

countries are Burkina Faso, Mongolia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, and Tunisia. The Board reselected these countries based on their continued or improved policy performance since their prior selection. Lesotho, which had originally been selected for compact assistance for FY 2014, received vote deferrals for reselection in FY 2016 and FY 2017. Due to positive actions taken by the Government of Lesotho this year, the Board has once again selected the country for compact assistance for FY 2018.

Countries Selected To Receive Threshold Program Assistance

The Board selected The Gambia to receive threshold program assistance.

The Gambia: The Gambia offers MCC the opportunity to support the government as it continues its democratic transition following the inauguration of its new president in early 2017 and successful legislative elections in April 2017. While it has historically struggled to pass the MCC scorecard due to its performance on the democratic rights hard hurdle, the recent transition and reforms being pursued suggest the country will see strong improvements on these indicators in the coming years. The Gambia meets 12 of 20 indicators overall on the scorecard and demonstrates good performance on the control of corruption indicator.

Ongoing Review of Partner Countries' Policy Performance

The Board emphasized the need for all partner countries to maintain or improve their policy performance. If it is determined during compact implementation that a country has demonstrated a significant policy reversal, MCC can hold it accountable by applying MCC's Suspension and Termination Policy.⁴

[FR Doc. 2017-27876 Filed 12-21-17; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 9211-03-P

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

Office of Government Information Services

[NARA-2018-011]

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), National

Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

ACTION: Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting.

SUMMARY: We are announcing the following committee meeting of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Advisory Committee.

DATES: The meeting will be held on January 16, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. EDT. You must register for the meeting by 5:00 p.m. EDT on January 15, 2018.

ADDRESSES: National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, William G. McGowan Theater, Washington, DC 20408.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Bennett, Designated Federal Officer for this committee, by mail at National Archives and Records Administration, Office of Government Information Services, 8601 Adelphi Road—OGIS, College Park, MD 20740—6001, by telephone at 202-741-5770, or by email at foia-advisory-committee@nara.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We announce this advisory committee meeting in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App) and the second United States Open Government National Action Plan (NAP) released on December 5, 2013.

Agenda and meeting materials: You may find all meeting materials at <https://ogis.archives.gov/foia-advisory-committee/2016-2018-term/Meetings.htm>. This will be the seventh meeting of the second committee term. The purpose of this meeting will be to review the work of the committee's three subcommittees. Information on them is at <https://ogis.archives.gov/foia-advisory-committee/2016-2018-term/Subcommittees.htm>.

Procedures: The meeting is open to the public. Due to security requirements, you must register in advance if you wish to attend the meeting. You will also go through security screening when you enter the building. Registration for the meeting will go live via Eventbrite on December 19, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. EDT. To register for the meeting, please do so at this Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/freedom-of-information-act-foia-advisory-committee-meeting-january-16-2018-registration-37728051618>.

This program will be live-streamed on the U.S. National Archives' YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/usnationalarchives/playlists>. The webcast will include a captioning option. To request

additional accommodations (e.g., a transcript), email foia-advisory-committee@nara.gov or call 202-741-5770. Members of the media who wish to register, those who are unable to register online, and those who require special accommodations, should contact Amy Bennett at the phone number, mailing address, or email address listed above.

Patrice Little Murray,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-27681 Filed 12-22-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7515-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Agency Notice of Record of Decision for the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of Record of Decision.

SUMMARY: On November 15, 2017, the National Science Foundation (NSF) signed a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico. This important step concludes the agency's decision-making process with respect to the general path forward for facility operations in a budget-constrained environment, and provides the basis for a future decision regarding a new collaborator.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elizabeth A. Pentecost, Project Administrator, National Science Foundation, Division of Astronomical Sciences, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Room W 9152, Alexandria, VA 22314. Telephone: 703-292-4907, Email: epenteco@nsf.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NSF issued its ROD following authorization from the National Science Board on November 9, 2017. The ROD was preceded by an extensive environmental impact analysis and broad input from the public and the scientific community, including the National Academies 6th Decadal Survey released in 2010, the NSF Division of Astronomical Sciences Portfolio Review Committee Report released in 2012, and the NSF Geospace Sciences Portfolio Review Committee Report released in 2016.

The ROD formalizes the selection of NSF's Preferred Alternative: collaboration with interested parties to maintain science-focused operations at the Observatory with reduced agency funding. The selection of this Alternative will allow important research to continue while accommodating the agency's budgetary constraints and its core mission to

⁴ Available at <https://www.mcc.gov/resources/doc/policy-on-suspension-and-termination>.

support cutting-edge science and education.

NSF remains deeply concerned about the impacts from recent hurricanes on Arecibo Observatory staff, the facility, and all citizens of Puerto Rico. The ROD arrives at a challenging time, but is necessary for the agency to secure a future for the Observatory, as it will allow negotiations to begin with potential collaborators who may take over management and operations as NSF funding is reduced.

Prior to issuance of the ROD, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) was prepared in compliance with the Federal National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.* (NEPA), dated July 27, 2017, and availability of it was noticed in the **Federal Register** on August 4, 2017. As detailed in the FEIS, five Action Alternatives and a No-Action Alternative, were considered for the proposed change in operations of Arecibo Observatory. These Alternatives include:

- *Alternative 1:* Collaboration with Interested Parties for Continued Science-focused Operations (Agency-preferred Alternative)
- *Alternative 2:* Collaboration with Interested Parties for Transition to Education-focused Operations
- *Alternative 3:* Mothballing of Facilities
- *Alternative 4:* Partial Demolition and Site Restoration
- *Alternative 5:* Complete Demolition and Site Restoration
- *No-Action Alternative:* Continued NSF Investment for Science-focused Operations

The Preferred Alternative, which is also the environmentally preferable action alternative, was selected in the ROD. The ROD also reflected NSF's consideration of the outcomes of its compliance obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Endangered Species Act.

The ROD is now available in both English and Spanish on the internet at: https://www.nsf.gov/mps/ast/env_impact_reviews/env_rev_arecibo.jsp in Adobe® portable document format (PDF). Limited hard copies of the ROD are also available, on a first request basis, by contacting the NSF contact, Elizabeth A. Pentecost, Project Administrator, National Science Foundation, Division of Astronomical Sciences, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Room W 9152, Alexandria, VA 22314, Telephone: 703-292-4907, Email: epenteco@nsf.gov.

Dated: December 20, 2017.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2017-27723 Filed 12-22-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permit issued.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nature McGinn, ACA Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-292-8030; email: ACAPermits@nsf.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 16, 2017, the National Science Foundation published a notice in the **Federal Register** of a permit application received. The permit was issued on December 18, 2017 to:

1. Kasey Stewart, Permit No. 2018-026.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Polar Coordination Specialist, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 2017-27721 Filed 12-22-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2017-0001]

Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

DATE: Weeks of December 25, 2017, January 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2018.

PLACE: Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Public and Closed.

Week of December 25, 2017

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of December 25, 2017.

Week of January 1, 2018—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of January 1, 2018.

Week of January 8, 2018—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of January 8, 2018.

Week of January 15, 2018—Tentative

Thursday, January 18, 2018

9:00 a.m. Strategic Programmatic Overview of the Decommissioning and Low-Level Waste and Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation Business Lines (Public Meeting) (Contact: Damaris Marciano: 301-415-7328)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov/>.

Week of January 22, 2018—Tentative

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

9:00 a.m. Hearing on Construction Permit for Northwest Medical Isotopes Production Facility: Section 189a of the Atomic Energy Act Proceeding (Public Meeting) (Contact: Michael Balazik: 301-415-2856)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov/>.

Thursday, January 25, 2018

10:00 a.m. Strategic Programmatic Overview of the New Reactors Business Line (Public Meeting) (Contact: Donna Williams: 301-415-1322)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov/>.

Week of January 29, 2018—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of January 29, 2018.

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The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. For more information or to verify the status of meetings, contact Denise McGovern at 301-415-0681 or via email at Denise.McGovern@nrc.gov.

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The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/schedule.html>.

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The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these public meetings, or need this meeting notice or the transcript or other information from the public meetings in another format (e.g., braille, large print), please notify Kimberly Meyer, NRC Disability Program Manager, at 301-287-0739, by videophone at 240-428-3217, or by email at Kimberly.Meyer-Chambers@nrc.gov. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

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Members of the public may request to receive this information electronically.