

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given that 9 meetings of the Arts Advisory Panel to the National Council on the Arts will be held by teleconference or videoconference.

**DATES:** See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for individual meeting times and dates. All meetings are Eastern time and ending times are approximate:

**ADDRESSES:** National Endowment for the Arts, Constitution Center, 400 7th St. SW, Washington, DC 20506.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Further information with reference to these meetings can be obtained from David Travis, Office of Guidelines & Panel Operations, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC 20506; [travisd@arts.gov](mailto:travisd@arts.gov), or call 202-682-5001.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The closed portions of meetings are for the purpose of Panel review, discussion, evaluation, and recommendations on financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, including information given in confidence to the agency. In accordance with the determination of the Chair of March 11, 2022, these sessions will be closed to the public pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 10.

The upcoming meetings are:

*Folk and Traditional Arts* (review of applications): This meeting will be closed.

*Date and time:* August 1, 2024; 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*National Heritage Fellowships* (review of applications): This meeting will be closed.

*Date and time:* August 6, 2024; 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Literary Arts* (review of applications): This meeting will be closed.

*Date and time:* August 7, 2024; 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Literary Arts* (review of applications): This meeting will be closed.

*Date and time:* August 8, 2024; 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

*National Heritage Fellowships* (review of applications): This meeting will be closed.

*Date and time:* August 8, 2024; 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Literary Arts* (review of applications): This meeting will be closed.

*Date and time:* August 8, 2024; 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Literature Fellowships: Translation* (review of applications): This meeting will be closed.

*Date and time:* August 14, 2024; 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Literature Fellowships: Translation* (review of applications): This meeting will be closed.

*Date and time:* August 15, 2024; 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Literature Fellowships: Creative Writing* (review of applications): This meeting will be closed.

*Date and time:* September 13, 2024; 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Dated: July 1, 2024.

**David Travis,**

*Specialist, National Endowment for the Arts.*  
[FR Doc. 2024-14726 Filed 7-3-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7537-01-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of permit applications received.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act in the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by August 5, 2024. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 or [ACApermits@nsf.gov](mailto:ACApermits@nsf.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Andrew Titmus, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address, 703-292-4479.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541, 45 CFR 671), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas as requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

## Application Details

*Permit Application: 2025-004*

1. *Applicant:* Heather Liwanag, California Polytechnic State University, Department of Biological Sciences, 1 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407-0401.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Import into USA. The applicant seeks an Antarctic Conservation Act permit to import samples comprising oral swabs, rectal swabs, and serum from 36 adult Weddell seals (*Leptonychotes weddellii*). The samples were collected in 2019 and 2020 by the New Zealand Antarctic program as part of a collaborative disease investigation study. The samples complement additional samples collected by the applicant in 2017 and 2019 under ACA permit 2018-013M#1. The previously collected samples have been stored at McMurdo Station, Antarctica since collection. The samples will assist in investigating the cause of lesions observed in seals during prior fieldwork.

*Location:* None.

*Dates of Permitted Activities:* September 01, 2024–August 31, 2025.

*Permit Application: 2025-005*

2. *Applicant:* Zheng Wang, Center for Biomolecular Science and Engineering, US Naval Research Laboratory, 4555 Overlook Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20375.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Introduce Non-Indigenous Species into Antarctica, Import into USA, Export from USA. The applicant seeks an Antarctic Conservation Act permit to introduce desiccated spores of four *Aspergillus niger* strains in Antarctica in order to study the biological effects of cosmic ionizing radiation. The desiccated spores are incapable of growing or dispersing and will be plated onto quartz coupons and glued into a box, which would be assembled in the USA and shipped to McMurdo Station, Antarctica. The samples will be loaded onto a payload of a NASA Long Duration Balloon to be flown over the Antarctic continent at an altitude of 115,000–160,000 ft for approximately 8–15 days. Anticipated flight window would be in December, 2024. Upon termination of the flight, the payload would be recovered from the field and transported back to McMurdo Station. The box containing the desiccated spores would then be shipped back to the USA for analysis.

*Location:* McMurdo Station, Antarctica.

*Dates of Permitted Activities:* October 15, 2024–April 1, 2025.

*Permit Application:* 2025–006

3. *Applicant:* Paul Ponganis, CMBB, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCSD, La Jolla, CA 92093–0204.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Take, Harmful Interference, Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area, Import into USA. The applicant requests an Antarctic Conservation Act permit authorizing take and harmful interference associated with ongoing research examining the oxygen transport systems of emperor penguins (*Aptenodytes forsteri*) in Antarctica. The applicant proposes capturing up to 35 non-breeding or sub-adult penguins from the McMurdo Sound region or, if necessary, in Cape Washington (ASPA 173). The applicant will access ASPA 173 by fixed-wing aircraft in accordance with the ASPA management plan. Throughout the course of the physiology study, penguins will be kept captive on the sea ice, but will be allowed to dive and forage at will. Research activities involve the administration of general anesthesia and the attachment of instrumentation to measure oxygen levels, heart rate/stroke rate, and dive depth/activity. In some penguins, blood samples may be collected during dives. RNA will be isolated from up to 20 samples and imported into the USA. At the end of each dive study, equipment will be removed, and the penguins will be released at the McMurdo Sea ice edge, where they will be able to rejoin nearby colonies.

*Location:* McMurdo Sound, ASPA 173–Cape Washington and Silverfish Bay.

*Dates of Permitted Activities:* October 1, 2024–December 20, 2024.

**Kimiko S. Bowens-Knox,**

*Program Analyst, Office of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2024–14705 Filed 7–3–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 72–1041, 50–498, and 50–499; NRC–2024–0104]

### South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company; South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2; Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation; Exemption

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued an exemption to South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company permitting South Texas Project Electric Generating Station to shuffle (relocate) 10 already loaded model 37 multi-purpose canisters (MPC) with continuous basket shims (MPC–37–CBS) in January 2025 and to load two new MPC–37–CBS in the HI–STORM Flood/Wind MPC Storage System at its South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2 independent spent fuel storage installation in a storage condition where the terms, conditions, and specifications in the Certificate of Compliance No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, are not met.

**DATES:** The exemption was issued on June 26, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2024–0104 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–2024–0104. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301–415–0624; email: [Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov](mailto: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](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov). The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document.

- *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](mailto: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:** Yen-Ju Chen, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear

Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555; telephone: 301–415–1018; email: [Yen-Ju.Chen@nrc.gov](mailto:Yen-Ju.Chen@nrc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The text of the exemption is attached.

Dated: July 1, 2024.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Yoira Diaz-Sanabria,**

*Chief, Storage and Transportation Licensing Branch, Division of Fuel Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety, and Safeguards.*

### Attachment—Exemption

#### Nuclear Regulatory Commission

**Docket Nos. 72–1041, 50–498, and 50–499**

#### South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company

#### South Texas Project Electric Generating Station Units 1 and 2

#### Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation

#### I. Background

South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. NPF–76 and NPF–80, which authorize operation of the South Texas Project Electric Generating Station (STP), Units 1 and 2 in Bay City, Texas, pursuant to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), “Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities.” The licenses provide, among other things, that the facility is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) now or hereafter in effect.

Consistent with 10 CFR part 72, subpart K, “General License for Storage of Spent Fuel at Power Reactor Sites,” a general license is issued for the storage of spent fuel in an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) at power reactor sites to persons authorized to possess or operate nuclear power reactors under 10 CFR part 50. STPNOC is authorized to operate nuclear power reactors under 10 CFR part 50 and holds a 10 CFR part 72 general license for storage of spent fuel at the STP ISFSI. Under the terms of the general license, STPNOC stores spent fuel at its STP ISFSI using the HI–STORM Flood/Wind (FW) Multi-Purpose Canister (MPC) Storage System in accordance with Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 1032, Amendment No. 2.

#### II. Request/Action

By a letter dated May 7, 2024 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. ML24128A157), and