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.

Title of Collection: Developing an Evaluation Framework and Pilot-Testing a Longitudinal Tracking System for REU Site Students.

OMB Number: 3145–NEW.

Expiration Date of Approval: Not applicable.

Abstract

The National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks to develop and pilot test different approaches to collecting data electronically from one cohort of applicants to the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Program and track their program and career outcomes over time. The intent is for the pilot tests to provide information for NSF to select the most effective and least burdensome approach to collect data needed to monitor the Program, report to NSF leadership, and comply with a Congressional requirement.

The REU program was created in 1987 to strengthen the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce. Building on research experiences as ''one of the most effective avenues for attracting students to and retaining them in science and engineering, and for preparing them for careers in these fields,'' the program is designed to foster student research and promote diversity.

The main goal of the current study is to pilot test alternative approaches to collecting data required by Congress in the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010, which states that students in the REU program must ''be tracked, for employment and continued matriculation in STEM fields, through receipt of the undergraduate degree and for at least three years thereafter'' (Section 514[a][6] of Pub. L. 111–358). The legislation also mentions specific demographic characteristics of participants that need to be reported, such as gender, ethnicity, and enrollment in a two-year college. In addition to needing these data to report to Congress, NSF program officers and leadership need a more robust data system to enhance their efforts to monitor participation in the program and eventually to assess its effectiveness.

In addition to designing the system, the present study will pilot test different approaches to collecting data from a sample of REU Sites that volunteer to participate. By participating in this study, these Sites will have the opportunity to experience the data collections first hand and provide feedback that will be used to determine which approach will be the most effective, most efficient, and least burdensome for possible future implementation across all REU Sites.

The pilot includes:

1. Testing a web-based system that includes two approaches to obtain basic student background and participation information:

• *Registration.* The registration will be designed to collect the basic demographic and contact information needed for analysis and tracking purposes. Students will be asked to register at a website through which they will obtain a unique ID. With this unique ID, they will then apply directly to the REU Sites using the existing Site application processes. Staff at REU Sites will use the IDs provided by students to record application decisions and participation status of admitted applicants.

• *Common Application.* The common application will replace existing REU Site applications among participating Sites for the 2019 cycle. It will enable students to apply to multiple Sites through one application. Students will first complete the REU Registration described above, and then proceed to the common application through which they will submit additional information commonly required by Sites as part of their applications, such as transcripts. Staff at REU Sites will use the system to provide information needed by potential applicants, retrieve applicant information, record application decisions and participation status among admitted applicants, and produce reports and run queries of data submitted by applicants to their Sites.

2. Obtaining and integrating educational and employment information. The study will follow the subset of rising seniors who participate in the REU program in 2019 (as seniors are the large majority of participants) to:

• Obtain educational outcomes information from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC).

• Administer a survey to obtain information on employment outcomes (among those not enrolled in graduate school at the time of the survey).

3. Conducting site visits to a few REU Sites participating in the pilot to interview principal investigators and program administrators, and to conduct focus groups with REU students. The site visits will be used to elicit in-depth feedback on the registration and common application systems as well as the tools available for PIs to obtain data and reports through the REU data system.

Estimate of Burden: At present, applications to the REU program are submitted yearly directly to each Site. For those participating in the registration pilot, it is estimated that applicants will spend 2 hours submitting basic information through the REU Data System and then complete the rest of their applications through the individual REU sites. For those participating in the common application pilot, it is estimated that each submission will take, on average, 12 hours. Reference writers are expected to take 0.5 hours to draft a letter in support of students' application to the program. It is estimated that REU Principal Investigators will spend 8.9 hours using the system to track applications.

Respondents: Individuals.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 30,455.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 96,130 hours.

Frequency of Responses: One round of pilot data collection.

Dated: February 9, 2018.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2018–03469 Filed 2–20–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENDA

TIME AND DATE: 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2018

PLACE: NTSB Conference Center, 429 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Washington, DC 20594.

STATUS: The one item is open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

56526 Railroad Accident Brief—Collision of Two Southwestern Railroad Freight Trains, Roswell, New Mexico, April 28, 2015.

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT: Telephone: (202) 314–6100.

The press and public may enter the NTSB Conference Center one hour prior to the meeting for set up and seating.

Individuals requesting specific accommodations should contact Rochelle McCallister at (202) 314–6305 or by email at *Rochelle.McCallister@ntsb.gov* by Wednesday, March 7, 2018. The public may view the meeting via a live or archived webcast by accessing a link under ''News & Events'' on the NTSB home page at *www.ntsb.gov.*

Schedule updates, including weather-related cancellations, are also available at *www.ntsb.gov.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Candi Bing at (202) 314–6403 or by email at *bingc@ntsb.gov.*

FOR MEDIA INFORMATION CONTACT: Terry Williams at (202) 314–6100 or by email at *terry.williams@ntsb.gov.*

Dated: Friday, February 16, 2018.

LaSean McCray,

Assistant Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018–03625 Filed 2–16–18; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 7533–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–390 and 50–391; NRC–2018–0029]

Tennessee Valley Authority; Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: License amendment request; opportunity to comment, request a hearing and petition for leave to intervene.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF–90, issued on February 7, 1996, and NPF–96, issued on October 22, 2015, and held by Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA or the licensee) for the operation of Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Watts Bar or WBN), located in Rhea County, Tennessee. The proposed amendments would revise the Technical Specifications (TSs) related to control and shutdown rods, and rod and bank position indication. The proposed amendments adopt the changes contained in Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) Change Traveler TSTF–547, Revision 1, ''Clarification of Rod Position Requirements,'' with variations as described in the application.

DATES: Submit comments by March 23, 2018. Request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed by April 23, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2018–0029 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to *http://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2018–0029. Address questions about NRC dockets to Jennifer Borges; telephone: 301–415–9127; email: *Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov.* For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the NRC Public Documents collection at *http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.* To begin the search, select ''ADAMS Public Documents'' and then select ''Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.'' For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737, or by email to *pdr.resource@nrc.gov.* The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced in this notice (if that document is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that a document is referenced.
- *NRC's PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1–F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Schaaf, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555; telephone: 301–415–6020; email: *Robert.Schaaf@nrc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments

A. Obtaining Information

Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2018–0029 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this action by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to *http://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2018–0029.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at *http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.* To begin the search, select ''*ADAMS Public Documents*'' and then select ''*Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.*'' For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737, or by email to *pdr.resource@nrc.gov.* The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document. The application for amendment, dated November 23, 2016, as supplemented by letters dated September 29, November 16, and December 27, 2017, are available in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML16335A179, ML17272A955, ML17321A033, and ML17362A052, respectively.
- *NRC's PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1–F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

B. Submitting Comments

Please include Docket ID NRC–2018–0029 in your comment submission. The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC will post all comment submissions at *http://www.regulations.gov* as well as enter the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submissions. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comments into ADAMS.

II. Introduction

The NRC is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF–90 and NPF–96, issued to TVA for operation of the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, located in Rhea County, Tennessee.

The proposed amendments would revise the TSs related to control and shutdown rods, and rod and bank position indication. The proposed amendments adopt the changes contained in TSTF–547, Revision 1, with variations as described in the application. The variations include several changes to make the TSs consistent with NUREG–1431, Revision 4, ''Standard Technical Specifications—Westinghouse Plants,'' that are not identified as changes in TSTF–547, Revision 1. Before issuance of the proposed license amendments, the NRC will make the findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the NRC's regulations.

The NRC has made a proposed determination that the license