

support cutting-edge science and education.

NSF remains deeply concerned about the impacts from recent hurricanes on Arecibo Observatory staff, the facility, and all citizens of Puerto Rico. The ROD arrives at a challenging time, but is necessary for the agency to secure a future for the Observatory, as it will allow negotiations to begin with potential collaborators who may take over management and operations as NSF funding is reduced.

Prior to issuance of the ROD, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) was prepared in compliance with the Federal National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.* (NEPA), dated July 27, 2017, and availability of it was noticed in the **Federal Register** on August 4, 2017. As detailed in the FEIS, five Action Alternatives and a No-Action Alternative, were considered for the proposed change in operations of Arecibo Observatory. These Alternatives include:

- *Alternative 1:* Collaboration with Interested Parties for Continued Science-focused Operations (Agency-preferred Alternative)
- *Alternative 2:* Collaboration with Interested Parties for Transition to Education-focused Operations
- *Alternative 3:* Mothballing of Facilities
- *Alternative 4:* Partial Demolition and Site Restoration
- *Alternative 5:* Complete Demolition and Site Restoration
- *No-Action Alternative:* Continued NSF Investment for Science-focused Operations

The Preferred Alternative, which is also the environmentally preferable action alternative, was selected in the ROD. The ROD also reflected NSF's consideration of the outcomes of its compliance obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Endangered Species Act.

The ROD is now available in both English and Spanish on the internet at: [https://www.nsf.gov/mps/ast/env\\_impact\\_reviews/env\\_rev\\_arecibo.jsp](https://www.nsf.gov/mps/ast/env_impact_reviews/env_rev_arecibo.jsp) in Adobe® portable document format (PDF). Limited hard copies of the ROD are also available, on a first request basis, by contacting the NSF contact, Elizabeth A. Pentecost, Project Administrator, National Science Foundation, Division of Astronomical Sciences, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Room W 9152, Alexandria, VA 22314, Telephone: 703-292-4907, Email: [epenteco@nsf.gov](mailto:epenteco@nsf.gov).

Dated: December 20, 2017.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**  
*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

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**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of permit issued.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nature McGinn, ACA Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-292-8030; email: [ACApermits@nsf.gov](mailto:ACApermits@nsf.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On November 16, 2017, the National Science Foundation published a notice in the **Federal Register** of a permit application received. The permit was issued on December 18, 2017 to:

1. Kasey Stewart, Permit No. 2018-026.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Polar Coordination Specialist, Office of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2017-27721 Filed 12-22-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2017-0001]

### Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

**DATE:** Weeks of December 25, 2017, January 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2018.

**PLACE:** Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

**STATUS:** Public and Closed.

#### Week of December 25, 2017

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of December 25, 2017.

#### Week of January 1, 2018—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of January 1, 2018.

#### Week of January 8, 2018—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of January 8, 2018.

### Week of January 15, 2018—Tentative

*Thursday, January 18, 2018*

9:00 a.m. Strategic Programmatic Overview of the Decommissioning and Low-Level Waste and Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation Business Lines (Public Meeting) (Contact: Damaris Marcano: 301-415-7328)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov/>.

### Week of January 22, 2018—Tentative

*Tuesday, January 23, 2018*

9:00 a.m. Hearing on Construction Permit for Northwest Medical Isotopes Production Facility: Section 189a of the Atomic Energy Act Proceeding (Public Meeting) (Contact: Michael Balazik: 301-415-2856)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov/>.

*Thursday, January 25, 2018*

10:00 a.m. Strategic Programmatic Overview of the New Reactors Business Line (Public Meeting) (Contact: Donna Williams: 301-415-1322)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov/>.

### Week of January 29, 2018—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of January 29, 2018.

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The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. For more information or to verify the status of meetings, contact Denise McGovern at 301-415-0681 or via email at [Denise.McGovern@nrc.gov](mailto:Denise.McGovern@nrc.gov).

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The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/schedule.html>.

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The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these public meetings, or need this meeting notice or the transcript or other information from the public meetings in another format (*e.g.*, braille, large print), please notify Kimberly Meyer, NRC Disability Program Manager, at 301-287-0739, by videophone at 240-428-3217, or by email at [Kimberly.Meyer-Chambers@nrc.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Meyer-Chambers@nrc.gov). Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

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Members of the public may request to receive this information electronically.