

TABLE 2—TOTAL BURDEN HOURS AND HOURLY COSTS TO PRIVATE SECTOR RESPONDENTS—Continued

Item No.	Item	Estimated annual respondents (a)	Responses per respondent (b)	Estimated annual responses (a) × (b) = (c)	Estimated time for response (hours) (d)	Estimated burden (hour/year) (c) × (d) = (e)	Rate ¹ (f)	Estimated annual respondent cost burden (e) × (f) = (g)
2	Patents External Quality Survey (Present in Wave 1 and Wave 2 in the current year).	250	2	500	0.17 (10 minutes).	85	447	37,995
3	Patents External Quality Survey (New panel in the current year, surveyed once in Wave 2).	250	1	250	0.17 (10 minutes).	43	447	19,221
Totals		750		1,000		171		76,437

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Non-hourly Cost Burden: \$0. There are no capital start-up costs, maintenance costs, recordkeeping costs, filing fees, or postage costs associated with this information collection. The USPTO covers the costs of all survey materials and provides postage-paid, pre-addressed return envelopes for the surveys that are returned by mail.

IV. Request for Comments

The USPTO is soliciting public comments to:

- (a) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (b) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (c) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (d) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

All comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. The USPTO will include or summarize each comment in the request to OMB to approve this information collection. Before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information (PII) in a comment, be aware that the entire

¹ 2023 Report of the Economic Survey, published by the Committee on Economics of Legal Practice of the American Intellectual Property Law Association; pg. F-41. The USPTO uses the average billing rate for intellectual property work in all firms which is \$447 per hour (<https://www.aipla.org/home/news-publications/economic-survey>).

comment—including PII—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask in your comment to withhold PII from public view, the USPTO cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

Justin Isaac,
Information Collections Officer, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

Notice of Designation of Policy-Making Positions; Withdrawal

AGENCY: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

ACTION: Notice; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) is announcing the withdrawal of a notice that was published in the **Federal Register** of April 24, 2025.

DATES: The notice published on April 24, 2025, at 90 FR 17248, is withdrawn as of April 28, 2025.

ADDRESSES: 625 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Gilman, Office of General Counsel, 625 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20004, (202) 694-7000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a notice published in the **Federal Register** of April 24, 2025, at 90 FR 17248, “Notice of determination of policy-making positions”, the DNFSB announced its determination that the Deputy General Counsel position is of a policy-determining and policy-advocating character and is not normally subject to change as a result of a Presidential transition. Accordingly, the notice further announced that the position is designated as a Schedule Policy/Career position.

The **Federal Register** notice announcing this determination and designation is withdrawn. No positions have been designated as Schedule Policy/Career.

Dated: April 25, 2025.

On behalf of the Board.

Thomas A. Summers,
Acting Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

[FR Doc. 2025-07532 Filed 4-30-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3670-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2373-016]

Midwest Hydro, LLC; Notice of Reasonable Period of Time for Water Quality Certification Application

On April 15, 2025, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) notice that it received a request for a Clean Water Act section 401(a)(1) water quality certification as defined in 40 CFR 121.5, from Midwest Hydro, LLC, in conjunction with the above captioned project on April 1, 2025. Pursuant to the Commission’s regulations,¹ we hereby notify Illinois EPA of the following:

Date of Receipt of the Certification Request: April 1, 2025.

Reasonable Period of Time to Act on the Certification Request: One year, April 1, 2026.

If Illinois EPA fails or refuses to act on the water quality certification request on or before the above date, then the certifying authority is deemed waived pursuant to section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1341(a)(1).

¹ 18 CFR 4.34(b)(5)(iii).