

Date: December 9, 2003.

Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Crystal City Courtyard by Marriott, 2899 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202.

Contact Person: Lakshmanan Sankaran, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch, DEA, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Room 754, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-7799, ls38z@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.847, Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Research; 93.848, Digestive Diseases and Nutrition Research; 93.849, Kidney Diseases, Urology and Hematology Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 28, 2003.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 03-27583 Filed 10-31-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute on Aging; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute on Aging Special Emphasis Panel, Primates and the Immune System.

Date: November 24-25, 2003.

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Agendas: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: The Embassy Suites Hotel, Portland-Washington Square, 9000 SW., Washington Square Road, Tigard, OR 97223.

Contact Person: William Cruce, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health, Scientific Review Office, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue, Gateway Bldg. 2C212, Bethesda, MD 20814-9692, 301-402-7704, crucew@Qnia.nih.gov.

Dated: October 28, 2003.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.866, Aging Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 03-27584 Filed 10-31-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Prospective Grant of Exclusive License: Synthetic, Anti-Complement Protein and the Gene Encoding Same

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is notice, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(c)(1) and 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i), that the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services, is contemplating the grant of world-wide exclusive license to practice the invention embodied in: United States Patent Numbers 5,157,110 and 5,187,268, entitled "Synthetic Anti-Complement Protein and Gene Encoding Same", issued October 20, 1992 and February 26, 1993, respectively, to K-Biotech, PTY, having a place of business in Cape Town, South Africa. The patent rights in this invention have been assigned to the United States of America.

DATES: Only written comments and/or application for a license which are received by the NIH Office of Technology Transfer on or before January 2, 2004 will be considered.

ADDRESSES: Requests for a copy of the patent application, inquiries, comments and other materials relating to the contemplated license should be directed to: Susan Ano, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, MD 20852-3804; e-mail: anos@od.nih.gov; Telephone: (301) 435-5515; Facsimile: (301) 402-0220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The prospective exclusive license will be royalty bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within 60 days from the date of this published Notice, NIH receives written evidence and argument that establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

The technology described in USPN 5,157,110 relates to the discovery of a protein, vaccinia complement protein (VCP), that inhibits the complement cascade. VCP is the smallest complement controlling protein, is soluble (complement inhibitors produced by humans are typically membrane-bound), does not have glycosylation sites, and acts via a different component of the complement compared to most other (inhibiting at C3 level rather than C5). The technology described in USPN 5,187,268 describes the cloned gene encoding this protein. Complement inhibitors may be used for combating inflammatory responses.

The field of use may be limited to development of anti-inflammatory therapeutics based on VCP.

Properly filed competing applications for a license filed in response to this notice will be treated as objections to the contemplated license. Comments and objections submitted in response to this notice will not be made available for public inspection, and, to the extent permitted by law, will not be released under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

Dated: October 24, 2003.

Steven M. Ferguson,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer.

[FR Doc. 03-27503 Filed 10-31-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Office of the Secretary

Designation of Manager, National Communications System

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 1(e)(1) of Executive Order 12472 of April 3, 1984, as amended by section 46 of Executive Order 13286 of February 28, 2003, the Secretary of Homeland Security announces the designation of the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Infrastructure Protection, Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Directorate as the Manager, National Communications System (NCS).

DATES: The designation of the Manager, National Communications System is effective November 3, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have any questions about this notice, call Ms. Marilyn Witcher, Chief,

Industry, Government, and External Affairs, National Communications System, telephone 703-607-6214.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NCS consists of the telecommunications assets of the entities represented on the NCS Committee of Principals and an administrative structure consisting of the Executive Agent, the NCS Committee of Principals, and the Manager. The mission of the NCS is to assist the President, the National Security Council, the Homeland Security Council, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget in:

(1) The exercise of designated telecommunications functions and responsibilities; and
(2) The coordination of the planning for and provision of national security and emergency preparedness communications for the Federal government under all circumstances, including crisis or emergency, attack, recovery and reconstitution.

As stated in Section 1(g) of Executive Order 12472 of April 3, 1984, the Manager, NCS, shall develop for consideration by the NCS Committee of Principals and the Executive Agent:

(1) A recommended evolutionary telecommunications architecture designed to meet current and future Federal government national security and emergency preparedness telecommunications requirements;
(2) Plans and procedures for the management, allocation and use, including the establishment of priorities or preferences, of Federally owned or leased telecommunications assets under all conditions of crisis or emergency;
(3) Plans, procedures and standards for minimizing or removing technical impediments to the interoperability of government-owned and/or commercially-provided telecommunications systems;
(4) Test and exercise programs and procedures for the evaluation of the capability of the Nation's telecommunications resources to meet national security or emergency preparedness telecommunications requirements; and
(5) Alternative mechanisms for funding, through the budget review process, national security or emergency preparedness telecommunications initiatives which benefit multiple Federal departments, agencies, or entities. Those mechanisms recommended by the NCS Committee of Principals and the Executive Agent shall be submitted to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

The Manager shall also:

(1) Implement and administer any approved plans or programs as assigned, including any system of priorities and preferences for the provision of communications service, in consultation with the NCS Committee of Principals and the Federal Communications Commission, to the extent practicable or otherwise required by law or regulation;

(2) Chair the NCS Committee of Principals and provide staff support and technical assistance thereto;

(3) Serve as a focal point for joint industry-government planning, including the dissemination of technical information, concerning the national security or emergency preparedness telecommunications requirements of the Federal government;

(4) Conduct technical studies or analyses, and examine research and development programs, for the purpose of identifying, for consideration by the NCS Committee of Principals and the Executive Agent, improved approaches which may assist Federal entities in fulfilling national security or emergency preparedness telecommunications objectives;

(5) Pursuant to the Federal Standardization Program of the General Services Administration, and in consultation with other appropriate entities of the Federal government including the NCS Committee of Principals, manage the Federal Telecommunications Standards Program, ensuring wherever feasible that existing or evolving industry, national, and international standards are used as the basis for Federal telecommunications standards; and

(6) Provide such reports and perform such other duties as are from time to time assigned by the President or his authorized designee, the Executive Agent, or the NCS Committee of Principals. Any such assignments of responsibility to, or reports made by, the Manager shall be transmitted through the Executive Agent.

In accordance with section 1(e)(1) of Executive Order 12472 of April 3, 1984, as amended by section 46 of Executive Order 13286 of February 28, 2003, and as the designated Executive Agent for the National Communications System, Department of Homeland Security, I designate the position of Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Infrastructure Protection in the Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Directorate, as the Manager of the National Communications System.

Dated: October 24, 2003.

Tom Ridge,

Secretary of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 03-27550 Filed 10-31-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: 30-day notice of information collection under review: Application for Advance Permission to Return to Unrelinquished Domicile, form I-191.

The Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS), has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on June 4, 2003 at 68 FR 33511, allowing for a 60-day public comment period. No comments were received by the BCIS on this proposed information collection.

The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until December 3, 2003. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the items contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Department of Homeland Security Desk Officer, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20530.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) 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;

(2) 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;