

the functions of the NSF, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the NSF's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for National Science Foundation, 725 7th Street NW., Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, and to Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1265, Arlington, Virginia 22230 or send email to splimpto@nsf.gov. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission may be obtained by calling 703-292-7556. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including federal holidays).

NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: 2015 Survey of Doctorate Recipients.

OMB Approval Number: 3145-0020.

Summary of Collection. The Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR) has been conducted biennially since 1973 and is a longitudinal survey. The 2015 SDR will consist of a sample of individuals less than 76 years of age who have earned a research doctoral degree in a science, engineering or health field from a U.S. institution. The purpose of this longitudinal survey is to collect data that will be used to provide national estimates on the U.S.-educated doctoral science and engineering workforce and changes in their employment, education and demographic characteristics.

The National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as subsequently amended, includes a statutory charge to “. . . provide a central clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, and analysis of data on scientific and engineering resources, and to provide a source of information for policy formulation by other agencies of the Federal Government.” More recently, the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) was established within NSF by Section 505 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 and given a broader mandate to collect data related to STEM education, the science and engineering workforce, and U.S. competitiveness in science, engineering, technology, and R&D. The SDR is designed to comply with these mandates by providing information on the supply and utilization of the nation's doctoral scientists and engineers.

The NSF uses the information from the SDR to prepare congressionally mandated reports such as *Women, Minorities and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering* and *Science and Engineering Indicators*. The NSF publishes statistics from the SDR in many reports, but primarily in the biennial series, *Characteristics of Doctoral Scientists and Engineers in the United States*. A public release file of collected data, designed to protect respondent confidentiality, also will be made available to researchers on the Internet.

Data will be obtained by web survey, mail questionnaire, and computer-assisted telephone interviews beginning in September 2015. The survey will be collected in conformance with the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002, and the individual's response to the survey is voluntary. NSF will ensure that all information collected will be kept strictly confidential and will be used only for statistical purposes.

A statistical sample of approximately 120,000 individuals with U.S.-earned doctorates in science, engineering or health will be contacted in 2015. This sample will include approximately 106,000 individuals residing in the U.S. and 14,000 residing abroad. NSF expects the overall response rate to be 70 percent.

Estimate of Burden: The amount of time to complete the questionnaire may vary depending on an individual's circumstances; however, on average it takes approximately 25 minutes. Assuming a 70 percent response rate (84,000 respondents), NSF estimates

that the annual burden for the 2015 SDR is estimated to be 35,000 hours.

Comment: On 11 August 2014, NSF published in the **Federal Register** (79 FR 2014-18873) a 60-day notice of our intent to request reinstatement of this information collection authority from OMB. In that notice, NSF solicited public comments for 60 days ending 10 October 2014. No comments were received from the public notice. However, the first notice stated, “NSF estimates increasing the current 47,000 sample size by no more than 70,000 for a total sample size not to exceed 117,000 SEH doctorate holders” and assumed a response rate of 80%. After additional sample redesign work, the sample size and estimated response rates were changed to those described above: A sample of approximately 120,000 with a 70% response rate, and a September, rather than February, start date. The later start date reflects the time spent on the redesign efforts, and the additional work required to select and locate new sample members.

Dated: June 18, 2015.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,
Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2015-15465 Filed 6-23-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a 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 this permit application by July 24, 2015. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Li Ling Hamady, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address or ACApermits@nsf.gov or (703) 292-7149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

Application Details

1. *Applicant:* Helen Glazer, 3413 Nancy Ellen Way, Owings Mills, MD 2117.

Permit Application: 2016-002.

Activity for Which Permit is

Requested: ASPA entry, Applicant, as an NSF artist, desires to enter several ASPAs in order to take photos for use in hand painted photographs and 3D sculpture creation.

Location: ASPA 121 Cape Royds; ASPA 122 Arrival Heights; ASPA 131 Canada Glacier; ASPA 157 Backdoor Bay; ASPA 158 Hut Point; ASPA 172 Lower Taylor Glacier and Blood Falls.

Dates: October 25, 2015 to January 4, 2016.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Polar Coordination Specialist, Division of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 2015-15501 Filed 6-23-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2011-0147]

Thomas Saporito on Behalf of Saprodani Associates

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Director's decision under 10 CFR 2.206; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued a director's decision with regard to a petition dated March 12, 2011, filed by Thomas Saporito (the petitioner), requesting that the NRC take action with regard to all operating reactor licensees. The petitioner's requests and the director's decision are included in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

DATES: June 24, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2011-0147 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Web site:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2011-0147. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher; telephone: 301-415-3463; email: Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov.

- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "ADAMS Public Documents" and then select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if that document is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that a document is referenced.

- *NRC's PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Notice is hereby given that the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, has issued a director's decision (ADAMS Accession No. ML15114A411) on a petition filed by the petitioner on March 12, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML110740026). The petition was supplemented by documents dated April 14, April 16, and May 25, 2011 (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML11110A026, ML11110A027, ML11110A028, ML11119A024, and ML111450897, respectively.)

The petitioner requested that the NRC:

1. Order the immediate shutdown of all nuclear power reactors located on or near an earthquake fault line in the United States.

2. Order the immediate shutdown of all power reactors employing GE Mark I containment design in the United States, characterizing such design as flawed from the nuclear safety standpoint.

3. Advise other countries employing the GE Mark I nuclear power reactors about the serious nuclear safety design flaws associated with that design, which is likely to result in a serious nuclear

accident comparable to the Japanese nuclear disaster.

4. Immediately revoke all 20-year license extensions issued to NRC licensees, because the NRC "has improperly and illegally granted 20-year license extensions to the 40-year license that was initially granted by the agency for the 104 nuclear reactors throughout the United States."

As the basis for these requests, the petitioner cited the events in Japan at the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant.

On April 14, 2011, and May 25, 2011, the petitioner met with the NRC's Petition Review Board. The meetings provided the petitioner an opportunity to provide additional information and to clarify issues cited in the petition. The transcripts for those meetings are available in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML11109A014 and ML11146A010, respectively.

The NRC sent a copy of the proposed director's decision to the petitioner and the licensees for comment on April 8, 2015 (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML13018A145). The petitioner and the licensees were asked to provide comments within 2 weeks on any part of the proposed director's decision that was considered to be erroneous or any issues in the petition that were not addressed. Comments were received from two licensees and are addressed in an attachment to the final director's decision. The staff did not receive any comments from the petitioner.

The Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation has determined that the following requests are denied: (1) To require that the NRC Order the immediate shutdown of all nuclear power reactors located on or near an earthquake fault line in the United States, and (2) to require that the NRC Order the immediate shutdown of all power reactors employing GE Mark I containment design in the United States. The NRC rejected Request 3 on the basis that the NRC was already implementing the actions requested. The NRC rejected Request 4 on the basis that the petitioner's claim was general and insufficient to warrant further inquiry, and that the NRC staff had already reviewed, evaluated, and resolved the issue.

The reasons for this decision are explained in the director's decision (DD-15-06) under Section 2.206 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) of the Commission's regulations.

The NRC will file a copy of the director's decision with the Secretary of the Commission for the Commission's review in accordance with 10 CFR