

major changes in its operations as an NRTL, including details;

SwRI will meet all the terms of its recognition and will always comply with all OSHA policies pertaining to this recognition;

SwRI will continue to meet the requirements for recognition in all areas where it has been recognized; and

SwRI will always cooperate with OSHA to assure compliance with the spirit as well as the letter of its recognition and 29 CFR 1910.7.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 24th day of February 1999.

Charles N. Jeffress,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-5790 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) has submitted the following information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13. This is the *second notice* for public comment; the first was published in the **Federal Register** at 63 FR 67150, and *no comments were received*. NSF is forwarding the proposed renewal submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for National Science Foundation, 725-17th Street, N.W. Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503, and to Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science

Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 295, Arlington, Virginia 22230 or send email to splimpto@nsf.gov.

Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling 703-306-1125 X 2017.

NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Title: Outcomes and Impacts of the State/Industry University Research Center (S/IUCRC) Program.

OMB Control Number: 3145-0153.

Summary of Collection: NSF's Directorate for Engineering established the State/Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers (S/IUCRC) Program in 1990. The Program was built on a model established by NSF's Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers.

To achieve these objectives, data will be collected from representatives from organizations that have been members of the nine oldest S/IUCRCs (award cohorts 1991 and 1992) about the results in their organization of involvement with the center. Data will not be used to evaluate individual centers, but, rather, to study the Program as a whole. To isolate the unique effects of the distinctive features of the S/IUCRC Program, the project also will include a collection of similar data from organization representatives to 20 of the I/IUCRCs as well (there are over 50 I/IUCRCs). The I/IUCRC data will be compared with the S/IUCRC data to enable identification of results from the S/IUCRC Program that emanate from the latter Program's distinctive elements.

Need and Use of the Information: The resulting information will be used to look at program-wide patterns of outcomes and impacts on organizations that are members of both types of centers. Lessons learned will be used for continuous performance improvement in the presently funded S/IUCRCs. In addition, lessons about the characteristics that facilitate state-NSF partnerships will be prepared for use in future planning of state-NSF partnerships.

Description of Respondents: Individuals.

Number of Respondents: 580 (80% expected to respond—464 respondents).

Frequency of Responses: One time.
Total Burden Hours: 232 hours, broken down by 30 minutes per respondent at 580 respondents.

Dated: March 3, 1999.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 99-5677 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Proposed Data Collection: Public's Views and Comments

Title of Proposed Collection: Public Attitudes About Technology

The National Science Foundation, an independent federal agency, is interested in obtaining the public's views and attitudes toward year 2000 computer readiness.

Specifically, we are seeking input and comments from all interested persons on their views of the value of computer technology in their lives, and their familiarity with and level of comfort when using computers and their familiarity with problems that may result from year 2000 computer conversion issues.

In an effort to obtain the public's input and useful information, the National Science Foundation has developed the questions that follow. Responses from the public will be used only in the aggregate, and only to help NSF in its efforts to better explain itself and its activities to the American public.

We hope you will provide us with your thoughts on the following questions. Detailed comments are also welcome and greatly appreciated.

Responses and comments can be mailed to Public Attitudes about Year 2000 Conversion, c/o Office of Legislative and Public Affairs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Room 1245, Arlington, VA 22230. Comments can also be sent via email to nstw@nsf.gov, or faxed to (703) 306-1057.

All comments should be received by Tuesday, March 9, 1999.

Dated: March 3, 1999.

Julia Moore,

Director, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs.

Y2K Millennium Readiness Poll

March 6-7, 1999

1. As you may know, most computer systems around the world have to be reprogrammed so that they can accurately recognize the date once we

reach the Year 2000. Do you think that computer mistakes due to the Year-2000 issue will cause major problems, minor problems, or no problems at all?

- 1 Major problems
- 2 Minor problems
- 3 No problems at all
- 4 No opinion

2. Do you think that computer mistakes due to the Year-2000 issue will cause major problems, minor problems or no problems at all for you personally?

- 1 Major problems
- 2 Minor problems
- 3 No problems at all
- 4 No opinion

3. How much have you seen or heard about the Year 2000 computer bug problem, sometimes called the Millennium Bug or the Y-2-K bug, before now—a great deal, some, not much, or nothing at all?

- 1 A great deal
- 2 Some
- 3 Not much
- 4 Nothing at all
- 5 No opinion

The rest of the questions on this survey will deal with Year 2000 computer issue. For convenience we will refer to it throughout the survey as the "Y2K" computer bug.

4. To the extent Y2K computer problems occur, how long do you think they will last—[FORM A: READ 1-4; FORM B: READ 4-1]?

- 1 For only a few days around January 1, 2000
- 2 For several weeks (or)
- 3 For several months to a year (or)
- 4 For more than a year
- 5 No opinion

6. For each of the following, please say whether that is something you probably will or will not do in order to protect yourself against problems associated with the Y2K computer bug. How about... [RANDOM ORDER]

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 No opinion
- a. Obtain special confirmation or documentation of your bank account balances, retirement funds, or other financial records
- b. Stockpile food and water
- c. Buy a generator or wood stove
- d. Withdraw all your money from the bank
- e. Withdraw and set aside a large amount of cash
- f. Avoid travelling on airplanes on or around January 1, 2000

9. Next I'm going to read some specific problems. As I read each one, please say whether you think it likely or unlikely to occur as a result of Y2K. First, . . . Next, . . .

- 1 Likely
- 2 Unlikely
- 3 No opinion

- a. Air traffic control systems will fail, putting air travel in jeopardy
- b. Banking and accounting systems will fail, possibly causing errors in employee paychecks, government payments, and other automated financial transactions
- c. Food and retail distribution systems will fail, possibly causing grocery and other store shortages
- e. Hospital equipment and services will fail, putting patients at risk
- h. Nuclear power or defense systems could fail, causing a major accident
10. As you may know, efforts are currently underway throughout the country to upgrade computer systems in order to correct the Y2K computer problem. We'd like to know whether you are generally confident or NOT confident that each of the following levels of government and business will have upgraded their computer systems before any Y2K problems can occur. How about... [RANDOM ORDER]

- 1 Yes, confident they will have upgraded
 - 2 No, not confident
 - 3 No opinion
 - a. The U.S. government, including all federal offices and agencies
 - b. Your state government
 - c. Your local government
 - d. U.S. corporations and large businesses
 - e. Small U.S. businesses
 - f. Foreign governments of other developed and industrialized countries
 - g. Foreign governments of Third World and other less developed countries
- [FR Doc. 99-5785 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. STN 50-454]

Commonwealth Edison Company (Byron Station, Unit No. 1); Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from certain requirements of its regulations for Facility Operating License No. NPF-37, issued to Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd, the licensee), for operation of Byron Station, Unit 1, located in Ogle County, Illinois.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of Proposed Action

The proposed action would exempt ComEd from the requirements of 10 CFR 70.24, which require a monitoring system that will energize clear audible alarms if accidental criticality occurs in each area in which special nuclear material is handled, used, or stored. The proposed action would also exempt the licensee from the requirements to maintain emergency procedures for each area in which this licensed special nuclear material is handled, used, or stored to ensure that all personnel withdraw to an area of safety upon the sounding of the alarm, to familiarize personnel with the evacuation plan, and to designate responsible individuals for determining the cause of the alarm, and to place radiation survey instruments in accessible location for use in such an emergency.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated October 16, 1997.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The purpose of 10 CFR 70.24 is to ensure that if a criticality were to occur during the handling of special nuclear material, personnel would be alerted to that fact and would take appropriate action. At a commercial nuclear power plant, the inadvertent criticality with which 10 CFR 70.24 is concerned could occur during fuel handling operations. The special nuclear material that could be assembled into a critical mass at a commercial nuclear power plant is in the form of nuclear fuel; the quantity of other forms of special nuclear material that is stored on site in a given location is small enough to preclude achieving a critical mass. Because the fuel is not enriched beyond 5.0 weight percent Uranium-235 and because commercial nuclear plant licensees have procedures and design features that prevent inadvertent criticality, the staff has determined that it is unlikely that an inadvertent criticality could occur due to the handling of special nuclear material at a commercial power reactor. The requirements of 10 CFR 70.24, therefore, are not necessary to ensure the safety of personnel during the handling of special nuclear materials at commercial power reactors.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed actions and concludes that there is no significant environmental impact to Byron. Inadvertent or accidental criticality will be precluded through compliance with