

2. Two (2) Requests from Federal Credit Unions to Convert to Community Charters.

3. Request from a Corporate Federal Credit Union for a National Field of Membership Amendment.

4. Request for a Merger of Two Corporate Federal Credit Unions.

5. Proposed Rule: Amendment to Part 701, NCUA's Rules and Regulations, Share Overdraft Accounts.

6. Proposed Rule: Amendments to Parts 724 and 745, NCUA's Rules and Regulations, Individual Retirement Accounts in Puerto Rico Federal Credit Unions.

7. Board Resolution to Clarify Board Policy and Agency Procedures on Community Charter Conversions as per IRPS 99-1.

RECESS: 3:45 p.m.

TIME AND DATE: 4:00 p.m., Thursday, September 16, 1999.

PLACE: Board Room, 7th Floor, Room 7047, 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3428.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Administrative Action under Part 704 of NCUA's Rules and Regulations. Closed pursuant to exemption (8).

2. Two (2) Personnel Matters. Closed pursuant to exemptions (2) and (6).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Becky Baker, Secretary of the Board, Telephone (703) 518-6304.

Becky Baker,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 99-25039 Filed 9-22-99; 1:01 pm]

BILLING CODE 7535-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Intent to Seek Approval to Extend without Revision an Expired Information Collection

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice and Request for Comments.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to request reinstatement of this collection. In accordance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), we are providing opportunity for public comment on this action. After obtaining and considering public comment, NSF will prepare the submission requesting that OMB approve clearance of this collection for no longer than 3 years.

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be received by November 23, 1999,

to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR

COMMENTS: Contact Suzanne H.

Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 295, Arlington, Virginia 22230; telephone (703) 306-1125 x 2017; or send email to splimpto@nsf.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday. You also may obtain a copy of the data collection instrument and instructions from Ms. Plimpton.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection

An Evaluation of Awards Made under the NSF Design and Manufacturing Research Programs.

OMB Approval Number: 3145-0167.

Expiration Date of Approval: Not applicable.

Type of Request: Intent to seek approval to reinstate without revision an information collection for three years.

Abstract: An Evaluation of the Outcomes and Impacts of awards made in the Division of Design, Manufacture, and Industrial Innovation (DMII) in FYs 1989-90. The ability of the National Science Foundation to continue a high level of support for university-based research is becoming increasingly dependent on the ability of NSF and its research partners to explain the impact of funded research on the lives of the U.S. citizens who provide those funds. The Foundation has no systematic evidence regarding the frequency of such events among awards made in 1989 and 1990, some of which were from unsolicited proposals and others were from proposals in three special initiative areas: Strategic Manufacturing, Technology Management, and Industrial Internships. Furthermore, nothing is known about the process by which any outcomes may have occurred. A pilot study of DMII research program awards from 1986 using the same instruments was conducted several years ago. To assist DMII in reporting accurately about the results from more recent awards, especially those made in three initiatives areas—Technology Management, Strategic Manufacturing, and Industrial Internships—and managing its present research programs, the Division would like to reinstate without change data collection 3145-0167.

Some 250 Principal Investigators (PIs) and co-Principal Investigators (co-PIs) who were recipients of DMII research program awards in FY 1989-90 will be asked to provide via e-mail:

(1) A brief one-page narrative regarding the outcomes and impacts of the project;

(2) Citations to 3 to 5 key journal articles, books or patents that resulted from the project, or in which the project played an important role;

(3) the names, addresses and telephone numbers of between 3 and 5 other individuals who are familiar with the work carried out under the project, and who could provide additional insights as to its outcomes and impacts; and

With regard to the narrative materials, the following information will be requested:

(A) Complete project title.

(B) Key project participants and their institutional affiliations.

(C) Time frame during which project was conducted.

(D) Principal outputs or results of the project.

(E) Longer term outcomes and follow-on impacts of the project.

(F) The researcher's best assessment of the impact of this NSF-funded research on the current (1999) state of design and manufacturing technology relevant to the award, including any known commercial implementations.

(G) Any other observations that the researcher wishes to make (e.g., regarding the promotion of a significant discovery, creation of a significant research capability, promotion of new knowledge flowing to society).

The narratives, citations, and names of others knowledgeable about the project may be submitted using the Internet or regular mail.

Technical experts will review and assess the narratives submitted by the awardees, then select a total of examples of awards with outstanding results and awards with limited results. A total of 30 brief case studies will be prepared by the contractor—15 about awards with outstanding results and 15 about awards with limited results—in order to understand better what occurred and factors contributing to or limiting impacts.

DMII has contracted with Abt Associates, Inc. of Cambridge, Massachusetts, to conduct the study and prepare reports following the methodology they used in the pilot project.

Use of Information: The information collected will be used to assist DMII in the evaluation of these programs, and in considering various programs priorities

and selection procedures for future projects in this area. NSF also will use the results to satisfy requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA).

Confidentiality: No sensitive information is being requested in the collection.

Estimate of Burden: The Foundation estimates that, on average, two hours will be required to prepare the narratives, or a total of 500 hours for all 250 PIs and co-PIs. In addition, it anticipates 4 hours of interviews of an average of four people for each of 30 case studies, or 120 hours. Thus, total burden is estimated at 620 hours.

Respondents: Individuals.

Estimated Number of Responses: 370.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 620 hours.

Frequency of Responses: Once.

Comments

Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; 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.

Dated: September 20, 1999.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-24892 Filed 9-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Design, Manufacturing, and Industrial Innovation, Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Design, Manufacture and Industrial Innovation (1194).

Date & Time: October 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 18, 19, and 22, 1999. 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Place: Rooms 340, 360, 375 and 390, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Joseph Hennessey, Program Manager, Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Programs, Room 590, Division of Design, Manufacture and Industrial Innovation, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, VA 22230, Telephone (703) 306-1395, x 5283.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate proposals submitted to the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: September 21, 1999.

Karen J. York,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-25005 Filed 9-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Duke Energy Corporation; (McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2); Exemption

[Docket Nos. 50-369 and 50-370]

I

Duke Energy Corporation et al. (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-9 and NPF-17, for the McGuire Nuclear Station (MNS), Units 1 and 2. The licenses provide, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

These facilities consist of two pressurized water reactors located at the licensee's site in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

II

Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) part 50, appendix A, specifies general design criteria for nuclear power plants. General Design Criterion (GDC) 57, regarding closed system isolation valves, states:

Each line that penetrates primary reactor containment and is neither part of the reactor coolant pressure boundary nor connected directly to the containment atmosphere shall have at least one containment isolation valve which shall be either automatic, or locked closed, or capable of remote manual operation. This valve shall be outside

containment and located as close to the containment as practical. A simple check valve may not be used as the automatic isolation valve.

The Commission may grant an exemption from the requirements of the regulations pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12 if the exemption is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security. The Commission will not consider granting an exemption unless special circumstances are present. Special circumstances are considered to be present under 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2) where application of the regulation in the particular circumstances conflicts with other rules or requirements of the Commission or where application of the regulation would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule.

III

By letter dated April 20, 1999, the licensee requested an exemption from GDC-57 for Containment Penetrations M261 and M393, which are main steam penetrations. These lines penetrate the containment and are not part of the reactor coolant pressure boundary, nor are they connected directly to the containment atmosphere. Outside of the containment, these lines branch into various separate, individual lines before reaching the respective main steam isolation valves. From each of these main steam lines, one branch supplies main steam to the turbine-driven auxiliary feedwater (TDCA, using the licensee's abbreviation) pump.

Valves SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78 are manual gate valves located in the Interior Doghouse immediately downstream of the respective main steam piping, in the branch lines that supply main steam to the TDCA. These valves are locked open and can only be operated by local manual operation. These valves are required to be open by the Technical Specifications (TS) in order to supply steam to the TDCA, which is part of the engineered safety features. From a probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) perspective, the TDCA is one of the most risk-significant safety system components. Adding motor operators to valves SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78, so that they become automatic or capable of remote operation (i.e., meeting GDC-57) would degrade the reliability of the TDCA to mitigate an accident because the motor operators would introduce a new failure mode. Keeping SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78 closed (i.e., meeting GDC-57)