

Arlington, VA 22230, telephone: (703) 306-1521.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate the UNIDATA Equipment Proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

*Reason for closing:* The proposal 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 proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: July 22, 1999.

**Karen J. York,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99-19147 Filed 7-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Advisory Committee Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences; Notices of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation (NSF) announces the following meeting.

*Name:* Advisory Committee for Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences (#1171)

*Date and Time:* August 11-13, 1999; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Place:* Rooms 970, 920, and 130, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Steven J. Breckler, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 995, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone (703) 306-1728.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To carry out Committee of Visitors (COV) review, including examination of decisions on proposals, reviewer comments and other privileged materials.

*Agenda:* To provide oversight review of the Programs of the Cognitive, Psychological and Language Sciences Cluster.

*Reason for Closing:* The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: July 22, 1999.

**Karen J. York,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99-19146 Filed 7-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### U.S. National Assessment Synthesis Team; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

*Name:* U.S. National Assessment Synthesis Team (#5219).

*Date and Time:* August 10, 1999, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; August 11-19, 1999, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. each day; August 20, 1999, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Place:* J. Erik Jonsson Woods Hole Center, National Academy of Science, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

*Type of Meeting:* Open.

*Contact Person:* Melissa J. Taylor, Office of the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP), 400 Virginia Avenue, SW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20024. Tel: 202-314-2230; Fax: 202-488-8681; Email: mtaylor@usgcrp.gov. Interested persons should contact Ms. Taylor as soon as possible to assure space provisions are made for all participants and observers.

*Minutes:* May be obtained from the contact person listed above.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations to the interagency Subcommittee on Global Change Research on the design and conduct of the national effort to assess the consequences of climate variability and climate change for the United States.

#### Agenda

Day 1 (August 10) Discussion of overview and goals of meeting and reading of revised documents.

Days 2-5 (August 11-14) Review and revision of Overview document.

Days 6-11 (August 15-20) Review and revision of Foundation document.

Dated: July 22, 1999.

**Karen J. York,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99-19150 Filed 7-26-99; 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 has recently submitted to OMB for review the following proposal for the collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44

U.S.C. Chapter 35). The NRC hereby informs potential respondents that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and that a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

1. Type of submission, new, revision, or extension: Extension.

2. The title of the information collection: 10 CFR Part 35, "Medical Use of Byproduct Material."

3. The form number if applicable: None.

4. How often the collection is required: Required reports are collected and evaluated on a continuing basis as needed due to a change in programs or as events occur.

5. Who will be required or asked to report: Physicians and medical institutions who are applicants for, or hold, an NRC license authorizing the administration of byproduct material, or its radiation to humans for medical use.

6. An estimate of the number of responses: 1,907,515 NRC licensee responses and 4,768,739 Agreement State responses annually.

7. The estimated number of annual respondents: 1,891 NRC licensees and 4,728 Agreement State licensees.

8. An estimate of the total number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request: 369,916 hours for NRC licensees and 924,765 hours for Agreement State licensees, for a total burden of 1,294,681 hours (196 hours per licensee).

9. An indication of whether Section 3507(d), Public Law 104-13 applies: N/A

10. Abstract: 10 CFR Part 35, "Medical Use of Byproduct Material," contains requirements that apply to NRC licensees who are authorized to administer byproduct material or its radiation to humans for medical use. The information in the required reports and records is used by the NRC to ensure that the health and safety of the public is protected, and that the licensee's possession and use of byproduct material is in compliance with the license and regulatory requirements. The revision is a net decrease adjustment in burden resulting from a decrease in the number of affected licensees.

A copy of the final 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 should be directed to the OMB reviewer listed below by August 25, 1999. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but assurance of consideration cannot be given to comments received after this date.

Erik Godwin, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (3150-0010), NEOB-10202, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments can also be submitted by telephone at (202) 395-3087.

The NRC Clearance Officer is Brenda Jo. Shelton, 301-415-7233.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of July 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Brenda Jo. Shelton,**

*NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99-19132 Filed 7-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-320]

### GPU Nuclear, Inc., Three Mile Island, Unit 2; Exemption

#### I

GPU Nuclear, Inc. (the licensee), is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-73, which authorizes the licensee to possess the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (TMI-2). The license states, in part, that the facility is subject to all the rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC) now or hereafter in effect. The facility consists of a pressurized-water reactor located at the licensee's site in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. The facility is permanently shut down and defueled and the licensee is no longer authorized to operate or place fuel in the reactor.

#### II

Section 50.54(w) of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 50 (10 CFR part 50) requires power reactors to maintain onsite property damage insurance coverage in the amount of \$1.06 billion. The NRC may grant exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50 of the regulations, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a), which (1) are authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security and (2)

present special circumstances. Special circumstances exist when application of the regulations in the particular circumstance would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule [10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii)]. The underlying purpose of § 50.54(w) is to provide sufficient property damage insurance coverage to ensure funding for onsite post-accident recovery, stabilization, and decontamination costs in the unlikely event of an accident at a nuclear power plant.

#### III

On March 9, 1999, the licensee requested exemption from the financial protection requirement limits of 10 CFR 50.54(w). The licensee requested that the amount of insurance coverage that it is required to maintain be reduced to \$50 million for onsite property damage. The licensee stated that special circumstances exist because of the permanently shutdown and defueled condition of TMI-2.

The financial protection limits of 10 CFR 50.54(w) were established to require a licensee to maintain sufficient insurance to cover the costs of a nuclear accident at an operating reactor. Those costs were derived from the consequences of a release of radioactive material from the reactor. Although the risk of an accident at an operating reactor is very low, the consequences can be large. In an operating plant, the high temperature and pressure of the reactor coolant system, as well as the large inventory of relatively short-lived radionuclides, contribute to both the risk and consequences of an accident. In a permanently shutdown and defueled reactor facility, the reactor coolant system will never be operated and contains no short-lived radionuclides, which eliminates the possibility of reactor accidents. A further reduction in risk occurs when fuel is shipped offsite as in the case at TMI-2, where over 99 percent of the fuel has been removed and shipped offsite.

Along with the reduction in risk, the consequences of potential releases decrease after a reactor permanently shuts down and defuels. The short-lived radionuclides contained in the fuel, particularly volatile components such as iodines and noble gases decay, thereby, reducing the inventory of radioactive materials that are readily dispersible and transportable in air.

Although the risk and consequences of radiological releases decline substantially after a plant permanently defuels the reactor, they are not completely eliminated. There are

potential onsite and offsite radiological consequences that can be associated with storage of activated reactor components, contaminated materials, and the remaining fuel debris at TMI-2. In addition, an inventory of liquid and solid radioactive wastes can be created during the future decontamination phases of the TMI-2 decommissioning process. For the purposes of modifying the amount of insurance coverage maintained by the licensee, the potential consequences, despite the very low risk, are an appropriate consideration.

In order to determine the insurance coverage sufficient for a permanently defueled facility, the cost of recovery from potential accident scenarios must be evaluated. At TMI-2, greater than 99 percent of the fuel debris has been removed and transported offsite. The remaining fuel debris is stored dry with no need for forced cooling. Loss of spent fuel cooling water accident scenarios are not applicable to the TMI-2 plant condition. In SECY 96-256, "Changes to the Financial Protection Requirements for Permanently Shutdown Nuclear Power Reactors, 10 CFR 50.54(w) and 10 CFR 140.11," dated December 17, 1996, the NRC staff estimated the onsite cleanup costs of accidents considered to be the most costly at a permanently shut down reactor with spent fuel stored in the spent fuel pool. The staff found that the onsite recovery costs for a fuel handling accident could range up to \$24 million. The estimated onsite cleanup costs to recover from the rupture of a large liquid radwaste storage tank could range up to \$50 million. The licensee's proposed level of \$50 million for onsite property insurance is sufficient to cover these estimated cleanup costs.

#### IV

The NRC staff has completed its review of the licensee's request to reduce financial protection limits to \$50 million for onsite property insurance. The requested reductions are consistent with SECY 96-256. The Commission informed the staff in a staff requirements memo dated January 28, 1997, that it did not object to the insurance reductions recommended in SECY 96-256. The licensee's proposed financial protection limits will provide sufficient insurance to recover from the limiting hypothetical events, if they occur. Thus, the underlying purposes of the regulations will not be adversely affected by the reductions in insurance coverage.

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a), an exemption to reduce onsite property insurance to \$50 million is