

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Intent to Seek Approval To Extend and Revise a Current Information Collection

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to request renewal 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 three years.

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be received by March 10, 2009 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) 292–7556; or send e-mail 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.

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.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title of Collection:* Survey of Research and Development Expenditures at Universities and Colleges; OMB Control Number 3145–0100.

Expiration Date of Current Approval: May 31, 2009.

Proposed Renewal Project: Separately budgeted current fund expenditures on research and development in the sciences and engineering performed by universities and colleges and federally funded research and development centers—A web survey, the Survey of Research and Development Expenditures at Universities and Colleges, originated in fiscal year (FY) 1954 and has been conducted annually since FY 1972. The survey is the academic research and development expenditure component of the NSF statistical program that seeks to provide a “central clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, and analysis of data on the availability of, and the current and projected need for, scientific and technical resources in the United States, and to provide a source of information for policy formulation by other agencies of the Federal government,” as mandated in the National Science Foundation Act of 1950.

Use of the Information: The proposed project will continue the annual survey cycle for up to three years. The Academic R&D Survey will be a census of the full population-for FY 2009 an expected 751 institutions (713 universities or colleges plus 38 federally funded research and development centers—FFRDCs). These institutions account for over 95 percent of the Nation’s academic R&D funds. NSF will also conduct a pretest of a revised and expanded version of the survey for planned implementation in FY 2010 with a subset of 40 universities or colleges.

The survey has provided continuity of statistics on R&D expenditures by source of funds and by science & engineering (S&E) field, with separate data requested on current fund expenditures for research equipment by S&E field. Further breakdowns are collected on passed through funds to subrecipients and received as a subrecipient, and on R&D expenditures by field of science and engineering from specific Federal Government agency sources. Information on R&D for non-S&E fields is also requested. Data are published in NSF’s annual publication series *Academic R&D Expenditures* and are available electronically on the World Wide Web.

The survey is a fully automated web data collection effort and is handled primarily by the administrators in university budget and accounting offices. To minimize burden, institutions are provided with an abundance of guidance and help menus on the web, in addition to printing and responding via paper copy if necessary. Each record is pre-loaded with the institution’s 2 previous years data and a complete program for editing and trend checking. Response to this voluntary survey in FY 2007 was 96.9 percent.

BURDEN ESTIMATES ¹

Year	Total number of institutions	Doctorate-granting burden hours	Masters-granting burden hours	Bachelors degree burden hours	FFRDC’s burden hours
FY 1999	480	20.8	13.0	7.5	9.4
FY 2000	700	21.0	12.0	10.5	9.2
FY 2001	625	30.2	11.9	9.0	12.1
FY 2002	625	28.7	14.9	12.2	4.5

¹Average burden hours for institutions responding to burden item.

Dated: January 6, 2009.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 03003754]

Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for License Amendment to Byproduct Materials License No. 06-00217-06, for Amendment of the License and Unrestricted Release of a Portion of the ABB, Inc. Facility in Windsor, CT

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Issuance of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for License Amendment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Schmidt, Health Physicist, Decommissioning Branch, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Region I, 475 Allendale Drive, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406-1415; telephone (610)-337-5276; fax number (610)-337-5269; or by e-mail: jim.schmidt@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering the issuance of a license amendment to Byproduct License No. 06-00217-06. This license is held by ABB, Inc. (the Licensee), for its CE Windsor Site (the Facility), located at 2000 Day Hill Road in Windsor, Connecticut. Issuance of the amendment would authorize a partial site release of 365 contiguous acres of the 612 acre facility for unrestricted use. The Licensee requested this action in a letter dated December 27, 2007. The NRC has prepared an Environmental Assessment in support of this proposed action in accordance with the requirements of Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 51 (10 CFR Part 51). Based on the Environmental Assessment, the NRC has concluded that a Finding of No Significant Impact is appropriate with respect to the proposed action. The amendment will be issued to the Licensee following the publication of this Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment in the **Federal Register**.

II. Environmental Assessment

Identification of Proposed Action

The proposed action would approve the Licensee's December 27, 2007, license amendment request, resulting in the partial site release of 365 contiguous acres of the Windsor, Connecticut facility for unrestricted use. Historical NRC-licensed activities previously conducted at the Facility included research, development, and commercial fuel fabrication and component repair. Additionally, the Facility was also used to fabricate naval fuel for the United States Government. License No. 06-00217-06 was issued in the 1960's pursuant to 10 CFR Part 30 and has been amended periodically since that time. The license currently authorizes the Licensee to possess and use unsealed byproduct material, and limited amounts of source and special nuclear material, solely for purpose of conducting decommissioning activities at the Facility.

The Facility is situated on 612 acres of which about a third is developed with buildings containing office space, fabrication shops, and laboratories. The balance of the Facility is comprised of undeveloped wooded land. The Facility is located in an industrial zone with nearby property that includes commercial, agricultural, industrial, and residential areas. Within the Facility, NRC-licensed material was confined to numerous laboratories and fabrication buildings associated with commercial nuclear activities. All of these buildings have been removed and the impacted areas remediated. Those areas of the facility that were involved with the United States Government fuel fabrication have been designated as Formally Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program areas and have not yet been remediated. The Formally Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program areas within the Facility include two buildings having a total footprint of about 50,000 ft² along with other undeveloped areas having a total footprint of about 15 acres. Also located within the Facility boundary is a 10.6 acre plot of land previously used as a United States Navy training site which was owned by the United States Government and was previously remediated by the United States Department of Energy.

On September 13, 2007, the Licensee completed the licensed decommissioning activities for the non-Formally Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program areas of the Facility and requested that all of these areas be removed from control of NRC License No. 06-00217-06. These activities were conducted in accordance with a

decommissioning plan that was approved for use as part of Amendment 54 to License No. 06-00217-06. The Licensee conducted final status surveys of these areas of the Facility and provided information to the NRC to demonstrate that it meets the criteria in Subpart E to 10 CFR Part 20 for unrestricted release. On December 27, 2007, the Licensee requested that only 365 contiguous acres of the non-Formally Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program areas be considered for unrestricted release in order to provide buffer areas around the Formally Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program areas on the Facility that have yet to be remediated.

Need for the Proposed Action

The Licensee has ceased conducting licensed activities within the areas of the Facility for which the partial site release has been requested and seeks unrestricted use of the area. License No. 06-00217-06 will remain in place for the balance of the Facility to support future Formally Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program decommissioning and eventual site release.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The historical review of licensed activities conducted at the Facility shows that such activities involved primarily uranium-234, uranium-235, uranium-238, cesium-137, and cobalt-60. Prior to performing the final status survey for the areas for which the unrestricted release has been requested, the Licensee conducted decontamination and remediation activities, as necessary, in the areas of the Facility affected by these radionuclides. The Licensee conducted final status surveys between 2005 and 2007. These surveys covered all impacted areas within the requested partial site release portion of the Facility. Notification that decommissioning activities in non-Formally Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program areas of the site were complete was provided in the Licensee's letter dated September 13, 2007. The Licensee elected to demonstrate compliance with the radiological criteria for unrestricted release as specified in 10 CFR Part 20.1402 by developing derived concentration guideline levels for its Facility. The Licensee conducted site-specific dose modeling using input parameters specific to the Facility. This dose modeling used the residential farmer scenario. The Licensee thus determined the maximum amount of residual radioactivity on building surfaces, equipment, materials, and soils