

Activity schools; and the U.S. territories as a group (American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). The award recognizes those teachers who develop and implement a high-quality instructional program that is informed by content knowledge and enhances student learning. Since the program's inception, more than 5,200 teachers have been recognized for their contributions in the classroom and to their profession. Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of STEM education.

The State or Jurisdiction Coordinator (SC) manages the PAEMST program within his or her state or jurisdiction. SCs recruit eligible nominees, select and assign mentors to nominees, coordinate the selection committee, and plan local recognition events within their State or Jurisdiction. They also carry out the responsibilities as noted in the "Operational Handbook for State and Jurisdiction STEM Coordinators."

The purpose of this survey is to seek feedback from the approximately 120 SCs regarding PAEMST management within their state or jurisdiction. The NSF PAEMST support team will ask directed questions using the survey to gather information that may specifically address the methods and recruitment efforts that SCs use to support the attracting of prospective award nominees. Additional survey areas may also include:

- Applicant Mentoring
- Mentor Training
- State or Jurisdiction selection Committee
- State or Jurisdiction selection Process
- Applicant and State or Jurisdiction Finalist Notification and Recognition
- In-kind contributions

The survey will evaluate the impact SCs have on attracting prospective award nominees to PAEMST. This will be conducted as a web-based survey.

**Estimate of Burden:** Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30–40 minutes for State/Jurisdiction Coordinators.

**Respondents:** Individuals.

**Estimated Number of Responses per Form:** 120 Coordinators.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** 80 hours (120 Coordinators at 40 minutes per survey = 80 hours).

**Frequency of Response:** One per application cycle.

Dated: July 13, 2022.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. 2022–15339 Filed 7–18–22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555–01–P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Initiate Section 106 Consultation for a Potential National Science Foundation Investment in the Construction and Operation of an Extremely Large Telescope Located in the Northern Hemisphere and Notice of Public Scoping Meetings and Comment Period

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the National Science Foundation (NSF) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate environmental effects of an NSF investment in the construction and operation of an Extremely Large Telescope (ELT) located in the Northern Hemisphere, which is a potential future funding action. (Refer to supplementary information below for more detail about NSF's decision-making process.)

**DATES:** This notice initiates the public scoping process for the EIS and the Section 106 consultation process pursuant to *Code of Federal Regulations* title 36, section 800.2(d). Comments on issues may be submitted during the scoping meetings scheduled for August 9 through 12, 2022, on the Island of Hawaii (refer to details below) or in writing electronically or via postal mail until September 17, 2022. To be eligible for inclusion in the Draft EIS, all comments must be received prior to the close of the scoping period. Comments on NSF's Draft CEP may also be submitted prior to, and during, the scoping meetings or in writing through September 17, 2022. The public will be notified of the dates, times, and locations of the Section 106 meetings at a later date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments related to this Proposed Action by either of the following methods. Note that comments will be accepted via the website starting at approximately 9 a.m. EDT on July 19, 2022:

- **Website:** <https://beta.nsf.gov/tmt>.
- **Mail to:** Ms. Elizabeth Pentecost, RE: ELT, National Science Foundation, Room W9152, 2415 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22314.

## Scoping Meetings

NSF will host four in-person public scoping meetings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations and dates:

- **Hilo:** August 9, 2022, at the Grand Naniloa Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Crown Room, 93 Banyan Dr., Hilo, HI 96720.

- **Naalehu:** August 10, 2022, at the Naalehu Community Center, 95–5635 Hawaii Belt Rd., Naalehu, HI 96772.

- **Kona:** August 11, 2022, at the Outrigger Kona Resort & Spa, Kaleiopapa Convention Center, 78–128 Ehukai St., Kailua-Kona, HI 96740.

- **Kamuela (Waimea):** August 12, 2022, at the Kahilu Town Hall, 67–1182 Lindsey Rd., Kamuela, HI 96743.

Comments will be accepted during the meetings in writing and verbally. Please contact NSF at least one week in advance of each meeting if you would like to request special accommodations (e.g., sign language interpretation). Comments can also be provided in the Hawaiian language, which will subsequently be translated to the English language to facilitate NSF's consideration of those comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information regarding the EIS process or the Section 106 consultation process, please contact: Ms. Elizabeth Pentecost, National Science Foundation, Division of Astronomical Sciences, Room W9152, 2415 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22314; telephone: (703) 292–4907; email: [EIS.106.TMT@nsf.gov](mailto:EIS.106.TMT@nsf.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** By this notice, NSF is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues to be analyzed in the EIS. NSF welcomes public comments on potential alternatives, information, and analyses relevant to the environmental review. NSF also intends to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (Section 106) to evaluate anticipated effects on historic properties resulting from a potential NSF investment in the construction and operation of a Northern Hemisphere ELT located on the summit of Maunakea, Hawaii Island, Hawaii, which is the only location in the United States for which alternatives will be analyzed. NSF enters into this process with an understanding that the issue of constructing an ELT on Maunakea is a sensitive one, with both strong proponents and strong opponents of the proposed project; NSF was informed of the reasons for these varying positions through numerous informal meetings, spanning a 16-month period, with individuals and groups

with a connection to Maunakea. NSF also received numerous written comments. As a result of those meetings and written comments, NSF heard that it should be proactive in its engagement with the Native Hawaiian community during any environmental review by providing additional opportunities for meaningful and effective public participation. To that end, NSF also invites the public to comment on NSF's plans to engage the public in its EIS and Section 106 compliance processes through review of and comment on NSF's Draft Community Engagement Plan (Draft CEP), located at <https://beta.nsf.gov/tmt> (starting at approximately 9 a.m. EDT on July 19, 2022).

The Draft CEP is also available at the following local libraries:

#### Oahu

- James & Abigail Campbell Library, University of Hawaii at West Oahu, 91–1001 Farrington Hwy., Kapolei, HI 96707.
- Hawaii Kai Public Library, 249 Lunalilo Home Rd., Honolulu, HI 96825.

#### Hawaii

- Edwin H. Mookini Library, University of Hawaii at Hilo, 200 W Kawili St., Hilo, HI 96720–4091.
- Thelma Parker Memorial Public and School Library, 67–1209 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kamuela, HI 96743.
- Hilo Public Library, 300 Waiānuenue Ave., Hilo, HI 96720.
- Pahala Public and School Library, 96–3150 Pikake St., Pahala, HI 96777.
- Kailua-Kona Public Library, 75–138 Hualalai Rd., Kailua-Kona, HI 96740.

#### Kauai

- Lihue Public Library, 4344 Hardy St., Lihue, HI 96766.
- Princeville Public Library, 4343 Emmalani Dr., Princeville, HI 96722.

#### Maui

- Kihei Public Library, 35 Waimahaihai St., Kihei, HI 96753.

#### Background

The U.S. astronomy community via the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) recently completed its 2020 Astronomy and Astrophysics Decadal Survey (Astro2020) culminating with the October 2021 release of the final report titled, *Pathways to Discovery in Astronomy and Astrophysics for the 2020s*.<sup>1</sup> Astro2020 is the seventh decadal survey of the field and provides

valuable advice to federal agency sponsors regarding astronomy and astrophysics research priorities for the upcoming decade (2020–2030). In its report, the Astro2020 committee concluded that “U.S. ELT is a critical priority for investment for ground-based astronomy in the coming decade.” Because NSF is the steward of ground-based astronomy in the United States, the committee recommended that the “National Science Foundation (NSF) should achieve a federal investment in at least one and ideally both of the two extremely large telescope projects—the Giant Magellan Telescope and the Thirty Meter Telescope.”

The first step toward implementing Astro2020's highest-priority recommendation would be for NSF to initiate a US–ELT Program comprising a Northern Hemisphere ELT, a Southern Hemisphere ELT, or both. The purpose of a US–ELT Program would be to provide access for the U.S. scientific community to the cutting-edge capabilities of this new class of telescopes. The angular resolution and light-gathering power of these ELTs with large equivalent apertures (e.g., 25–40 meters) would enable astronomers to search for signatures of life on Earth-like planets; probe the fundamental physics of gravitational waves, dark matter, and dark energy; and study in detail the assembly of galaxies in the early Universe.

The NSF Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Division of Astronomical Sciences, based upon advice from the academic community, has identified the need to acquire the unique capabilities of an ELT located in the Northern Hemisphere to be included in a US–ELT Program. NSF takes recommendations from the astronomy community like those from Astro2020 seriously; therefore, the Proposed Action under consideration is an NSF investment in the construction and operation of an ELT in the Northern Hemisphere. The only proposed Northern Hemisphere ELT identified in the Astro2020 report is the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT), which has a preferred site on the summit of Maunakea, Hawaii Island, Hawaii, and an alternative site on Roque de los Muchachos, La Palma, in the Canary Islands.

#### Purpose of Public Scoping Process

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including identification of viable alternatives, and to guide the process for developing the EIS. Federal, state, and local agencies, along with members of the public who

may be interested or affected by NSF's ultimate decision on this Proposed Action, are invited to participate in the scoping process and, if eligible, may request to participate as a cooperating agency.

#### Preliminary Proposed Alternatives

Alternatives to be evaluated in the EIS will be refined through public input, with preliminary proposed alternatives that include the following:

- No NSF investment in the construction and operation of an ELT in the Northern Hemisphere (No Action Alternative).
- Investment in the construction and operation of TMT (as the ELT in the Northern Hemisphere) located on Maunakea, Hawaii Island, Hawaii (Action Alternative 1).
- Investment in the construction and operation of TMT (as the ELT in the Northern Hemisphere) located on Maunakea, Hawaii Island, Hawaii, with an NSF-facilitated plan to define and practice responsible astronomy in Hawaii in partnership with the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority, the Maunakea Observatories, and the affected Hawaiian community (Action Alternative 2).
- Investment in the construction and operation of TMT (as the ELT in the Northern Hemisphere) located on Roque de los Muchachos, La Palma, Canary Islands (Action Alternative 3).

#### Proposed Scope of Environmental Review

The EIS will evaluate the potential environmental (including cultural) direct, indirect, and cumulative effects resulting from the implementation of the Proposed Action and Action Alternatives. At present, NSF has identified the following resource areas for analysis of potential impacts. Cultural resources will be analyzed for potential impacts on traditional cultural places; archaeological resources; and historic buildings and structures. Visual resources will include an analysis of sensitive viewsheds. The socioeconomic analysis will consider potential impacts on population and housing; the economy, employment, and income; education; tourism; and environmental justice. The land use evaluation will include an analysis of potential impacts on existing plans, policies, and controls, as well as coastal zone management. The health and safety evaluation will analyze potential impacts on natural resources; occupational health and public safety; and protection of children. Biological resources will be evaluated for potential impacts on native vegetation; sensitive

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/26141/pathways-to-discovery-in-astronomy-and-astrophysics-for-the-2020s>.

vegetation species; invasive vegetation species; native wildlife; sensitive wildlife species; invasive wildlife species; and the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Biosphere Reserve near La Palma, Canary Islands (Alternative 3). Geological resources will be analyzed for potential impacts on geology, soils, and topography, including slope stability. Water resources will be evaluated for potential impacts on surface water, groundwater, and stormwater. The public services and utilities evaluation will include an analysis of potential impacts on power, communications, potable water, wastewater, and solid waste. Traffic and transportation will be analyzed for potential impacts on traffic and roadway conditions. Additional resources analyzed for potential impacts will include hazardous materials and waste, climate change, air quality, and noise. The level of review in the EIS will be proportionate with the anticipated level of effects on each resource from the Proposed Action and Action Alternatives. The EIS will analyze measures that would avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential environmental effects. Based on a preliminary evaluation of these resources, NSF expects the EIS to identify adverse effects on cultural/archaeological resources, biological resources, visual resources, and geological resources. Adverse effects to additional resources, as well as potential beneficial effects (e.g., on socioeconomics), will likely be identified based on public input and the result of any new studies or analyses.

NSF may conduct additional studies to inform the environmental review process, including a cultural resources study, archaeology survey, and ethnographic research; updated visual modeling; economic modeling; an environmental justice assessment (Hawaiian homeland locations); updated species/habitat surveys; a geology survey; a surface water/groundwater study; migratory bird study; and a contamination assessment.

In addition to NEPA, federal permits and other federal authorizations will be required. These processes, as well as consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as appropriate, will occur concurrently with the NEPA process. Other authorizations may be required pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Clean Water Act, the Rivers and Harbors Act, and the Clean Air Act. Because of the international location of Alternative 3, NSF would apply the provisions of Executive Order

12114, *Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions* in analyzing that Alternative.

#### *NSF Environmental Review Timeline*

The following is a list of milestones and anticipated timeframes for the EIS and Section 106 processes:

- Scoping period will occur from July 19, 2022 through September 17, 2022.
- A draft plan for any needed resource studies/analyses will be posted to the NSF web page (<https://beta.nsf.gov/tmt>) for additional public comment in Fall/Winter 2022.
- NSF will finalize the CEP based on public input (target late 2022) and implement the measures identified therein throughout the remainder of the process.
- NSF will host a workshop to help inform Alternative 2 and the Section 106 process in Winter 2022/2023.
- Section 106 consulting parties will meet to consult on the Area of Potential Effects and identify historic properties during Winter 2022/2023.
- NSF will conduct any necessary studies and analyses and prepare the Draft EIS between Winter 2022 and Summer 2023.
- The Draft EIS and accompanying public comment period, including public meetings, are anticipated in Summer 2023; NSF will continue to meet with consulting parties, pursuant to Section 106, to identify and resolve adverse effects to historic properties between Summer 2023 and Spring/Summer 2024.
- Final EIS is anticipated in Spring/Summer 2024.
- Record of Decision is anticipated in Fall 2024.

NSF will not make a funding decision until after it considers the following:

- Public input.
- Environmental review of the telescope.
- Project's technical readiness.
- Project proponent's management capabilities.
- Availability of federal funding.
- Telescope's alignment with other NSF priorities.

(Please note that a decision by NSF not to go forward with an investment in the construction and operations of TMT could be made at any time, including before the EIS process has concluded.)

*Proposal Information:* Information will be posted throughout the EIS process at <https://beta.nsf.gov/tmt>.

Dated: July 14, 2022.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**  
*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. 2022-15349 Filed 7-18-22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

[NRC-2022-0001]

### **Sunshine Act Meetings**

**TIME AND DATE:** Weeks of July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2022. The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the internet at: <https://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/schedule.html>.

**PLACE:** 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 Anne Silk, NRC Disability Program Specialist, at 301-287-0745, by videophone at 240-428-3217, or by email at [Anne.Silk@nrc.gov](mailto:Anne.Silk@nrc.gov). Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

**STATUS:** Public.

Members of the public may request to receive the information in these notices electronically. If you would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555, at 301-415-1969, or by email at [Wendy.Moore@nrc.gov](mailto:Wendy.Moore@nrc.gov) or [Betty.Thweatt@nrc.gov](mailto:Betty.Thweatt@nrc.gov).

### **MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:**

#### **Week of July 11, 2022**

*Friday, July 15, 2022*

- 1 p.m. Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (Tentative)
- (a) Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., Entergy Nuclear Palisades, LLC, Holtec International, and Holtec Decommissioning International, LLC (Palisades Nuclear Plant and Big Rock Point) (Tentative)
  - (b) EnergySolutions, LLC—Indirect License Transfer (Zion Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2; Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2; La Crosse Boiling Water Reactor; Kewaunee Power Station; Radioactive Materials License; Export Licenses) (Tentative)

*Additional Information:* By a vote of 3-0 on July 14, 2022, the Commission determined pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(e)(1) and 10 CFR 9.107 that this item be affirmed with less than one week notice to the public. (Contact: Wesley Held: 301-287-3591)

*Additional Information:* The public is invited to attend the Commission's