

depolarization of the probe. An array of probes according to the present invention may be employed as a system to dewater a volume of particulate.

*Serial No.:* 10/421,922.

*Date:* 4/24/2003.

14. *Title:* Devices and Methods for Reducing or Eliminating the Gap Between a Stay Vane and its Corresponding Wicket Gate as Used in Turbines. An improved design for turbines increases efficiency while reducing potential for fish kill. In a preferred embodiment as relates to a Kaplan turbine, the gap between stay vanes and their corresponding wicket gates is reduced or eliminated by provision of an extension to the trailing edge of the stay vane. In alternative embodiments, the extension may be added to the wicket gate or affixed to both in an arrangement that permits free movement of the wicket gate. To facilitate eliminating the gap altogether, the extension may be made of a pliable material or be fabricated in a telescoping or accordion arrangement to permit contact with opposing parts without damage thereto. By designing extensions using accepted hydraulic principles, a better fit of the stay vane to its associated wicket gate, and possibly to the turbines runners may be effected, further improving operational efficiency and possibly even extending maintenance intervals.

*Serial No.:* 60/442,551.

*Date:* 1/27/2003.

**Luz D. Ortiz,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 3710-92-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Navy

#### Notice of Availability of Government-Owned Inventions; Available for Licensing

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, DOD.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The inventions listed below are assigned to the United States Government as represented by the Secretary of the Navy and are available for licensing by the Department of the Navy. U.S. Patent No. 5,690,963: Freeze Dried Red Blood Cells, Navy Case No. 76,391 and U.S. Patent No. 5,736,313: Method of Lyophilizing Platelets by Incubation with High Carbohydrate Concentrations and Supercooling Prior to Freezing, Navy Case No. 76,086.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for copies of the inventions cited should be directed to

the Naval Research Laboratory, Code 1004, 4555 Overlook Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20375-5320, and must include the Navy Case number.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul A. Regeon, Acting Head, Technology Transfer Office, NRL Code 1004, 4555 Overlook Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20375-5320, telephone (202) 767-7230. Due to temporary U.S. Postal Service delays, please fax (202) 404-7920, e-Mail: [regeon@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:regeon@nrl.navy.mil) or use courier delivery to expedite response.

Authority: 35 U.S.C. 207, 37 CFR part 404.)

Dated: September 22, 2003.

**E.F. McDonnell,**

*Major, U.S. Marine Corps, Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-24376 Filed 9-25-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P**

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

### Sunshine Act; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (Board) two meetings described below. The Board will also conduct a series of public hearings pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2286b and invites any interested persons or group to present any comments, technical information, or data concerning safety issues relates to the matters to be considered.

**TIME AND DATE OF MEETING:** 9 a.m., October 21, 2003, and 9 a.m., October 23, 2003.

**PLACE:** Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, Public Hearing Room, 625 Indiana Avenue, NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20004-2001.

Additionally, as a part of the Board's E-Government initiative, the meetings will be presented live throughout Internet video streaming. A link to these presentations will be available on the Board's Web site (<http://ww.dnfsb.gov>).

**STATUS:** Open. While the Government in the Sunshine Act does not require that the scheduled discussions be conducted in a meeting, the Board has determined that open meetings in this specific case further the public interests underlying both the Sunshine Act and the Board's enabling legislation.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** The Board has been reviewing the Department of Energy's (DOE) current oversight and management of the contracts and contractors it relies upon to accomplish the mission assigned to DOE under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

We will focus on what impact, if any, DOE's new initiatives may have upon assuring adequate protection of the health and safety of the public and workers at DOE's defense nuclear facilities. The second and third public meetings will collect information needed to understand and address any health or safety concerns that may require Board action. This will include, but is not limited to, presentations by DOE and the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) to explain their contract management and oversight initiatives, presentations by Federal and industry experts in Federal contracting for essential and high risk government services; and possibly further presentations by Board staff.

The Board has identified several key areas that will be better examined in public meetings. For example, during the October 21st meeting, DOE and NNSA will discuss their new approaches which increase DOE's and NNSA's reliance upon contractor self-assessment programs while decreasing Federal oversight. During the October 23rd meeting, the Board will hear from representatives from the aerospace industry. The information gathered at that time will explore Federal contract management and oversight experience and will provide relevant reference experience.

In subsequent public meetings, the Board will explore in more depth the field application of Federal management and oversight policies being developed by DOE and NNSA for defense nuclear facilities. The public hearing portions are independently authorized by 42 U.S.C. 2286b.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kenneth M. Pusateri, General Manager, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue, NW., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20004-2901, (800) 788-4016. This is a toll-free number.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Requests to speak at the hearings may be submitted in writing or by telephone. The Board asks that commentators describe the nature and scope of their oral presentation. Those who contact the Board prior to close of business on October 20, 2003, will be scheduled for time slots, beginning at approximately 11:30 a.m., for the October 21st meeting. Those who contact the Board prior to close of business on October 22, 2003, will be scheduled for time slots, beginning at approximately 11:30 a.m., for the October 23rd meeting. The Board will post a schedule for those speakers who have contacted the Board before each hearing. The posting will be made