

## NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

### Meeting of National Council on the Humanities

**AGENCY:** The National Endowment for the Humanities, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended) notice is hereby given that the National Council on the Humanities will meet in Washington, DC on November 17-18, 2011.

The purpose of the meeting is to advise the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities with respect to policies, programs, and procedures for carrying out his functions, and to review applications for financial support from and gifts offered to the Endowment and to make recommendations thereon to the Chairman.

The meeting will be held in the Old Post Office Building, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC. A portion of the morning and afternoon sessions on November 17-18, 2011, will not be open to the public pursuant to subsections (c)(4), (c)(6) and (c)(9)(B) of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code because the Council will consider information that may disclose: trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential; information of a personal nature the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; and information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency action. I have made this determination under the authority granted me by the Chairman's Delegation of Authority dated July 19, 1993.

The agenda for the sessions on November 17, 2011 will be as follows:

#### Committee Meetings

(Open to the Public)  
Policy Discussion 9-10:30 a.m.  
Challenge Grants Federal/State Partnership—Room 507  
Digital Humanities—Room 402  
Education Programs—Room M-07  
Preservation and Access—Room 415  
Public Programs—Room 421  
Research Programs—Room 315  
(Closed to the Public)  
Discussion of specific grant applications and programs before the Council  
10:30 a.m. until Adjourned  
Challenge Grants Federal/State Partnership—Room 507  
Digital Humanities—Room 402

Education Programs—Room M-07  
Preservation and Access—Room 415  
Public Programs—Room 421  
Research Programs—Room 315

The morning session of the meeting on November 18, 2011 will convene at 9 a.m., in the first floor Council Room M-09, and will be open to the public, as set out below. The agenda for the morning session will be as follows:

#### A. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

#### B. Reports

1. Introductory Remarks
2. Presentation by filmmaker Hugo Perez on his film *Neither Memory nor Magic: Poetry of Witness*
3. Staff Report
4. Congressional Report
5. Budget Report
6. Reports on Policy and General Matters
  - a. Challenge Grants
  - b. Federal/State Partnership
  - c. Digital Humanities
  - d. Education Programs
  - e. Preservation and Access
  - f. Public Programs
  - g. Research Programs

The remainder of the proposed meeting will be given to the consideration of specific applications and will be closed to the public for the reasons stated above.

Further information about this meeting can be obtained from Lisette Voyatzis, Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20506, or by calling (202) 606-8322, TDD (202) 606-8282. Advance notice of any special needs or accommodations is appreciated.

**Lisette Voyatzis,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-498 and 50-499; NRC-2011-0238]

### STP Nuclear Operating Company; South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2; Exemption

#### 1.0 Background

STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC, the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-76 and NPF-80, which authorizes operation of the South Texas Project (STP), Units 1 and 2. The license provides, among other things, that the facility is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, the Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

The facility consists of a pressurized-water reactor located in Matagorda County in Texas.

#### 2.0 Request/Action

Pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), Part 12, "Specific exemptions," the licensee has, by letter dated December 21, 2010 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML103630408), requested an exemption from 10 CFR 50.46, "Acceptance criteria for emergency core cooling systems [(ECCS)] for light-water nuclear power reactors," and Appendix K to 10 CFR part 50, "ECCS Evaluation Models." The regulations in 10 CFR 50.46 contain acceptance criteria for the ECCS for reactors fueled with zircaloy or ZIRLO™ cladding. In addition, Appendix K to 10 CFR part 50 requires that the Baker-Just equation be used to predict the rates of energy release, hydrogen concentration, and cladding oxidation from the metal/water reaction. The Baker-Just equation assumes the use of zircaloy or ZIRLO™, which is a material different from Optimized ZIRLO™. The licensee's requested exemption relates solely to the specific types of cladding material specified in these regulations. As written, the regulations presume the use of zircaloy or ZIRLO™ fuel rod cladding. Thus, an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.46 and Appendix K is needed to support the use of a different fuel rod cladding material. Accordingly, the licensee requested an exemption that would allow the use of Optimized ZIRLO™ fuel rod cladding at STP, Units 1 and 2.

#### 3.0 Discussion

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the Commission may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50 (1) When the exemptions are authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to public health or safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security; and (2) when special circumstances are present. Under 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2), special circumstances include, among other things, when application of the specific regulation in the particular circumstance would not serve, or is not necessary to achieve, the underlying purpose of the rule.