc.gov). Both are staff members of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments**

*A. Obtaining Information*

Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2018–0023 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this action. You may obtain publically-available information related to this action, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC–2018–0023.

- *NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select “ADAMS Public Documents” and then select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737, or by email to [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). The DG is electronically available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML16091A267.

- *NRC’s PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC’s PDR, Room O1–F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

*B. Submitting Comments*

Please include Docket ID NRC–2018–0023 in your comment submission. The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC posts all comment submissions at <http://www.regulations.gov> as well as enters the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment submissions into ADAMS.

**II. Additional Information**

The NRC is issuing for public comment a DG in the NRC’s “Regulatory Guide” series. This series was developed to describe and make available to the public information regarding methods that are acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the NRC’s regulations, techniques that the staff uses in evaluating specific issues or postulated events, and data that the staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The DG, entitled, “Qualification and Training of Personnel for Nuclear Power Plants,” is a proposed revision temporarily identified by its task number, DG–1329. DG–1329 is proposed Revision 4 of RG 1.8, “Qualification and Training of Personnel for Nuclear Power Plants.” The guide proposes revised guidance that describes methods acceptable to the staff of the NRC for complying with those portions of the Commission’s regulations associated with the selection, qualifications, and training for nuclear power plant personnel.

This proposed guide, Revision 4, endorses ANSI/ANS 3.1 2014, “Selection, Qualification, and Training of Personnel for Nuclear Power Plants,” as well as updates the guidance with

additional experience gained since Revision 3 was issued in 2000.

**III. Backfitting and Issue Finality**

This DG describes methods acceptable to the staff of the NRC for complying with those portions of the Commission’s regulations associated with the selection, qualifications and training for nuclear power plant personnel. Issuance of this DG, if finalized, would not constitute backfitting as defined in section 50.109 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) (the Backfit Rule) and would not otherwise be inconsistent with the issue finality provisions in 10 CFR part 52. As discussed in the “Implementation” section of this DG, the NRC has no current intention to impose this guide, if finalized, on holders of current operating licenses or combined licenses.

This DG may be applied to applications for operating licenses, combined licenses, early site permits, and certified design rules docketed by the NRC as of the date of issuance of the final regulatory guide, as well as future applications submitted after the issuance of the regulatory guide. Such action would not constitute backfitting as defined in the Backfit Rule or be otherwise inconsistent with the applicable issue finality provision in 10 CFR part 52, inasmuch as such applicants or potential applicants are not within the scope of entities protected by the Backfit Rule or the relevant issue finality provisions in part 52.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of February, 2018.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Thomas H. Boyce,**

*Chief, Regulatory Guidance and Generic Issues Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

[FR Doc. 2018–02816 Filed 2–9–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590–01–P**

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

[NRC–2018–0001]

**Sunshine Act Meeting Notice**

**DATE:** Weeks of February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2018.

**PLACE:** Commissioners’ Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

**STATUS:** Public and Closed.

**Week of February 12, 2018**

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of February 12, 2018.