determinations for the States covered by each volume. Throughout the remainder of the year, regular weekly updates will be distributed to subscribers.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 10th day of February 1998.

Carl J. Poleskey,

Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.

[FR Doc. 98–3778 Filed 2–13–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–27–M

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice 98–019]

Government-Owned Inventions, Available for Licensing

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Notice of availability of inventions for licensing.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are assigned to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, have been filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and are available for licensing.

DATE: February 17, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ed Fein, Patent Counsel, Johnson Space Center, Mail Code HA, Houston, TX 77058; telephone (281) 483–0837, fax (281) 244–8452.

NASA Case No. MSC–22419–2: Porous Article with Surface Functionality and Method for Preparing Same;

NASA Case No. MSC–22864–1–CU: Compact Room Temperature Mid-Infrared Laser Sensor for Trace Gas Detection;

NASA Case No. MSC–22419–5: Distributed Pore Chemistry in Porous Organic Polymers;

NASA Case No. MSC–22419–4: Distributed Pore Chemistry in Porous Organic Polymers;

NASA Case No. MSC–22419–3: Distributed Pore Chemistry in Porous Organic Polymers;

NASA Case No. MSC–22569–2: Micromechanical Oscillating Mass Balance;

NASA Case No. MSC–22638–1: Method for Rapid Detection of GC Rich Nucleic Acid Polymers;

NASA Case No. MSC–22757–1: Automatic Propellant Blending;

NASA Case No. MSC–22743–1: Proximate Object Locating and Tracking System;

Dated: February 9, 1998.

Edward A. Frankle,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 98–3893 Filed 2–13–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510–01–M

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Arts; National Council on the Arts 133rd Meeting

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 National Council on the Arts will be held on February 27, 1998 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. in Room M–09 at the Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20506.

The meeting will be open to the public on a space available basis. Topics tentatively will include: Swearing in of new Council members, Congressional update, budget update, application review, Guidelines (FY 1999 Partnership Agreements, FY 2000 National Heritage and Jazz Masters Fellowships, and FY 1998 ArtsREACH: Expanding Cultural Opportunities through Community Planning), an update on Millennium Initiatives and general discussion.

If, in the course of discussion, it becomes necessary for the Council to discuss non-public commercial or financial information of intrinsic value, the Council will go into closed session pursuant to subsection (c)(4) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b. Additionally, discussion concerning purely personal information about individuals, submitted with grant applications, such as personal biographical and salary data or medical information, may be conducted by the Council in closed session in accordance with subsection (c)(6) of 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Any interested persons may attend, as observers, Council discussions and reviews which are open to the public. If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Office of AccessAbility, National Endowment for the Arts, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 202/682–5532, TTY-TDD 202/682–5429, at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

Further information with reference to this meeting can be obtained from the Office of Communications, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C. 20506, at 202/682–5570.

Dated: February 10, 1998.

Kathy Plowitz-Worden,

Panel Coordinator, Office of Guidelines and Panel Operations.

[FR Doc. 98–3806 Filed 2–13–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7537–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING MEETING: National Science Foundation, National Science Board.

DATE AND TIME:

February 26, 1998, 9:00 a.m., Closed Session
February 26, 1998, 9:45 a.m., Open Session
February 27, 1998, 8:30 a.m., Closed Session
February 27, 1998, 9:00 a.m., Open Session

PLACE: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 1225, Arlington, VA 22230.

STATUS: Part of this meeting will be open to the public. Part of this meeting will be closed to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Thursday, February 26, 1998

Closed Session (9:00 a.m.–9:45 a.m.)

—Minutes, November 1997 Meeting
—Vannevar Bush Award
—Alan T. Waterman Award
—Chairman's Items
—Director's Items
—Awards and Agreements

Thurday, February 26, 1998

Open Session (9:45 a.m.–6:30 p.m.)

—Minutes, October 1997
—Minutes, November 1997
—Closed Session Agenda Items for May 1998
—Chairman's Report
—Director's Report
—Director's Merit Review Report
—Reports from Committees
—NSB Report on Graduate Education
—NSB Occasional Paper: Industry Reliance on Publicly-Funded Research
—NSF Long Range Planning

Friday, February 27, 1998

Closed Session (8:30 a.m.–9:00 a.m.)

—NSF Budget and Planning

Friday, February 27, 1998

Open Session (9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.)

—NSF Long Range Planning (continued) Issues for Operating in Constrained Fiscal Environments
—Other Business

—Adjourn

Marta Cehelsky,

Executive Officer.

[FR Doc. 98–4091 Filed 2–12–98; 3:17 p.m.]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–247]

Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc., Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit No. 2; Exemption

I

Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. (Con Edison or the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR–26, which authorizes operation of Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit No. 2 (the facility or IP2), at a steady-state reactor power level not in excess of 3071.4 megawatts thermal. The facility is a pressurized-water reactor located at the licensee's site in Westchester County, New York. The license provides, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

II

In its letter dated October 7, 1997, the licensee requested that NRC exempt the unit from the application of the 1989 Edition of the American Society for Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI, Appendix G (1989 methodology) as required by Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 50 Section 60 (50.60), and 10 CFR 50.55a. As an alternative, the licensee proposed to use the version of ASME Section XI, Appendix G found in the 1996 Addenda to the ASME Code (1996 methodology). The 1996 methodology is less conservative than the methodology in the 1989 Edition of the ASME Code. References in 10 CFR 50.60 and Appendix G require the use of a methodology at least as conservative as that found in Appendix G to the 1989 Edition of Section XI of the ASME Code. Therefore, the staff must review and approve the 1996 methodology prior to use. The staff has reviewed the licensee's request and approves the use of the 1996 methodology in lieu of the 1989 methodology for the construction of reactor vessel pressure-temperature (P–T) limits as described in 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix G. A methodology equivalent to the 1996 methodology was used in the licensee's P–T limits submittal dated October 2, 1996. The evaluation for the proposed P-T limits is issued as part of the amendment application.

III

The NRC has established requirements in 10 CFR Part 50 to protect the integrity of the reactor coolant system pressure boundary. As a part of these, 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix G requires that P–T limits be established for reactor pressure vessels (RPVs) during normal operation and vessel hydrostatic testing. In particular, 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix G.IV.2.b. requires that these limits must be ''at least as conservative as limits obtained by following the methods of analysis and the margins of safety of Appendix G of Section XI of the ASME Code.'' 10 CFR 50.55(a) specifies that the applicable ASME Code is the 1989 Edition. 10 CFR 50.60, which broadly addresses the establishment of criteria for fracture prevention, states that ''proposed alternatives to the described requirements in Appendices G and H of this part or portions thereof may be used when an exemption is granted by the Commission under § 50.12.'' The licensee used the methodology equivalent to the 1996 methodology for its P–T limits application in lieu of the 1989 methodology approved by the staff in the regulations. As part of this effort, the licensee has applied for an exemption to use the 1996 methodology.

IV

In the submittal, the exemption was requested under the special circumstances given in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii). The provisions of this section state that special circumstances are present whenever ''Application of the regulation in the particular circumstances * * * is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule.'' The licensee explained that ''With the 1996 Addenda, Article G–2000 was revised to incorporate the most recent elastic solutions * * * These new solutions better characterize the conditions for irradiated vessels in the low temperature region where the thermal stresses and allowable pressure are low.'' The licensee also indicated that the 1996 methodology contains the same ASME Section XI, Appendix G safety margin, which includes: (1) The 6:1 aspect ratio ¼ T flaw, (2) a factor of 2 on the membrane stress intensity factor, (3) the determination of material toughness from a reference curve based on dynamic and crack arrest data, and (4) margins on the materials' adjusted reference temperature based on Regulatory Guide 1.99, Revision 2. Therefore, the licensee concluded that application of the 1996 methodology would also meet the underlying intent of the regulations, namely to protect the integrity of the RPV from nonductile failure.

The staff examined the licensee's rationale in support of the exemption request. From the regulatory perspective, the staff concurred that a condition for an exemption exists under 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii) because the 1996 methodology, which is more appropriate than the 1989 methodology, became available recently and had been incorporated into the ASME Code. Consequently, application of the regulation in this particular instance is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule.

From the technical perspective, the staff agrees that this alternative method meets the underlying intent of the regulations. The staff has completed its review of the technical basis of the P–T limits submittal dated October 2, 1996. The evaluation of that submittal is issued along with Amendment No. 195 to License No. DPR–26. In that review, the staff examined the application of the 1996 methodology in detail, including a comparison of critical features of the 1989 and 1996 methodologies using plant-specific data for the IP2 RPV, and confirmed the adequacy of the 1996 methodology. Hence, requesting the exemption under the special circumstances of 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii) was found to be appropriate, and the application of the 1996 methodology, or its equivalent, would meet the underlying intent of the regulations.

On the basis of its review of the technical basis of the P–T limits submittal, the staff concludes that the use of a methodology equivalent to that contained in the 1996 Addenda of the ASME Code, which is less conservative than that specified in the regulation, meets the underlying intent of 10 CFR 50.60 and 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix G. The staff accepts that the explicit conservatism incorporated within the 1996 Appendix G methodology will ensure that the RPV will be protected from non-ductile failure.

V

For the foregoing reasons, the NRC staff has concluded that the licensee's proposed use of the alternative methodology in determining the P-T limits will not present an undue risk to public health and safety and is consistent with the common defense and security. The NRC staff has determined that there are special circumstances present, as specified in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii), in that application of 10 CFR 50.60 is not