

Agenda: To review and evaluate nominations as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Late Notice: Time and date of meeting were not established until March 14, 2006.

Reason for Closing: The nominations being reviewed include information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute unwarranted invasions of personal privacy. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: March 16, 2006.

Susanne Bolton,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 06-2741 Filed 3-21-06; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Sunshine Act; National Science Board and Its Subdivisions; Notice of Meeting

DATE AND TIME: March 29–30, 2006.

March 29, 2006 8 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Sessions:

8 a.m.–9:30 a.m.—Open
9:30 a.m.–10 a.m.—Open
10 a.m.–11 a.m.—Open
11 a.m.–12 noon—Executive Closed
1 p.m.–1:30 p.m.—Open
1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.—Open
2:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.—Open
4:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.—Open

March 30, 2006 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Sessions:

7:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.—Open
9:30 a.m.–10 a.m.—Closed
10 a.m.–11 a.m.—Open
11 a.m.–11:30 a.m.—Closed
11:30 a.m.–11:45 a.m.—Executive Closed
1 p.m.–1:15 p.m.—Closed
1:15 p.m.–3:30 p.m.—Open

PLACE: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Room 1235, Arlington, VA 22230.

PUBLIC MEETING ATTENDANCE: All visitors must report to the NSF's visitor's desk at the 9th and N. Stuart Streets entrance to receive a visitor's badge.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Please refer to the National Science Board Web site (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb>) for updated schedule. NSB Office: Dr. Robert Webber, (703) 292-7000.

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

Part of this meeting will be open to the public.

Matters To Be Considered

Wednesday, March 30, 2006

Open

Committee on Programs and Plans Subcommittee on Polar Issues (8 a.m.–9:30 a.m.) Room 1235.

- Approval of September 2005 Minutes
- Progress in planning for International Polar Year
- Antarctic Treaty Actions requiring new national legislation
- Bering Sea Ecosystem research project
- Antarctic Resupply

Committee on Programs and Plans Task Force on Transformative Research (9:30 a.m.–10 a.m.) Room 1235.

- Approval of November–December 2005 Minutes
- Update on TR Workshop III, National Science Foundation, May 16, 2006
- Outcomes of previous TR workshops

Committee on Programs and Plans Task Force on International Science (10 a.m.–11 a.m.) Room 1235.

- Approval of November–December 2005 Minutes
- Update on Various Meetings with Agencies and Institutions in Washington, DC
- Discussion of Future Task Force Activities

• Update from NSF on the Status of Recommendations made in the 2000 NSB Interim Report on International Science

Committee on Programs and Plans Task Force on Hurricane Science and Engineering (1 p.m.–1:30 p.m.) Room 1235.

- Discussion of January 24 and February 7, 2006 Workshops
- Discussion of April 18, 2006 Workshop

Committee on Education and Human Resources Subcommittee on Science and Engineering Indicators (1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.) Room 1235.

- Approval of November 2005 Minutes
- Chairman's Remarks
- Discussion of *Science and Engineering Indicators 2006* Clearance and Rollout

- Evolution of Indicators
- Purpose and current audience
- Outreach
- Presentation—paper and electronic
- New data/indicators
- Interim release of data

Committee on Education and Human Resources (2:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.) Room 1235.

- Approval of February 2006 Minutes

• Background: NSF/EHR Evaluation Briefing Book

• Follow-up to February Discussion of Future Activities

• NSB/EHR Discussion of Potential STEM Education Commission

• Subcommittee on Science and Engineering Indicators

• Follow-up Discussion: Workshop on “Engineering Workforce Issues and Engineering Education: What are the Linkages?”

- NSB items

Committee on Strategy and Budget (4:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.) Room 1235.

- Approval of November 2005 Minutes

• Approval of November 2005 CSB/CPP Joint Session Minutes

• Status of the NSF Strategic Plan: FY 2003–2008, and schedule for NSB review and approval

• Status of FY 2007 Budget Request to Congress

• Process for developing FY 2008 Budget Request to Congress

• NSF Average Award Size, Duration, and Proposal Success Rate

Executive Closed

Ad hoc Committee on 2006 Vannevar Bush Award (11 a.m.–12 noon) Room 1235.

- Review and discussion of candidates
- Balloting

Thursday, March 30

Open

Committee on Programs and Plans (7:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.) Room 1235.

- Approval of February 10, 2006 CPP Minutes

• Approval of November 30, 2005 CSB/CPP Joint Session Minutes

- Status Reports:

○ Task Force on Transformative Research

○ Task Force on International Science

○ Task Force on Hurricane Science and Engineering

○ Subcommittee on Polar Issues

• NSB Information Item: National Superconducting Cyclotron

Laboratory—Plans for Review of the Proposed 5-Year Renewal of Support

- Updates:

○ Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA)

○ National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON)

○ NSF's Cyberinfrastructure Vision

Committee on Audit and Oversight (10 a.m.–11 a.m.) Room 1235.

- Approval of December 2005 Minutes

• Introduction of new NSF financial statement auditors

- Presentation of FY 2005 Merit Review Report
- Chief Financial Officer's Update

Closed

Committee on Programs and Plans (9:30–10).

- Awards and Agreements

Committee on Audit and Oversight (11–11:30)

- Pending Investigations (OIG Staff)

Plenary Sessions of the Board (11:30 a.m.–11:45 a.m. and 1 p.m.–3:30 p.m.)

Executive Closed Session (11:30 a.m.–11:45 a.m.) Room 1235.

- Approval of February 2006

Executive Closed Minutes

- Approval of Honorary Award

Recipients

- Nominating Committee Election

Closed Session (1 p.m.–1:15 p.m.)

Room 1235.

• Approval of February 2006 Closed Session Minutes

- Awards and Agreements
- Closed Committee Reports

Open Session (1:15 p.m.–3:30 p.m.)

Room 1235.

• Approval of February 2006 Open Session Minutes

- Resolution To Close portions of

May 2006 meeting

- Chairman's Report
- NSB Congressional Testimony
- Update on STEM Education

Hearings

- Director's Report
- NSF Congressional Update
- Open Committee Reports
- Presentation: Update on Grants.gov

Michael P. Crosby,

Executive Officer and NSB Office Director.

[FR Doc. 06–2794 Filed 3–17–06; 4:26 pm]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–334 and 50–412]

FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC); Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating Licenses and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR–66 and NPF–73, issued to FENOC (the licensee), for operation of the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (BVPS–1 and 2) located in Beaver County, Pennsylvania.

The proposed amendments requested by the licensee's February 25, 2005,

license amendment request (LAR) would represent a full conversion from the current Technical Specifications (CTS) to a set of improved Technical Specifications (ITS) based on NUREG–1431, “Standard Technical Specifications (STS) for Westinghouse Plants,” Revision 2, dated April 2001. Some additional changes were proposed by the licensee to make the resulting ITS more consistent with Revision 3 of NUREG–1431 dated June 2004. The proposed amendments would also consolidate the BVPS–1 and 2 TSs into a single set of ITS applicable to both units. The attachment to the licensee's February 25, 2005, LAR consists of 10 volumes.

Volume 1 contains a copy of the licensee's transmittal letter, a detailed description of the contents and organization of the BVPS ITS conversion LAR, a status of Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) changes to NUREG–1431, Revisions 2 and 3, a status of pending LARs, a list of beyond scope changes (BSIs), a CTS “roadmap” showing the disposition of each BVPS CTS and its relation to the proposed BVPS ITS in CTS order, an improved STS “roadmap” showing the correspondence of each improved STS to the proposed BVPS ITS and CTS in improved STS order, and the licensee's evaluation of environmental considerations for the proposed ITS conversion LAR.

NUREG–1431 has been developed by the Commission's staff through working groups composed of both NRC staff members and industry representatives, and has been endorsed by the NRC staff as part of an industry-wide initiative to standardize and improve the Technical Specifications (TSs) for nuclear power plants. As part of this submittal, the licensee has applied the criteria contained in the Commission's “Final Policy Statement on Technical Specification Improvements for Nuclear Power Reactors (Final Policy Statement),” published in the **Federal Register** on July 22, 1993 (58 FR 39132), to the CTS and using NUREG–1431 as a basis, proposed an ITS for BVPS–1 and 2. The criteria in the Final Policy Statement was subsequently added to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), Section 50.36, Technical specifications,” in a rule change that was published in the **Federal Register** on July 19, 1995 (60 FR 36953) and became effective on August 18, 1995.

In addition to the conversion, the licensee also proposed 30 BSIs where the proposed requirements are different from the CTS and the STS of NUREG–1431. These include 25 items identified

by the licensee as BSIs and 5 additional items that consist of TSTF Traveler Items that were pending at the time of the licensee's application, and which the NRC staff has determined it will treat as BSIs. The BSIs are identified later in this notice.

This notice is based on the application dated February 25, 2005, and the information provided to the NRC through the BVPS–1 and 2 ITS Conversion Web page. To expedite its review of the application, the NRC staff issued its requests for additional information (RAIs) through the BVPS–1 and 2 ITS Conversion Web page and the licensee addressed the RAIs by providing responses on the Web page. Entry into the database is protected so that only licensee and NRC reviewers can enter information into the database to add RAIs (NRC) or providing responses to the RAIs (licensee); however, the public can enter the database to only read the questions asked and the responses provided. To be in compliance with the regulations for written communications for license amendment requests and to have the database on the BVPS–1 and 2 dockets before the amendments would be issued, the licensee will submit a copy of the database in a submittal to the NRC after there are no further RAIs and before the amendments would be issued. The public can access the database through the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov> by the following process: (1) Click on the tab labeled “Nuclear Reactors” on the NRC home page along the upper part of the Web page, (2) then click on the link to “Power Reactors” which is under “Regulated Reactors” on the left hand side of the Web page, (3) then click on the link to “Improved Standard Technical Specifications” which is on right hand side of the page, (4) then click on the link for “Improved Technical Specifications Data Base” at the bottom of the page under the heading “Conversion to Standard Technical Specifications,” and (5) finally, click on the link to “Beaver Valley Power Station Licensing Database,” near the middle of the Web page, to open the database. The RAIs and responses to RAIs are organized by ITS Sections 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 3.1 through 3.9, 4.0, and 5.0, and/or the BSI numbers. For most listed ITS sections or BSIs, there is an RAI which can be read by clicking on the ITS section or BSI number. The licensee's responses are shown by a solid triangle adjacent to the ITS section or BSI number, and, to read the response, you click on the triangle. To page down through the ITS sections