NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Sunshine Act Meetings; National Science Board

The National Science Board, pursuant to NSF regulations (45 CFR part 614), the National Science Foundation Act, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 1862n–5), and the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b), hereby gives notice of the addition of an agenda item in the plenary open session of the National Science Board meetings on May 6, 2016, as shown below. The original notice appeared in the Federal Register on Friday, April 29, 2016 at 81 FR 25721–22.

AMENDED AGENDA:

Plenary Board

Open session: 1:00–2:30 p.m.

• Approval of open plenary minutes for February, 2016
• NSB Chair’s opening remarks
• Introduction of the NSF “LIGO Team”
• NSF Director’s remarks
• Review and approval of annual Executive Committee report
• OIG Semiannual report (ADDED)
• Open committee reports
• Discharge NPP
• Presentations to outgoing Board members
• NSB Chair’s closing remarks

DATES: Please refer to the National Science Board Web site for additional information. Meeting information and schedule updates (time, place, subject matter or status of meeting) may be found at http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/notices.jsp.

AGENCY CONTACT: Ron Campbell, jrccampb@nsf.gov, 703–292–7000.


Suzanne Plimpton,
Management Analyst, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2016–10991 Filed 5–5–16; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Comment Request: National Science Foundation Proposal—Large Facilities Manual

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to request renewed clearance of this collection. In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are providing opportunity for public comment on the NSF Large Facilities Manual (LFM) and the accompanying Large Facilities Financial Data Collection Tool. The primary purpose of this revision is to implement financial management policy and requirements as well as to update and clarify existing content. The draft versions of the NSF LFM and the accompanying Large Facilities Financial Data Collection Tool are available on the NSF Web site at: http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/lfo/lfo_documents.jsp.

To facilitate review, a Change Log with brief comment explanations of the changes is provided in the manual. NSF is particularly interested in public comment on the financial management changes identified in the LFM and on the Large Facilities Financial Data Collection Tool for use in incurred cost reporting. After obtaining and considering public comment, NSF will prepare the submission requesting OMB clearance of this collection for no longer than 3 years.

In addition to the type of comments identified above, comments are also 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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written comments should be received by July 8, 2016 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding the information collection and requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Rm. 1265, Arlington, VA 22230, or by email to splimpto@nsf.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne Plimpton on (703) 292–7556 or send email to splimpto@nsf.gov.

Individuals who use a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including federal holidays).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: “Large Facilities Manual”

OMB Approval Number: 3145–0239.

Expiration Date of Approval: 6/30/2018.

Type of Request: Intent to seek approval to extend with revision an information collection for three years.

Proposed Project: The National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (Pub. L. 81–507) set forth NSF’s mission and purpose: “To promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense.”

The Act authorized and directed NSF to initiate and support:

• Basic scientific research and research fundamental to the engineering process;
• Programs to strengthen scientific and engineering research potential;
• Science and engineering education programs at all levels and in all the various fields of science and engineering;
• Programs that provide a source of information for policy formulation; and
• Other activities to promote these ends.

Among Federal agencies, NSF is a leader in providing the academic community with advanced instrumentation needed to conduct state-of-the-art research and to educate the next generation of scientists, engineers and technical workers. The knowledge generated by these tools sustains U.S. leadership in science and engineering (S&E) to drive the U.S. economy and secure the future. NSF’s responsibility is to ensure that the research and education communities have access to these resources, and to provide the support needed to utilize them optimally, and implement timely upgrades.

The scale of advanced instrumentation ranges from small research instruments to shared resources or facilities that can be used by entire communities. The demand for such instrumentation is very high, and is growing rapidly, along with the pace of discovery. For large facilities and shared infrastructure, the need is particularly high. This trend is expected to accelerate in the future as increasing numbers of researchers and educators rely on such large facilities, instruments, and databases to provide the reach to make the next intellectual leaps.

NSF currently provides support for facility construction from two accounts: