

alternative method is implemented. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the existing standard.

3. AMFIRE Mining Company, LLC

[Docket No. M-2005-075-C]

AMFIRE Mining Company, LLC, P.O. Box 157, Clymer, Pennsylvania 15728 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1710-1 (Canopies or cabs; self-propelled diesel-powered and electric face equipment; installation requirements) to its Nolo Mine (MSHA I.D. No. 36-08850) located in Indiana County, Pennsylvania. The petitioner proposes to operate self-propelled electric face equipment without cabs and canopies in coal seams of 48" or less. The petitioner asserts that using cabs and canopies on the equipment in areas of 48' or less results in a diminution of safety causing the roof support to be dislodged. In addition, the operator's visibility is decreased which poses a hazardous situation to persons traveling on foot. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the existing standard.

Request for Comments

Persons interested in these petitions are encouraged to submit comments via e-mail: zzMSHA-Comments@dol.gov; Fax: (202) 693-9441; or Regular Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier: Mine Safety and Health Administration, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Room 2350, Arlington, Virginia 22209. All comments must be postmarked or received in that office on or before December 30, 2005. Copies of these petitions are available for inspection at that address.

Dated at Arlington, Virginia this 23rd day of November 2005.

Rebecca J. Smith,

Acting Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances.

[FR Doc. E5-6705 Filed 11-29-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-43-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541)

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of Permit Modification Received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Pub. L. 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of requests to modify permits issued to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of a requested permit modification.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by December 30, 2005. Permit applications may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 292-7405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), 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 requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

Description of Permit Modification Requested: The Foundation issued a permit (2004-009) to Dr. Robert L. Pitman on January 15, 2004. The issued permit allows the applicant to collect biopsy samples of up to 200 Killer whales and skin and tissue samples from approximately 10 Minke and 4 Arnoux's Beaked whales.

The applicant requests a modification to his permit to attach satellite tags on approximately 20 Killer whales to monitor their distribution. The tabs will be embedded at the base of the dorsal fin until such time the tissue rejects it and the tag falls off.

Location: Antarctic waters.

Dates: December 15, 2005 to March 31, 2006.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 05-23500 Filed 11-29-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Federal Register Notice

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATE: Weeks of November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 26, 2005, January 2, 2006.

PLACE: Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of November 28, 2005

Tuesday, November 29, 2005

9:30 a.m. Discussion of Management Issues (Closed—Ex. 2).

Wednesday, November 30, 2005

9:25 a.m. Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (Tentative). a. Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Early Site Permit for Clinton Site) (Tentative).

9:30 a.m. Briefing on EEO Program (Public Meeting). (Contact: Corenthis Kelley, 301-415-7380).

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>

Week of December 5, 2005—Tentative

Thursday, December 8, 2005

1 p.m. Meeting with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS). (Contact: John Larkins, 301-415-7360).

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>

Week of December 12, 2005—Tentative

Monday, December 12, 2005

9 a.m. Discussion of Security Issues (Closed—Ex. 1).

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

1:30 p.m. Discussion of Security Issues (Closed—Ex. 1).

Thursday, December 15, 2005

1:30 p.m. Briefing on Threat Environment Assessment (Closed—Ex. 1).

Week of December 19, 2005—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of December 19, 2005.

Week of December 26, 2005—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of December 26, 2005.

Week of January 2, 2006—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of January 2, 2006.

*The schedule for commission meetings is subject to change on short

notice. To verify the status of meetings call (recording)—(301) 415-1292. Contact person for more information: Michelle Schroll, (301) 415-1662.

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The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/what-we-do/policy-making/schedule.html>

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The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these public meetings, or need this meeting notice or the transcript or other information from the public meetings in another format (e.g., braille, large print), please notify the NRC's Disability Program Coordinator, August Spector, at 301-415-7080, TDD: 301-415-2100, or by e-mail at aks@nrc.gov. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

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This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555 (301-415-1969). In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to dkw@nrc.gov.

Dated: November 23, 2005.

R. Michelle Schroll,

Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 05-23518 Filed 11-28-05; 10:15 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

State of Minnesota: NRC Draft Staff Assessment of a Proposed Agreement Between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the State of Minnesota

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of a Proposed Agreement with the State of Minnesota.

SUMMARY: By letter dated July 6, 2004, Governor Tim Pawlenty of Minnesota requested that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) enter into an Agreement with the State as authorized by Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (Act).

Under the proposed Agreement, the Commission would discontinue, and

Minnesota would assume, portions of the Commission's regulatory authority exercised within the State. As required by the Act, NRC is publishing the proposed Agreement for public comment. NRC is also publishing the summary of a Draft Staff Assessment of the Minnesota Program. Comments are requested on the proposed Agreement and the NRC Draft Staff Assessment which finds the Program adequate to protect public health and safety and compatible with NRC's program for regulation of agreement material.

The proposed Agreement would release (exempt) persons who possess or use certain radioactive materials in Minnesota from portions of the Commission's regulatory authority. The Act requires that NRC publish those exemptions. Notice is hereby given that the pertinent exemptions have been previously published in the **Federal Register** and are codified in the Commission's regulations as 10 CFR part 150.

DATES: The comment period expires December 9, 2005. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission cannot assure consideration of comments received after the expiration date.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be submitted to Mr. Michael T. Lesar, Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Comments may be submitted electronically at nrcprep@nrc.gov.

The NRC maintains an Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. The documents may be accessed through the NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at (800) 397-4209, or (301) 415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Copies of comments received by NRC may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Public File Area O-1-F21, Rockville, Maryland. Copies of the request for an Agreement by the Governor of Minnesota including all information and documentation submitted in support of the request, and copies of the full text of the NRC Draft Staff Assessment are also available for public inspection in the NRC's Public

Document Room—ADAMS Accession Numbers: ML041960496, ML041960499, ML052440344, ML050130375, ML050140452, ML051330043, ML051740384, ML051650073, ML052200424, and ML053060372.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cardelia Maupin, Office of State and Tribal Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Telephone (301) 415-3340 or e-mail CHM1@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Since section 274 of the Act was added in 1959, the Commission has entered into Agreements with 33 States. The Agreement States currently regulate approximately 17,200 agreement material licenses, while NRC regulates approximately 4,700 licenses. Under the proposed Agreement, approximately 167 NRC licenses will transfer to Minnesota. NRC periodically reviews the performance of the Agreement States to assure compliance with the provisions of section 274.

Section 274e requires that the terms of the proposed Agreement be published in the **Federal Register** for public comment once each week for four consecutive weeks. This Notice is being published in fulfillment of the requirement.

I. Background

(a) Section 274d of the Act provides the mechanism for a State to assume regulatory authority, from the NRC, over certain radioactive materials¹ and activities that involve use of the materials.

In a letter dated July 6, 2004, Governor Pawlenty certified that the State of Minnesota has a program for the control of radiation hazards that is adequate to protect public health and safety within Minnesota for the materials and activities specified in the proposed Agreement, and that the State desires to assume regulatory responsibility for these materials and activities. Included with the letter was the text of the proposed Agreement, which is shown in Appendix A to this Notice.

The radioactive materials and activities (which together are usually referred to as the "categories of materials") which the State of Minnesota requests authority over are: (1) The possession and use of byproduct materials as defined in section 11e.(1) of

¹ The radioactive materials are: (a) byproduct materials as defined in section 11e.(1) of the Act; (b) byproduct materials as defined in section 11e.(2) of the Act; (c) source materials as defined in section 11z. of the Act; and (d) special nuclear materials as defined in section 11aa. of the Act, restricted to quantities not sufficient to form a critical mass.