

It is imperative that the meeting be held on this date to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participant.

Michael F. O'Brien,

Assistant Administrator for External Relations, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

[FR Doc. 04-842 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice (04-004)]

Notice of Prospective Patent License

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Notice of prospective patent license.

SUMMARY: NASA hereby gives notice that Bigelow Development Aerospace Division, LLC, having offices in Las Vegas, Nevada, has applied for an exclusive license to practice the inventions described and claimed in Patent No. 5,610,363 entitled "Enhanced Whipple Shield"; Patent No. 6,647,855 entitled "Method for Deploying a Hypervelocity Shield"; pending U.S. patent application entitled "Flexible Multi-Shock Shielding," Case No. MSC-23314-1; and pending U.S. patent application entitled "Shielding Apparatus and Method of Use," Case No. MSC-22330-1. Each of the above-listed patents and patent applications are assigned to the United States of America as represented by the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Written objections to the prospective grant of a license should be sent to the Johnson Space Center. NASA has not yet made a determination to grant the requested license and may deny the requested license even if no objections are submitted within the comment period.

DATE(S): Responses to this notice must be received by January 30, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Cate, Patent Attorney, NASA Johnson Space Center, Mail Stop HA, Houston, TX 77058-8452; telephone (281) 483-1001.

Dated: January 8, 2004.

Robert M. Stephens,

Deputy General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 04-840 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice 04-005]

Notice of Prospective Patent License

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Notice of prospective patent license.

SUMMARY: NASA hereby gives notice that Every Little Bit, Incorporated, of 1611 South Utica #316, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74104, has applied for an exclusive license to practice the invention disclosed in NASA Case No. LAR 16324-1 entitled "Self-Activating System and Method for Alerting When an Object or a Person Is Left Unattended," for which a U.S. Patent Application was filed and assigned to the United States of America as represented by the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Written objections to the prospective grant of a license should be sent to NASA Langley Research Center. NASA has not yet made a determination to grant the requested license and may deny the requested license even if no objections are submitted within the comment period.

DATE(S): Responses to this notice must be received by January 30, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kurt G. Hammerle, Patent Attorney, Mail Stop 212, NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA 23681-2199. Telephone (757) 864-2470; Fax (757) 864-9190.

Dated: January 8, 2004.

Robert M. Stephens,

Deputy General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 04-839 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice 04-003]

Notice of Prospective Patent License

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

ACTION: Notice of prospective patent license.

SUMMARY: NASA hereby gives notice that Nivis LLC has applied for an exclusive patent license to practice the invention described and claimed in KSC-12386 entitled "Wireless Instrumentation System and Power Management Scheme Therefore," which is assigned to the United States of America as represented by the

Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Written objections to the prospective grant of a license should be sent to Randall M. Heald, Assistant Chief Counsel/Patent Counsel, and John F. Kennedy Space Center.

DATE(S): Responses to this Notice must be received by January 15, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Randall M. Heald, Assistant Chief Counsel/Patent Counsel, John F. Kennedy Space Center, Mail Code: CC-A, Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899, telephone (321) 8677214.

Dated: January 8, 2004.

Robert M. Stephens,

Deputy General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 04-841 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

ACTION: Notice of pending NRC action to submit an information collection request to OMB and solicitation of public comment.

SUMMARY: The NRC is preparing a submittal to OMB for review of continued approval of information collections under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Information pertaining to the requirement to be submitted:

1. *The title of the information collection:* State Agreements Program, as authorized by Section 274(b) of the Atomic Energy Act.

2. *Current OMB approval number:* 3150-0029.

3. *How often the collection is required:* One time or as needed.

4. *Who is required or asked to report:* Thirty-three Agreement States whose governors have signed Section 274(b) Agreements with NRC.

5. *The number of annual respondents:* 33.

6. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 1,035 (7.5 hours per response).

7. *Abstract:* Agreement States are asked on a one-time or as-needed basis, e.g., to respond to a specific incident, to gather information on licensing and inspection practices and other technical statistical information. The results of such information requests, which are

authorized under Section 274(b) of the Atomic Energy Act, are utilized in part by NRC in preparing responses to Congressional inquiries. Agreement State comments are also solicited in the areas of proposed procedure and policy development.

Submit, by March 15, 2004, comments that address the following questions:

1. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the NRC to properly perform its functions? Does the information have practical utility?
2. Is the burden estimate accurate?
3. Is there a way to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?
4. How can the burden of the information collection be minimized, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

A copy of the draft supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Room O-1 F21, Rockville, Maryland 20852. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide Web site <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/doc-comment/omb/index.html>. The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the NRC Clearance Officer, Brenda Jo Shelton, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, T-5 F52, Washington, DC 20555-0001, by telephone at (301) 415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail to INFOCOLLECTS@NRC.GOV.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of January 2004.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-868 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

Required Interest Rate Assumption for Determining Variable-Rate Premium; Interest on Late Premium Payments; Interest on Underpayments and Overpayments of Single-Employer Plan Termination Liability and Multiemployer Withdrawal Liability; Interest Assumptions for Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of interest rates and assumptions.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the interest rates and assumptions to be used under certain Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation regulations. These rates and assumptions are published elsewhere (or can be derived from rates published elsewhere), but are collected and published in this notice for the convenience of the public. Interest rates are also published on the PBGC's Web site (<http://www.pbgc.gov>).

The PBGC notes that the provisions of the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002 that temporarily increased the required interest rate to be used to determine the PBGC's variable-rate premium to 100% (from 85%) of the annual yield on 30-year Treasury securities expired at the end of 2003. Thus, the required interest rate announced in this notice for plan years beginning in January 2004 has been determined under prior law, and represents a significant decrease from the rate for plan years beginning in December 2003. Legislation has been proposed that would further change the rules for determining the required interest rate. If such legislation is adopted, and the change affects the required interest rate for plan years beginning in January 2004, the PBGC will promptly publish a **Federal Register** notice with the new required interest rate and post the change on the PBGC's Web site.

DATES: The required interest rate for determining the variable-rate premium under part 4006 applies to premium payment years beginning in January 2004. The interest assumptions for performing multiemployer plan valuations following mass withdrawal under part 4281 apply to valuation dates occurring in February 2004. The interest rates for late premium payments under part 4007 and for underpayments and overpayments of single-employer plan termination liability under part 4062 and multiemployer withdrawal liability

under part 4219 apply to interest accruing during the first quarter (January through March) of 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Harold J. Ashner, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202-326-4024. (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Variable-Rate Premiums

Section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(II) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and § 4006.4(b)(1) of the PBGC's regulation on Premium Rates (29 CFR part 4006) prescribe use of an assumed interest rate (the "required interest rate") in determining a single-employer plan's variable-rate premium. The required interest rate is the "applicable percentage" (currently 85 percent) of the annual yield on 30-year Treasury securities for the month preceding the beginning of the plan year for which premiums are being paid (the "premium payment year"). (Although the Treasury Department has ceased issuing 30-year securities, the Internal Revenue Service announces a surrogate yield figure each month—based on the 30-year Treasury bond maturing in February 2031—which the PBGC uses to determine the required interest rate.) The required interest rate to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning in January 2004 is 4.31 percent (*i.e.*, 85 percent of the 5.07 percent yield figure for December 2003).

The PBGC notes that the provisions of the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002 that temporarily increased the required interest rate to be used to determine the PBGC's variable-rate premium to 100% (from 85%) of the annual yield on 30-year Treasury securities expired at the end of 2003. Thus, the required interest rate announced in this notice for plan years beginning in January 2004 has been determined under prior law, and represents a significant decrease from the rate for plan years beginning in December 2003. Legislation has been proposed that would further change the rules for determining the required interest rate. If such legislation is adopted, and the change affects the required interest rate for plan years beginning in January 2004, the PBGC will promptly publish a **Federal Register** notice with the new required interest rate and post the change on the PBGC's Web site.