

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by November 10, 2014. Permit applications may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Li Ling Hamady, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address or [ACApermits@nsf.gov](mailto:ACApermits@nsf.gov) or (703) 292-7149.

**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 as 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 (ACA 2014-006) to Eric Stangeland of Quark Expeditions on September 18, 2013. The issued permit allows the applicant to conduct waste management activities associated with tourism activities including shore excursions, kayaking, camping, cross country skiing, ice climbing and mountaineering in the Antarctic Peninsula region. Mitigation measures are in place to reduce the risk of non-native species introductions and the risk of spills.

A recent modification to this permit, dated February 13, 2014, permitted the applicant to allow for the conduct of waste management activities associated with conducting ice swimming and remote controlled camera copter activities.

Now the applicant proposes a modification to his permit to allow for the conduct of waste management activities associated with downhill skiing, polar plunging, and stand up paddleboarding (SUPing).

The SUPing activity would consist of up to 10 passengers per excursion. Quark staff would maintain a watch for leopard seals and killer whales and abort the activity if these animals are sighted. SUPers would be accompanied by 2 Quark staff, one on a SUP and one in a zodiac in case of emergency. Mitigation measures would be in place

to reduce the risk of non-native species introductions and the risk of spills ashore.

The polar plunge activity would consist of participants entering the water wearing a bathing suit, for about 5-15 seconds. This activity would take place either away from land, with passengers wearing a safety belt, tethered to the ship, or from a beach landing. A safety zodiac with at least two staff members will be deployed and staff would maintain a watch for leopard seals and killer whales and abort the activity if these animals are sighted. If the activity requires a beach landing, mitigation measures would be in place to reduce the risk of non-native species introductions and the risk of spills ashore.

The downhill ski activity is the same as was described for the one-off activity detailed in the applicant's original permit application. The applicant wishes to carry out this activity again this season, and in future seasons depending on passenger demand.

Location: Antarctic Peninsula Region.

**DATES:** (that the mod would be valid) November 1, 2014 to March 31, 2017.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Polar Coordination Specialist, Division of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2014-24109 Filed 10-8-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Engineering Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

*Name:* Engineering Advisory Committee Meeting #1170.

*Date/Time:* October 22, 2014: 12:15 p.m. to 6 p.m. October 23, 2014: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

*Place:* National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1235, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

*Type of Meeting:* OPEN.

*Contact Person:* Evette Rollins, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 505, Arlington, VA 22230; Telephone 703-292-8300.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice, recommendations and counsel on major goals and policies pertaining to engineering programs and activities.

*Agenda:*

*Wednesday, October 22, 2014*

- The Federal Advanced Manufacturing Landscape
- The Future of Advanced Manufacturing
- Directorate for Engineering Update

- OSTP Perspective on Engineering at NSF *Thursday, October 23, 2014*
- Perspectives from the Office of the Director
- Planning for ENG AdCom Subcommittee Work
- Overview, Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems (CBET)
- Roundtable on ENG Strategic Activities and Recommendations

Dated: October 6, 2014.

**Suzanne Plimpton,**

*Acting Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2014-24139 Filed 10-8-14; 8:45 am]

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Request for Input (RFI)—National Big Data R&D Initiative; Correction

**AGENCY:** The National Coordination Office (NCO) for Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD), NSF.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Wendy Wigen at 703-292-4873 or [wigen@nitrd.gov](mailto:wigen@nitrd.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.

**DATES:** To be considered, written comments must be received by November 14, 2014.

**SUMMARY:** This is a correction to the previous submission published on October 2, 2014, at 79 FR 59520. The changes are limited to the insertion of links to various documents referenced within this notice. For additional information and supporting information please see the NITRD Web site, [www.nitrd.gov](http://www.nitrd.gov). This request encourages feedback from multiple big data stakeholders to inform the development of a framework, set of priorities, and ultimately a strategic plan for the National Big Data R&D Initiative. A number of areas of interest have been identified by agency representatives in the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) Big Data Senior Steering Group (BDSSG) as well as the many members of the big data R&D community that have participated in BDSSG events and workshops over the past several years. This RFI is a critical step in developing a cross-agency strategic plan that has broad community input and that can be referenced by all Federal agencies as they move forward over the next five to ten years with their own big data R&D programs, policies, partnerships, and activities.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Overview:* This RFI is issued under the National Big Data R&D Initiative. The NITRD BDSSG is inviting broad community input as it develops a National Big Data R&D Strategic Plan that can be referenced by participating agencies as they conceive and deploy their own big data programs, policies, and activities.

*Background:* The BDSSG was initially formed to identify big data R&D activities across the Federal Government, offer opportunities for agency coordination, and jointly develop strategies for a national initiative. The National Big Data R&D Initiative was launched in March 2012.

Since the launch, the BDSSG has held numerous meetings and workshops, including a major showcase event of dozens of partnerships that will help advance the frontiers of big data R&D across the country. Many participating federal agencies have already established new big data programs, policies and activities and plan to do more in the future. Currently, the BDSSG is drafting a framework and establishing a set of priority goals for a National Big Data R&D Strategic Plan.

*Objective:* The major goal of this RFI is to gather information from multiple sectors to inform the development of an effective National Big Data R&D Strategic Plan. After the submission period ends and the feedback is analyzed, a workshop will be held to further discuss and develop the input received.

*What We Are Looking For:* As a big data stakeholder, we would like to (1) understand your particular role and point of view in the big data innovation ecosystem, and (2) using the draft, The National Big Data R&D Initiative: Vision and Areas of Interest ([http://www.nitrd.gov/nitrdgroups/images/0/09/Federal\\_BD\\_R%26D\\_Thrusts\\_and\\_Priority\\_Themes.pdf](http://www.nitrd.gov/nitrdgroups/images/0/09/Federal_BD_R%26D_Thrusts_and_Priority_Themes.pdf)), as the basis, encourage you to provide comments and suggestions for how we might best develop an overarching, comprehensive framework to support national-scale big data science and engineering research and education, discoveries and innovation. Please include a description of the areas of critical investment (either within or across agencies), both currently and within a five to ten year horizon. Collectively, your comments could focus on one or more agencies, the set of NITRD agencies as a whole, or the national effort. Please keep in mind that the focus is on high level strategies for how agencies can leverage their collective investments. It will not focus on individual agency plans and will not contain an implementation plan. We are

interested in all points of view on the activities that can best support research, development, and innovation in Big Data. However, we are not interested in specific research proposals or vendor offerings. While the NITRD agencies would welcome input on policies that are directly relevant to big data R&D, those policies that are more appropriately determined by the Administration or Congress (or both) are not relevant to this exercise.

*Who Can Participate:* This RFI is open to all. We especially encourage public and private sector organizations (e.g., universities, government laboratories, companies, non-profits) with big data interests to submit their ideas. Participants must also be willing to have their ideas posted for discussion on a public Web site and included with possible attribution in the plan.

*Submission Format:* All responses must be no more than two (2) pages long (12 pt. font, 1" margins) and include:

- Who you are—name, credentials, organization
- Your contact information
- Your experience working with big data and your role in the big data innovation ecosystem
- Comments and suggestions based on reading the initial framework, The National Big Data R&D Initiative: Vision and Priority Actions [http://www.nitrd.gov/nitrdgroups/images/0/09/Federal\\_BD\\_R%26D\\_Thrusts\\_and\\_Priority\\_Themes.pdf](http://www.nitrd.gov/nitrdgroups/images/0/09/Federal_BD_R%26D_Thrusts_and_Priority_Themes.pdf), and guided by the following questions:
  - What are the gaps that are not addressed in the Visions and Priority Actions document?
    - From an interagency perspective, what do you think are the most high impact ideas at the frontiers of big data research and development?
    - What new research, education, and/or infrastructure investments do you think will be game-changing for the big data innovation ecosystem?
    - How can the federal government most effectively enable new partnerships, particularly those that cross sectors or domains?
- A short explanation of why you feel your contribution/ideas should be included in the strategic plan
- Examples, where appropriate

In accordance with FAR 15.202(3), responses to this notice are not offers and cannot be accepted by the Government to form a binding contract. Responders are solely responsible for all expenses associated with responding to this RFI, including any subsequent requests for proposals.

Submitted by the National Science Foundation for the National

Coordination Office (NCO) for Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) on October 6, 2014.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. 2014–24137 Filed 10–8–14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555–01–P**

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. NRC–2014–0214]

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of pending NRC action to submit an information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and solicitation of public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) invites public comment about our intention to request the OMB's approval for renewal of an existing information collection that is summarized below. We are required to publish this notice in the **Federal Register** under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Information pertaining to the requirement to be submitted:

1. *The title of the information collection:* NRC Form 396, "Certification of Medical Examination by Facility Licensee."

2. *Current OMB approval number:* 3150–0024.

3. *How often the collection is required:* Upon application for an initial or upgrade license; every 6 years for the renewal of an operator or senior operator license, and notices of disability that occur during licensed tenure.

4. *Who is required or asked to report:* Facility licensees who are tasked with certifying the medical fitness of applicants and operator licensees.

5. *The number of annual respondents:* 131.

6. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 1,968 hours (1,668 Reporting Hours and 300 Recordkeeping Hours.)

7. *Abstract:* NRC Form 396 is used to transmit information to the NRC regarding the medical condition of applicants for initial operator licenses or renewal of operator licenses and for the maintenance of medical records for all