

- Discussion of FY 2007 Budget Submission to OMB
- Recommendations for FY 2007 Budget Submission

Plenary Session of the Board (12:30 p.m.–1 p.m.)

Executive Closed Session (12:30 p.m.–12:45 p.m.) Room 1235

- Approval of Executive Closed

Minutes

Closed Session (12:45 p.m.–1 p.m.) Room 1235

- Approval of Closed Session

Minutes

- Awards and Agreements

- Closed Committee Reports

Open Session (1 p.m.–3:30 p.m.)

Room 1235

- Approval of Minutes
- Resolution to Close September 2005
- Chairman's Report
- Director's Report
- Committee Reports
- Report of *ad hoc* Vision Task Group

Michael P. Crosby,

Executive Officer and NSB Office Director.

[FR Doc. 05–15248 Filed 7–28–05; 3:12 pm]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

National Science Board; Workshop on Understanding Transformative Research Programs at the National Science Foundation; Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE AND TIME: August 12, 2005, 8:30 a.m.–5:15 p.m. (ET).

PLACE: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Rooms 1235, 375 and 320, Arlington, VA 22230.

PUBLIC MEETING ATTENDANCE: All visitors must report to the NSF's visitor's desk at the 9th and N. Stuart Streets entrance to receive a visitor's badge.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Please refer to the National Science Board Web site (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb>) for updated Agenda. NSB Office: (703) 292–7000.

STATUS: This Workshop will be open to the public.

Provisional Workshop Agenda

Room 1235

8:30 a.m.–8:50 a.m.—Introduction and Overview.

8:50 a.m.–9 a.m.—Welcoming Remarks.

9 a.m.–10 a.m.—Topic I: Exemplar Transformative Research Funded by NSF.

10:15 a.m.–11:15 a.m.—Topic II: NSF Culture and Effect on Funding Potentially Transformative Research.

11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.—Topic III: NSF Mechanisms and Procedures for Supporting Potentially Transformative Research.

Rooms 375 and 320

12:30 p.m.–1:45 p.m.—Breakout Session I: Enhancing the Ability of NSF To Identify and Nurture Potentially Transformative Research.

- Role of Program Officers
- Role of Committees of Visitors
- Role of Advisory Committees

2 p.m.–3:15 p.m.—Breakout Session II: Improving NSF's Ability To Fund Potentially Transformative Research.

- Community Awareness
- Inhibitors for Current Mechanisms
- New Mechanisms

Room 1235

3:30 p.m.–5 p.m.—Plenary Meeting for Breakout Sessions I and II.

5 p.m.–5:15 p.m.—Summaries of Discussions and Next Steps for the NSB Task Force on Transformative Research.

Michael P. Crosby,

Executive Officer and NSB Office Director.

[FR Doc. 05–15249 Filed 7–28–05; 3:13 pm]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–313]

Entergy Operations, Inc., Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1; Exemption

1.0 Background

Entergy Operations, Inc. (licensee) is the holder of Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR–51 which authorizes operation of the Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO–1) nuclear power plant. The license provides, among other things, that the facility is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

The facility consists of a pressurized water reactor located in Pope County, Arkansas.

2.0 Request/Action

Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) 50.46, “Acceptance criteria for emergency core cooling systems for light-water nuclear power reactors,” requires, among other items, that “[e]ach boiling or pressurized light-water nuclear power reactor fueled with uranium oxide pellets within cylindrical zircaloy or ZIRLO cladding must be provided with an emergency core cooling system

(ECCS) that must be designed so that its calculated cooling performance following postulated loss-of-coolant accidents [(LOCAs)] conforms to the criteria set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.” Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50, “ECCS Evaluation Models,” requires, among other items, that the rate of energy release, hydrogen generation, and cladding oxidation from the metal/water reaction shall be calculated using the Baker-Just equation. The regulations at 10 CFR 50.46 and 10 CFR part 50, appendix K make no provisions for use of fuel rods clad in a material other than zircaloy or ZIRLO. Since the chemical composition of the M5 alloy differs from the specifications for zircaloy or ZIRLO, a plant-specific exemption is required to allow the use of the M5 alloy as a cladding material at ANO–1. Therefore, by letter dated September 30, 2004, the licensee requested the use of the M5 advanced alloy for fuel rod cladding at ANO–1.

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 when (1) 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.

Authorized by Law

This exemption results in changes to the operation of the plant by allowing the use of the M5 alloy as fuel cladding material in lieu of zircaloy or ZIRLO. As stated above, 10 CFR 50.12 allows the NRC to grant exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50. In addition, the granting of the licensee's exemption request will not result in a violation of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or the Commission's regulations. Therefore, the exemption is authorized by law.

No Undue Risk to Public Health and Safety

The underlying purposes of 10 CFR 50.46 and 10 CFR part 50, appendix K, are to ensure that facilities have adequate acceptance criteria for the ECCS, and to ensure that cladding oxidation and hydrogen generation are appropriately limited during a LOCA and conservatively accounted for in the ECCS evaluation model, respectively. Topical Report (TR) BAW–10227P, “Evaluation of Advanced Cladding and Structural Material (M5) in PWR [pressurized-water reactor] Reactor