gauge interest among scholars and the general public in documentary editions supported by Commission grants.

Dated: September 5, 2000.

L. Reynolds Cahoon,

Assistant Archivist for Human Resources and Information Services.

[FR Doc. 00–23476 Filed 9–12–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7515–01–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Integrative Activities; 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: Special Emphasis Panel in Integrative Activities (1373).

Date and Time: October 4–5, 2000 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Place: Training Room, Cox Hall, Emory University, Atlanta, GA.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Christopher Platt, Program Director for Neuroscience, Division of Integrative Biology & Neuroscience, Rm. 685, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 292–1420.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning further NSF support of the Science & Technology Center for Behavioral Neuroscience.

Agenda: To review and evaluate the progress to date on all aspects of the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience.

Reason for Closing: The project being reviewed includes information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data 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: September 7, 2000.

Karen J. York,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00–23488 Filed 9–12–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

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 meeting:

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

Date/Time: October 5, 2000; 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Room 1020, Arlington, VA.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Andrew J. Lovinger, Program Director, Polymers Program, Division of Materials Research, Room 1065, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone (703) 292–4933.

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

Agenda: Review and evaluate proposals as part of the selection process to determine finalists considered for FY2001 Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Proposals by the Polymers Program.

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: September 7, 2000.

Karen J. York,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00–23491 Filed 9–12–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Mathematical Sciences; Notice of Meeting

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

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Mathematical Sciences (1204).

Date/Time: October 12–13, 2000; 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Room 1020, Arlington, VA.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Alvin I. Thaler, Program Director, Infrastructure Program, Room 1025 National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 292–4863.

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

Agenda: To review and evaluate proposals concerning the Career Panel Meeting as part of the selection process for awards.

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: September 7, 2000.

Karen J. York,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00–23492 Filed 9–12–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Physics; 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: Special Emphasis Panel in Physics (1208).

Date/Time: October 11–12, 2000 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory at Michigan State University.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Bradley D. Keister, Program Director for Nuclear Physics, Room 1015N, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. (703) 292–7377.

Purpose of Meeting: To conduct a Technical Review of the Coupled Cyclotron Project.

Agenda: To hear presentations and write recommendations concerning the Coupled Cyclotron Project.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or Confidential nature, including technical information; information on personnel and proprietary data for Present and future subcontracts. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: September 7, 2000.

Karen J. York,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00–23489 Filed 9–12–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Undergraduate Education; 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: Special Emphasis Panel in Undergraduate Education (1214).

Date/Time: October 4–7, 2000; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: Doubletree Hotel, 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Drs. Harriet G. Taylor, Duncan E. McBride and Diane A. Jones, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 292–8667.

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

Agenda: To review and evaluate CSEMS proposals as part of the selection process to determine finalists considered for FY2001 Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics Scholarships.

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: September 7, 2000.

Karen J. York,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00–23490 Filed 9–12–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–412]

Firstenergy Nuclear Operating Company, (Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2); Exemption

I

The FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC/the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. NPF–73 that authorizes operation of the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2. The license provides, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, the Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

The facility consists of a pressurized water reactor located in Shippingport, Beaver County, Pennsylvania.

II

Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, § 50.60(a), requires that ''all light-water nuclear power reactors * * * must meet the fracture toughness and material surveillance program requirements for the reactor coolant pressure boundary set forth in appendices G and H to this part.'' Appendix G to 10 CFR Part 50, requires that pressure-temperature (P/T) limits be established for reactor pressure vessels (RPVs) during normal operating and hydrostatic or leak rate testing conditions. Specifically, this regulation states that ''[t]he appropriate requirements on * * * the pressure-temperature limits and the minimum permissible temperature must be met for all conditions.'' Additionally, it specifies that the requirements for these limits are the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code, Section XI, Appendix G, Limits. This section of the ASME Code in turn specifies that RPV P/T limits be developed using the K_{Ia} fracture toughness curve of ASME Section XI, Appendix G, Figure G–2210–1, as the lower bound for fracture toughness.

Pressurized water reactor licensees have installed low temperature overpressure protection (LTOP) systems in order to protect the reactor coolant pressure boundary (RCPB) from being operated outside of the boundaries established by the P/T limit curves and to provide pressure relief of the RCPB during low temperature overpressurization events. The licensee is required by the Beaver Valley Unit 2 Technical Specifications (TSs) to update and submit the changes to its LTOP setpoints whenever the licensee is requesting approval for amendments to the P/T limit curves in the Beaver Valley Unit 2 TSs.

In order to address provisions of amendments to the TS P/T limits and LTOP curves, the licensee requested in its submittal dated June 17, 1999, that the staff exempt Beaver Valley Unit 2 from application of specific requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, § 50.60(a), and 10 CFR Part 50, appendix G, and substitute the use of ASME Code Case N–640. It should be noted that, as a result of ASME Code committee action, the original designation for this Code Case (N–626) was changed to N–640. Therefore, Code Case N–640 will be discussed below rather than Code Case N–626, which is the designation referenced in Attachments C and D of the submittal. Code Case N–640 is an alternate reference for fracture toughness for reactor vessel materials for use in determining the P/T limits.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption contained in a submittal dated June 17, 1999, and is needed to support the TS amendment that is contained in the same submittal. The proposed amendment will revise the P/T limits of TS 3/4.4.9 for Beaver Valley Unit 2 related to the heatup, cooldown, and inservice test limitations for the reactor coolant system (RCS) to 15 Effective Full Power Years (EFPYs). It will also revise the section of the TSs that relates to the overpressure protection system (OPPS) to reflect the revised P/T limits of the reactor vessels.

Code Case N–640 (formerly Code Case N–626)

The licensee has proposed an exemption to allow the use of ASME Code Case N–640 in conjunction with ASME Section XI, 10 CFR 50.60(a), and 10 CFR Part 50, appendix G.

The proposed amendment to revise the P/T limits for Beaver Valley Unit 2, relies, in part, on the requested exemption. In accordance with Code Case N–640, these revised P/T limits have been developed using the KK_{Ic} fracture toughness curve shown in ASME Section XI, Appendix A, Figure A–2200–1, in lieu of the KK_{Ia} fracture toughness curve of ASME Section XI, Appendix G, Figure G–2210–1, as the lower bound for fracture toughness. The other margins involved with the ASME Section XI, Appendix G, process of determining P/T limit curves remain unchanged.

Use of the K_{IC} curve in determining the lower bound fracture toughness in the development of the P/T operating limits curve is more technically correct than the K_{Ia} curve. The K_{IC} curve appropriately implements the use of static initiation fracture toughness behavior to evaluate the controlled heatup and cooldown process of a reactor vessel. The use of the initial conservatism of the K_{Ia} curve when the curve was codified in 1974 was justified. This initial conservatism was necessary due to the limited knowledge of RPV materials. Since 1974, however, additional knowledge has been gained about RPV materials, which demonstrates that the lower bound on fracture toughness provided by the K_{Ia} curve is well beyond the margin of safety required to protect the public health and safety from potential RPV failure. In addition, P/T curves based on the K_{IC} curve will enhance overall plant safety by opening the P/T operating window with the greatest safety benefit in the region of low temperature operations. Current OPPS setpoints produce operational constraints by limiting the P/T range available to the operator for heatup or cooldown of the plant. The operating window through which the operator heats up and cools down the RCS is established by the difference between the maximum allowable pressure determined by Appendix G of ASME Section XI and the minimum required pressure for the reactor coolant pump (RCP) seals adjusted for OPPS overshoot and instrument uncertainties. The operating window becomes more restrictive with continued reactor vessel service.

Since the RCS P/T operating window is defined by the P/T operating and test limit curves developed in accordance with the ASME Section XI, Appendix G, procedure, continued operation of Beaver Valley Unit 2 with these P/T curves without the relief provided by ASME Code Case N–640 would unnecessarily restrict the P/T operating window, especially at low temperature conditions. Reducing this operating window could potentially have an adverse safety impact by increasing the possibility of inadvertent OPPS actuation due to pressure surges