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Purpose of Meeting: The Advisory Committee for the Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO) provides advice and recommendations concerning major program emphases, directions, and goals for the research-related activities of the divisions that make up BIO.

Agenda: Agenda items will include: a Directorate business update; report on BIO's response to the Committee of Visitors Report for the Division of Environmental Biology; report from the Working Group for the Long Term Environmental Research Program on future program priorities; overview of the report, 'Vision, Needs, and Proposed Actions for the Data for the Bioeconomy Initiative', overview of BIO support for data resources and synthesis centers, panel discussion on the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI) and biological research followed by AC discussion of opportunities and bottlenecks for advancing this intersection, a review of BIO funding metrics relevant to BIO's shift to no-deadlines for core programs, a review of BIO investments and outreach in EPSCoR states relevant to the CHIPs and Science Act mandates for increased NSF funding for institutions in EPSCoR jurisdictions, an overview from the Committee for Equal Opportunity in Science and Engineering on their 2023 Report on Rural STEM, and other directorate matters.

Dated: April 4, 2024.

Crystal Robinson,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024-07524 Filed 4-8-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request; Grantee Reporting Requirements for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to reinstate this collection. In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are providing opportunity for public comment on this action. After obtaining and considering public comment, NSF will prepare the submission requesting Office of Management and Budget (OMB) clearance of this collection for no longer than 3 years.

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be received by June 10, 2024 to be assured consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable. Send comments to address below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite W18253, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone (703) 292-7556; 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, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including Federal holidays).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments: Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the NCSES, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the NCSES'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, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Title of Collection: Grantee Reporting Requirements for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program.

OMB Number: 3145-0223.

Expiration Date of Approval: June 30, 2024.

Type of Request: Intent to seek approval to renew an information collection.

Abstract:

Proposed Project: The purpose of the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program is to help ensure the vitality and diversity of the scientific and engineering workforce of the United States. The program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and in STEM education. The GRFP provides three years of support, to be used during a five-year fellowship period, for the graduate education of individuals who have demonstrated their potential for significant research achievements in STEM and STEM education.

The Graduate Research Fellowship Program uses several sources of information in assessing and documenting program performance and impact. These sources include reports from program evaluation, the GRFP Committee of Visitors, and data compiled from the applications. In addition, GRFP Fellows submit annual activity reports to NSF.

The GRFP Completion report is proposed as a continuing component of the annual reporting requirement for the program. This report, submitted by the GRFP Institution, certifies the completion status of Fellows at the institution (*e.g.*, in progress, completed, graduated, transferred, or withdrawn). The existing Completion Report, Grants Roster Report, and the Program Expense Report comprise the GRFP Annual Reporting requirements from the Grantee GRFP institution. Through submission of the Completion Report to NSF GRFP institutions certify the current status of all GRFP Fellows at the institution as either: In Progress, Graduated, Transferred, or Withdrawn. For Graduate Fellows with Graduated status, the graduation date is a required reporting element. Collection of this information allows the program to obtain information on the current status of Fellows, the number and/or percentage of Graduate Fellowship recipients who complete a science or engineering graduate degree, and an estimate of time to degree completion. The report must be certified and submitted by the institution's designated Coordinating Official (CO) annually.

Use of the Information: The completion report data provides NSF with accurate Fellow information regarding completion of the Fellows' graduate programs. The data is used by NSF in its assessment of the impact of its investments in the GRFP, and informs its program management.

Estimate of Burden: Overall average time will be 15 minutes per Fellow (8,250 Fellows) for a total of 2,063 hours for all institutions with Fellows. An estimate for institutions with 12 or fewer Fellows will be 1 hour, institutions with 12-48 Fellows will be 4 hours, and institutions over 48 Fellows will be 10 hours.

Respondents: Academic institutions with NSF Graduate Fellows (GRFP Institutions).

Estimated Number of Responses per Report: One from each of the 271 current GRFP institutions.

Dated: April 4, 2024.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2024-07491 Filed 4-8-24; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-29 and 72-31; NRC-2024-0067]

Yankee Atomic Electric Company; Yankee Atomic Power Station; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an exemption in response to the May 4, 2023, request from Yankee Atomic Electric Company (YAEC), for the Yankee Nuclear Power Station (YNPS or Yankee Rowe) located in Rowe, Massachusetts. The proposed exemption from NRC regulations, if granted, would permit YAEC to make withdrawals from a segregated account within Yankee Rowe's overall nuclear decommissioning trust (NDT), on an annual basis, for spent nuclear fuel (SNF) and Greater than Class C (GTCC) waste management and non-radiological site restoration without prior notification to the NRC. The NRC staff is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) and finding of no significant impact (FONSI) associated with the proposed exemption.

DATES: The EA and FONSI referenced in this document are available on April 9, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2024-0067 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 Website:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2024-0067. Address questions about Docket IDs in [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301-415-0624; email: Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

CONTACT section of this document.

- **NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):** You may obtain publicly available documents online in the

ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, 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, at 301-415-4737, or by email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov. For the convenience of the reader, instructions about obtaining materials referenced in this document are provided in the "Availability of Documents" section.

- **NRC's PDR:** The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tilda Liu, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 404-997-4730, email: Tilda.Liu@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

By letter dated May 4, 2023, Yankee Atomic Electric Company (YAEC or the licensee) submitted a request to the NRC for an exemption from paragraphs 50.82(a)(8)(i)(A) and 50.75(h)(2) of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) for the Yankee Rowe Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation¹ (ISFSI).

YAEC has established a separate (segregated) account within its overarching nuclear decommissioning trust (NDT), entitled "ISFSI Radiological Decom," that identifies the funds for radiological decommissioning of the ISFSI apart from the larger balance of funds in the NDT allocated for ongoing management of SNF and GTCC waste and for non-radiological site restoration activities. Although 10 CFR 50.82 applies to the segregated account, it does not apply to the overall NDT.

If granted, the exemptions from 10 CFR 50.82(a)(8)(i)(A) and 50.75(h)(2)

¹ As discussed in this document, the Yankee Rowe ISFSI sits on the former site of Yankee Rowe, which YAEC finished decommissioning in 2007. Although only the Yankee Rowe ISFSI remains on the site, YAEC's 10 CFR part 50 license, Facility Operating License No. DPR-3 remains in effect. Because YAEC requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50, this would be an exemption for YAEC's 10 CFR part 50 license rather than for YAEC's 10 CFR part 72 general license. Therefore, although YAEC's submission requested an exemption for the Yankee Rowe ISFSI, the NRC staff will consider it a request for an exemption for YNPS.

would permit YAEC to make withdrawals from the segregated account, on an annual basis, for SNF and GTCC waste management and non-radiological site restoration without prior notification to the NRC. More specifically, with this exemption, YAEC would be able to annually transfer funds exceeding 110 percent of the inflation-adjusted decommissioning cost estimate, described in 10 CFR 50.75, from the segregated account to its overarching NDT and use those funds for SNF and GTCC waste management and non-radiological site restoration.

YAEC received an operating license from the NRC in December 1963, and Yankee Rowe was permanently shut down in October 1991. In 1993, YAEC commenced decommissioning the power plant. The licensee constructed an onsite ISFSI under a general license and transferred the last canister containing GTCC material to the ISFSI in June 2003. The plant completed its final decommissioning of the reactor site, except for the ISFSI, which included dismantling and removing all reactor plant related facilities, in 2007. As a result, only the ISFSI remains at the old plant site of YNPS in Rowe, Massachusetts. By letter dated August 10, 2007, NRC approved the release of the majority of the YNPS site from the 10 CFR part 50 license (DPR-3) for unrestricted release, except for the ISFSI and immediately surrounding areas. Under its 10 CFR part 72 general license, YAEC is authorized to possess, and store spent nuclear fuel at the permanently shut down and decommissioned facility under the provision of 10 CFR part 72, subpart K, "General License for Storage of Spent Fuel at Power Reactor Sites."

The NRC staff is performing both a safety evaluation and an environmental review to determine whether to grant this exemption request. The NRC staff will prepare a separate safety evaluation report (SER) to document its safety review and analysis. The NRC's SER will evaluate the proposed exemption for reasonable assurance of adequate protection of public health and safety, and the common defense and security. This EA documents the environmental review which the NRC staff prepared in accordance with 10 CFR 51.21 and 51.30(a). The NRC's decision whether to grant the exemption will be based on the results of the NRC staff's review as documented in this EA, and the staff's safety review to be documented in the SER.

II. Environmental Assessment

By letter dated May 4, 2023, YAEC submitted a request to the NRC for an