

- and Vice Chair
- III. Introduction of PWBA Senior Staff
- IV. Summary of the Final Reports Made by Advisory Council Working Groups for the 1999 Term
- V. Determination of Topics to Be Addressed by council Working Groups for 2000
- VI. Statements from the General Public
- VII. Adjournment

Members of the public are encouraged to file a written statement pertaining to any topics the Council may wish to study for the year concerning ERISA by submitting 20 copies on or before March 28, 2000 to Sharon Morrissey, Executive Secretary, ERISA Advisory Council, U.S. Department of Labor, suite N-5677, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210. Individuals or representatives of organizations wishing to address the Advisory Council should forward their requests to the Executive Secretary or telephone (202) 219-8753. Oral presentations will be limited to ten minutes, time permitting, but an extended statement may be submitted for the record. Individuals with disabilities, who need special accommodations, should contact Sharon Morrissey by March 28 at the address indicated.

Organizations or individuals may also submit statements for the record without testifying. Twenty (20) copies of such statements should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the Advisory Council at the above address. Papers will be accepted and included in the record of the meeting if received on or before March 28, 2000.

Signed at Washington, DC this 10th day of March 2000.

Leslie Kramerich,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

[FR Doc. 00-6515 Filed 3-15-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-29-M

NATIONAL FOUNDATION OF THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Arts

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in

accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the NEA is soliciting comments concerning the proposed information collection of: Blanket Justification for NEA Funding Application Guidelines FY 2000-FY 2004. A copy of the current information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the address section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the address section below on or before May 15, 2000. The NEA is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- 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 submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: A.B. Spellman, National Endowment for the Arts, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 516, Washington, DC 20506-0001, telephone (202) 682-5421 (this is not a toll-free number), fax (202) 682-5049.

Murray Welsh,

Director, Administrative Services, National Endowment for the Arts.

[FR Doc. 00-6519 Filed 3-15-00; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Intent To Extend an Information Collection

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the National Science Foundation (NSF) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be received by May 15, 2000, to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 295, Arlington, Virginia 22230; telephone (703) 306-1125 x 2017; or send email to splimpto@nsf.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday. You also may obtain a copy of the data collection instrument and instructions from Ms. Plimpton.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: Request for Proposals.

OMB Approval Number: 3145-0080.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 2000.

Type of Request: Intent to seek approval to extend an information collection for three years.

Proposed Project: The Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) Subpart 15.4—"Solicitation and Receipt of Proposals" prescribes policies and procedures for preparing and issuing Requests for Proposals. The FAR System has been developed in accordance with the requirement of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act of 1974, as amended. The NSF Act of 1950, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 1870, Sec. II, states that NSF has the authority to:

(c) Enter into contracts or other arrangements, or modifications thereof,

for the carrying on, by organizations or individuals in the United States and foreign countries, including other government agencies of the United States and of foreign countries, of such scientific or engineering activities as the Foundation deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, and, at the request of the Secretary of Defense, specific scientific or engineering activities in connection with matters relating to international cooperation or national security, and, when deemed appropriate by the Foundation, such contracts or other arrangements or modifications thereof, may be entered into without legal consideration, without performance or other bonds and without regard to section 5 of title 41, U.S.C.

Use of the Information: Request for Proposals (RFP) is used to competitively solicit proposals in response to NSF need for services. Impact will be on those individuals or organizations who elect to submit proposals in response to the RFP. Information gathered will be evaluated in light of NSF procurement requirements to determine who will be awarded a contract.

Estimate of Burden: The Foundation estimates that, on average, 558 hours per respondent will be required to complete the RFP.

Respondents: Individuals; business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions; Federal government; state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimate Number of Responses: 75.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 41,580 hours.

Dated: March 13, 2000.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-6562 Filed 3-15-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-302]

Florida Power Corporation et al. (Crystal River Unit 3); Exemption

I

Florida Power Corporation et al. (FPC or the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-72, which authorizes the operation of Crystal River Unit 3 (CR-3). The license states that the licensee 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 at the licensee's site located in Citrus County, Florida.

II

Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), Part 70, Section 70.51, "Material balance, inventory, and records requirements," in sub-section (c) states that "Each licensee who is authorized to possess at any one time special nuclear material in a quantity exceeding one effective kilogram of special nuclear material shall establish, maintain, and follow written material control and accounting procedures that are sufficient to enable the licensee to account for the special nuclear material in the licensee's possession under license." Sub-section (d) states that "Except as required by paragraph (e) of this section, each licensee who is authorized to possess at any one time and location special nuclear material in a quantity totaling more than 350 grams of contained uranium-235, uranium-233, or plutonium, or any combination thereof, shall conduct a physical inventory of all special nuclear material in his possession under license at intervals not to exceed twelve months."

By letter dated July 14, 1999, the licensee requested an exemption from the requirement of 10 CFR 70.51(d) that requires a 12-month physical inventory of the fuel in the spent fuel pool (SFP) due to the positioning of missile shields over the pool. The proposed exemption would allow the physical inventory of the special nuclear material (SNM) located in the CR-3 SFP to be performed each refueling outage, when the missile shields are removed for fuel movement, without having to perform physical inventories between outages if the missile shields have not been removed for other reasons. In order to perform the physical inventory, the licensee must remove four of the missile shields, which weigh approximately 6200 pounds each. Approximately two-man weeks of labor are required to perform the physical inventory if shield removal and re-installation are necessary. An exemption from this requirement would reduce the burden associated with the physical inventories as well as the personal safety risks associated with movement of the missile shields.

III

Pursuant to 10 CFR 70.14, "Specific exemptions," the Commission may, upon application of any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant such exemptions from the requirements of the regulations in this part as it determines are authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the

common defense and security and are otherwise in the public interest.

The underlying purpose of the physical inventory required by 10 CFR 70.51(d) is to verify that the material control and accounting procedures are sufficient to enable the licensee to account for the SNM in the licensee's possession under license. The CR-3 SFP has missile shields installed directly over the SFP to provide protection from tornado generated missiles. These shields are required to be installed at all times except when performing activities associated with handling fuel or pool maintenance. The missile shields weigh approximately 6200 pounds each and each is secured in place by four bolts. Movement of the missile shields requires the use of shield-handling devices and auxiliary building cranes.

The missile shields provide a physical barrier over the entire SFP, preventing access to the fuel in the SFP without first removing the shields. In addition, when the missile shields are in place, the Fuel Handling Bridge is immobilized. Thus, the missile shields serve to restrict access to the fuel in the SFP and protect the SNM from inadvertent and unauthorized movements or damage. Therefore, while the missile shields are installed, the inventory of SNM in the SFP cannot change.

Removal and installation of the SFP missile shields are administratively controlled by Refueling Procedure FP-434, "Spent Fuel Pool Missile Shields." Prior to movement of any missile shield, the Nuclear Shift Manager must be notified. Thus, required adherence to the refueling procedures will control access to the SFP by controlling movement of the missile shields.

Instead of performing the physical inventory of SNM in the SFP every 12 months, FPC will perform a physical inventory of the SFP within 90 days of removing the missile shields over the fuel in the SFP, if a physical inventory has not been performed within the preceding 12 months. This will allow the physical inventory to be performed each refueling outage without having to remove the SFP missile shields solely to perform physical inventories between outages.

Based on the above, the staff finds that an exemption from the requirement to perform a physical inventory of the SNM in the SFP every 12 months is acceptable, in that the missile shields, in conjunction with the administrative controls governing their movement, ensure proper accountability of the SNM in the SFP between periods when the shields are removed.