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#### General Wage Determination Publication

General wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and related Acts, including those noted above, may be found in the Government Printing Office (GPO) document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under the Davis-Bacon And Related Acts,". This publication is available at each of the 50 Regional Governmental Depository Libraries and many of the 1,400 Government Depository Libraries across the country.

General wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and related Acts are available electronically at no cost on the Government Printing Office site at <http://www.access.gpo.gov/davisbacon>. They are also available electronically by subscription to the Davis-Bacon Online Service (<http://davisbacon.fedworld.gov>) of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) of the U.S. Department of Commerce at 1-800-363-2068. This subscription offers value-added features such as electronic delivery of modified wage decisions directly to the user's desktop, the ability to access prior wage decisions issued during the year, extensive Help desk Support, etc.

Hard-copy subscriptions may be purchased from: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, (202) 512-1800.

When ordering hard-copy subscription(s), be sure to specify the State(s), of interest, since subscriptions may be ordered for any or all of the six separate Volumes, arranged by State. Subscriptions include an annual edition (issued in January or February) which includes all current general wage 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, DC, this 23 day of October, 2003.

**Carl J. Poleskey,**

*Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.*

[FR Doc. 03-27191 Filed 10-30-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-27-M**

#### 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, Pub. L. 9541.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish 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 September 4, 2003, the National Science Foundation published a notice in the **Federal Register** of permit applications received. A permit was issued on October 21, 2003 to Gary D. Miller (2004-013).

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Permit Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-27458 Filed 10-30-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-M**

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

##### Conservation Act of 1978; Notice of Permit Modification

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**SUMMARY:** The Foundation modified a permit to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541; Code of Federal Regulations Title 45, Part 670).

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On September 28, 2000, the National Science Foundation issued a permit (ACA #2001-011) to Dr. Wayne Z. Trivelpiece after posting a notice in the August 29, 2000 **Federal Register**. Public comments were not received. A request to modify the permit was posted in the **Federal Register** on September 3, 2003. No public comments were

received. The modification was issued by the Foundation on October 14, 2003.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Permit Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-27459 Filed 10-30-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-M**

#### NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

##### Call for Anticipatory Research Projects

NRC research is performed in order to meet a known or anticipated regulatory need. There are two main categories of research that require separate consideration: Confirmatory research and anticipatory research. Confirmatory research aids the agency in responding to license issues that are now before the agency or that are anticipated to come before the agency in the near term. This type of research is performed either when the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research recognizes issues of concern or at the request of a program office that is directly responsible for regulatory oversight, e.g., Offices of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR), Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), or Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR).

The NRC also conducts research programs that are more forward looking, which we refer to as "anticipatory" research, an effort to try to foresee where the NRC may need information to respond to future regulatory issues. This research is related to better understanding evolving technologies or issues that may become important regulatory concerns in the future. Some of this work may also be confirmatory in nature by providing independent assessment of information developed by the nuclear industry. These types of programs may have been requested by the other program offices, or they may be developed as a result of independent examination of industry trends and emerging issues. If the agency waits until these potential issues become actual regulatory concerns, it may be too late to develop the technical information to respond in a timely fashion. Examples of anticipatory research that have been highly valuable to the agency include probabilistic risk analysis methods and applications, severe accident source term research, and the evaluation of the effects of aging on plant components.

Therefore, the NRC's Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) is seeking recommendations for anticipatory research both within NRC and from external stakeholders. This research will

help the NRC resolve current challenges and prepare for anticipated future regulatory issues. The responding submittal should describe the proposed research and the potential use of the research results in current or future regulatory activities. We also solicit your comments on the factors that should be considered when anticipatory research topics are prioritized. Responses to this request will be evaluated for possible inclusion in the FY 2006 and FY 2007 budgets.

To permit these new topics to be considered in developing future plans, your recommendations should be submitted no later than November 28, 2003, to: Michael Lesar, Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Mail Stop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to [NRCREP@NRC.GOV](mailto:NRCREP@NRC.GOV).

(5 U.S.C. 552(a))

Dated at Rockville, MD, this 27th Day of October 2003.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Alan E. Levin,**

*Senior Technical Advisor to the Director, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

[FR Doc. 03-27456 Filed 10-30-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

**OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET**

**Cost of Hospital and Medical Care Treatment Furnished by the United States; Certain Rates Regarding Recovery From Tortiously Liable Third Persons**

By virtue of the authority vested in the President by Section 2(a) of Pub. L.

87-693 (76 Stat. 593; 42 U.S.C. 2652), and delegated to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget by Executive Order No. 11541 of July 1, 1970 (35 **Federal Register** 10737), the two sets of rates outlined below are hereby established. These rates are for use in connection with the recovery, from tortiously liable third persons, of the cost of hospital and medical care and treatment furnished by the United States (Part 43, Chapter I, Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations) through three separate Federal agencies. The rates have been established in accordance with the requirements of OMB Circular A-25, requiring reimbursement of the full cost of all services provided and will remain in effect until further notice. The rates for the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Indian Health Service in the Department of Health and Human Services that were published in the **Federal Register** on October 31, 2000 and December 26, 2001, respectively, remain in effect until further notice. In addition, the inpatient rates for the Department of Defense published in on December 9, 2002 remain in effect until further notice. The rates are as follows:

**1. Department of Defense**

The Fiscal Year (FY) and Calendar Year (CY) 2003 Department of Defense (DoD) reimbursement rates for inpatient, outpatient, and other services are provided in accordance with Title 10, United States Code, section 1095. Due to size, the sections containing the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) Maximum Allowable Charges (CMAC, section II), Dental (section III. F), Pharmacy (section III. D), and Durable Medical Equipment/Durable Medical

Supplies (DME/DMS) (section III. K) are not included in this package. Those rates are available from the TRICARE Management Activity (TMA) Uniform Business Office (UBO) Web site: [http://www.tricare.osd.mil/ebc/rm\\_home/ubo\\_documents\\_rates\\_tables.cfm](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/ebc/rm_home/ubo_documents_rates_tables.cfm).

The outpatient rates in this package will have an effective date of May 1, 2003. The inpatient medical rates in this package, republished in this package, are from the December 9, 2002 package and are referenced above on the UBO Web site; these became effective October 1, 2002.

A government billing calculation factor (percentage discount) for billing outpatient International Military Education and Training (IMET) (58.57% of full rate), and Interagency and Other Federal Agency Sponsored Patients (IAR) rate (93.14% of full rate), will be applied to the line item charges calculated for outpatient medical and ancillary services using CMAC or anesthesia charges.

**Inpatient, Outpatient, and Other Rates and Charges**

**I. Inpatient Rates**

*A. All Inpatient Services*

(Based on Diagnosis Related Groups (DRG) <sup>1 2</sup>)

**1. Average FY 2003 Direct Care Inpatient Reimbursement Rates**

Adjusted standard amount (ASA)	Inter-national military education & training (IMET)	Inter-agency and other federal agency sponsored patients	Other (full/ third party)
Large Urban .....	\$3,521.00	\$6,434.00	\$6,748.00
Other Urban/Rural .....	4,316.00	7,191.00	7,575.00
Overseas .....	4,443.00	9,879.00	10,344.00

**2. Overview**

The FY 2003 inpatient rates are based on the cost per DRG, which is the inpatient full reimbursement rate per hospital discharge weighted to reflect the intensity of the principal diagnosis, secondary diagnoses, procedures, patient age, etc. involved. The average cost per Relative Weighted Product (RWP) for large urban, other urban/

rural, and overseas facilities will be published annually as an inpatient adjusted standardized amount (ASA) (see paragraph I.A.1., above). The ASA will be applied to the RWP for each inpatient case, determined from the DRG weights, outlier thresholds, and payment rules published annually for hospital reimbursement rates under CHAMPUS pursuant to 32 CFR 199.14(a)(1), including adjustments for

length of stay (LOS) outliers. Each military treatment facility (MTF) providing inpatient care has a separate ASA rate. The MTF-specific ASA rate is the published ASA rate adjusted for area wage differences and indirect medical education (IME) for the discharging hospital (see Attachment 1). The MTF-specific ASA rate submitted on the claim is the rate that payers will use for reimbursement purposes. An example of