

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-541), has developed regulations that implement the "Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora" for all United States citizens. The Agreed Measures, developed by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties, recommended establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas as requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Specially Protected Areas and Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

Description of Permit Modification Requested

1. The Foundation issued a permit (99-010) to Dr. Rennie S. Holt on September 25, 1998. The issued permit allows for the censuring, capture, handling and released of up to 80 adult and 1500 Antarctic fur seal (*Arctocephalus gazella*) pups. In addition, up to 40 female/pup pairs would be captured for measurements of energy expenditure, food intake, dive depth, duration, time of day and dive frequency, swim speed and foraging location, as well as attendance—related factors of pup growth using milk extraction and gastric lavage.

The permit holder requests to modify his permit to conduct developmental metabolic studies (capture, tag, bleach mark, respiration rate, isotope) involving an increase of up to 32 animals per annum (16 pups and 16 juveniles). Additional samples will be collected from pups and juveniles currently permitted for capture and handling (respiration rate, up to 15 pups and 10 juveniles per annum; isotope up to 10 juveniles per annum). Samples and specimens will be imported into the United States for further scientific study and analysis.

Location

Cape Shirreff, Livingston Island (SSSI #32), Byers Peninsula (SSSI #6), Shouth Shetland Islands, Antarctic Peninsula.

Dates

February 1, 1999–April 1, 2001.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.
[FR Doc. 99-266 Filed 1-6-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub.L. 95-541)

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permit applications received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments or views with respect to these permit applications by February 1, 1999. Permit applications may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 306-1030.

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The applications received are as follows:

1. Applicant	Permit application No. 99-020
Rae Natalie Prosser Goodall
Sarmiento 44
9410 Ushuaia
Tierra del Fuego
Argentina

Activity for Which Permit Is Requested

Take

The applicant proposes to salvage dead specimens of birds and mammals that may be encountered while visiting various locations in the Antarctic Peninsula while traveling onboard cruise ships, research vessels or supply ships. The specimens will be used in comparison studies with specimens collected in southernmost South America in a continuation of a long-term project. The specimens will be stored in a museum/laboratory in Estancia Harberton, Tierra del Fuego and would be available for scientific study.

Location

Antarctic Peninsula region.

Dates

February 1, 1999–February 28, 2004.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.
[FR Doc. 99-267 Filed 1-6-99; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Materials Research; Notice of Meeting in Accordance With the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as Amended), the National Science Foundation Announces the Following Meetings

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Materials Research (1203).

Dates & Times: February 1, 1999; 3:00pm–8:00pm; February 2, 1999; 7:30am–4:30pm.

Place: State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY.

Type of Meetings: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Ulrich Strom, Program Director, Division of Materials Research, Room 1065.37, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306-1832.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning progress of Materials Research Science and Engineering Center.

Agenda: To review and evaluate progress of materials Research Science and Engineering Center.

Reason for Closing: The work being reviewed includes information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the effort.

These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Janet Silva,

Acting Deputy Division Director.

[FR Doc. 99-313 Filed 1-6-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review: Comment Request

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

ACTION: Notice of the OMB review of information collection and solicitation of public comment.

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

Information pertaining to the requirements to be submitted:

1. *The title of the information collection:* 10 CFR 81, Standard Specifications for Granting of Patent Licenses.

2. *Current OMB approval number:* 3150-0121.

3. *How often the collection is required:* Application for licenses are submitted once. Other reports are submitted annually or as other events require.

4. *Who is required or asked to report:* Applicants for and holders of NRC licenses to NRC inventions.

5. *The number of annual respondents:* 0.

6. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 35 hours; however, no applications are anticipated during the next three years.

7. *Abstract:* 10 CFR Part 81 establishes the standard specifications for the issuance of licenses to rights in inventions covered by patents or patent applications invested in the United States, as represented by or in the custody of the Commission and other patents in which the Commission has legal rights.

Submit, by March 8, 1999, 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 estimated 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 form of information technology?

A copy of the draft supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW (lower level), Washington, DC. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/PUBLIC/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-6 F33, Washington, DC, 20555-0001, by telephone at 301-415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 31st day of December 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo. Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-281 Filed 1-6-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-237, 50-249, 50-254 and 50-265]

Commonwealth Edison Company; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-19 and DPR-25, issued to Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd, the licensee) for operation of the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3, located in Grundy County, Illinois and Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-29 and DPR-30, issued to ComEd for operation of Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Rock Island County, Illinois.

The proposed amendments would relocate, to a licensee-controlled document, the requirement for removal of the Reactor Protection System (RPS) shorting links. Removal of the shorting

links enables a non-coincident scram on high neutron flux as detected by any Neutron Instrumentation. The staff's proposed no significant hazards consideration determination for the requested changes was published on December 30, 1998 (63 FR 71964).

Before issuance of the proposed license amendments, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendments requested involve no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendments would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

Does the change involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated?

The RPS shorting links are not precursors to any previously evaluated accident. The Source Range Monitors (SRMs), and the ability of the SRMs to provide a RPS trip, are also not precursors to any previously evaluated accident. Therefore, relocating the RPS shorting link requirement to administrative controls [the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report, (UFSAR)] will not increase the probability of an accident previously evaluated.

The RPS shorting links are not assumed to be removed in any accident analysis, and the SRMs are not assumed to provide a RPS trip in any accident analysis. The refueling interlocks and SHUTDOWN MARGIN calculations will continue to provide assurance of reactivity control. Therefore, relocating the RPS shorting link requirements to administrative controls [the UFSAR] will not increase the consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The RPS shorting link requirements will be relocated to administrative controls that are administered pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.59, thereby reducing the level of regulatory control. The level of regulatory control has no impact on the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

Consequently, this proposed amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

Does the change create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated?