

may be associated with biological activity.

Using these tools, MSL would examine martian rocks and soils in greater detail than ever before to determine the geologic processes that formed them; study the martian atmosphere; and determine the distribution and circulation of water and carbon dioxide, whether frozen, liquid, or gaseous.

NASA plans to select a landing site on the basis of highly detailed images sent to Earth by the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter beginning in the fall of 2006, in addition to data from earlier missions.

The MSL EIS will address the purpose and need for the proposed MSL mission in detail and the environmental impacts associated with its implementation. The environmental impacts of this mission are anticipated to be those associated with the normal launch of the mission. Potential consequences of accident situations will also be addressed. Environmental issues to be addressed will include, but not necessarily be limited to air quality, radiological effects, water quality, and flora and fauna.

Written public input and comments on alternatives and potential environmental impacts and concerns associated with the proposed Mars Science Laboratory mission are hereby requested.

**Olga M. Dominguez,**

*Acting Assistant Administrator for Infrastructure and Administration.*

[FR Doc. E6-3374 Filed 3-9-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7510-13-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Advisory Committee for Computer and Information Science and Engineering; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

*Name:* Advisory Committee for Computer and Information Science and Engineering—(1115).

*Date and Time:* April 24, 2006, 7:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

*Place:* National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., room 1235, Arlington, VA 22230.

*Type of Meeting:* Open.

*Contact Person:* Gwen Barber-Blount, Office of the Assistant Director, Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1105, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 292-8900.

*Minutes:* May be obtained from the contact person listed above.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To advise NSF on the impact of its policies, programs and activities on the CISE community. To provide advice to the Assistant Director/CISE on issues related to long-range planning, and to form ad hoc subcommittees to carry out needed studies and tasks.

*Agenda:* Report from the Assistant Director, Discussion of research initiatives, education, diversity, workforce issues in IT and long-range funding outlook.

Dated: March 7, 2006.

**Susanne Bolton,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 06-2308 Filed 3-9-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-M**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Advisory Committee for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub.L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

*Name:* Advisory Committee for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (#1171).

*Date and Time:* April 19, 2006 8 a.m.—5 p.m. April 20, 2006 8 a.m.—3 p.m.

*Place:* National Science Foundation—April 19, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1235, Arlington, VA 22230. National Rural Electric Cooperative Association—April 20, 4301 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203.

*Type of Meeting:* Open.

*Contact Person:* Mr. Tyrone Jordan, Office of the Assistant Director, Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 905, Arlington, VA 22230, 703-292-8741.

*Summary Minutes:* May be obtained from contact person listed above.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations to the National Science Foundation on major goals and policies pertaining to Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate programs and activities.

*Agenda:* Discussion on issues, role and future direction of the Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences.

Dated: March 7, 2006.

**Susanne Bolton,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 06-2309 Filed 3-9-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-271; License No. DPR-28]

### Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. Notice of Issuance of Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206

Notice is hereby given that the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, has issued a Director's Decision with regard to a petition dated October 11, 2005, filed by Mr. Jonathan M. Block hereinafter referred to as the "Petitioner." The petition concerns the operation of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (Vermont Yankee).

The petition requested that the NRC require the temporary emergency closure or de-rating of Vermont Yankee due to flooding conditions on October 8 and 9, 2005.

As a basis for this request, the petitioner stated that evacuations would be impossible as a result of storm damage to existing evacuation routes for Vermont Yankee.

The petition of October 11, 2005, raised immediate concerns regarding emergency evacuation planning for the States of Vermont and New Hampshire due to storm damage to existing evacuation routes through the city of Keene, town of Hinsdale, and other portions of New Hampshire. In a teleconference with the NRC, the Petitioner raised additional concerns regarding the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA) and the State of New Hampshire's plans for an evacuation if an event were to occur at Vermont Yankee simultaneously with a natural disaster. Specific concerns were raised regarding alternative assembly points and decontamination centers for people who would normally evacuate through potentially flooded areas. The Petitioner also requested assurance from the NRC that contingency evacuation plans are in place.

The NRC sent a copy of the proposed Director's Decision to the Petitioner and to the licensee for comment on December 7, 2005 (Accession No. ML053140204). The NRC staff did not receive any comments on the proposed Director's Decision.

The Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation has determined that, The Petitioner's emergency request of October 11, 2005, to shut down or de-rate Vermont Yankee was denied. The reasons for this decision are explained in the director's decision pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 (DD-06-02), the complete