

National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite E10241, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1.800.877.8339, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including Federal holidays).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The computing stack has traditionally been viewed as a hierarchy of layers with devices and circuits comprising the lowest layers, and architectures, software, algorithms, and applications constituting progressively higher layers. Lower layers of the stack (*e.g.*, devices, circuits, architectures) more directly involve semiconductor technologies to the extent that researchers may interact with large-scale fabrication facilities, but all levels of the stack are influenced by microelectronic advances to varying degrees. Thus, although in its entirety CISE research may not directly involve research on semiconductors, *per se*, the entire computing stack, from circuit design to architectures and on to software and applications such as sensor networks including the Internet of Things (IoT), embedded computing, next-generation wireless systems, large-scale data analytics, AI, edge and cloud computing, and high-performance computing, heavily depends on advances in this space.

As a result, much of the CISE directorate's portfolio is dependent upon advances in semiconductor technologies. For one example, tomorrow's artificial intelligence (AI) innovations offer transformative societal impacts, but require advanced hardware capabilities that leverage newer semiconductor technologies. Conversely, the hardware design problem is a large multi-objective, multiscale optimization problem that stands to benefit from the application of modern AI techniques.

*Invitation to Comment:* NSF invites comments from the public who are directly engaged in, or might potentially benefit from, CISE-related research and education in semiconductor and micro- and nano-electronics.

### 1.0 Background

On December 14–20, 2020, CISE funded a workshop focusing on the lowest levels of the computing stack. This workshop considered the scientific frontiers for semiconductor and microelectronics technologies as well as the needs for access to semiconductor foundries (for details, see the workshop report at [https://nsfedaworkshop.nd.edu/assets/429148/nsf20\\_foundry\\_meeting\\_report.pdf](https://nsfedaworkshop.nd.edu/assets/429148/nsf20_foundry_meeting_report.pdf)).

Building upon that workshop and report, and given the diverse interests of the CISE directorate and community, the intent of this RFI is broader. Specifically, NSF/CISE seeks to:

- Gauge the extent to which the community's research and educational agenda are handicapped, *e.g.*, by unavailability of past or future resources. By this, NSF/CISE asks that respondents not restrict their answers to issues related to funding, but rather also consider issues related to infrastructure, facilities, access to tools/intellectual property/data, legal issues, etc., that support their research and educational agenda in the broader area of semiconductors;

- Understand what specific activities the research community would pursue and how that activity would impact societal and national interests, if the impediments mentioned in the first category above are removed. NSF/CISE asks respondents to be specific in making projections about new technologies potentially enabled by advances in semiconductor and microelectronics technologies within the 5-, 10-, or 15-year horizons, or longer.

### 2.0 Request for Information

This RFI is issued solely for information-gathering purposes. NSF/CISE's intent is to analyze the responses received from this RFI for internal needs and for potentially formulating future programmatic. NSF/CISE may make anonymized versions of the responses available for public consumption. This RFI does not constitute a formal solicitation for proposals. To respond to this RFI, please use the official submission form available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CISERFIonSemiconductorResearchandEducation>.

(Authority: 42 U.S.C. 1861.)

Dated: June 28, 2021.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

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**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2021-0055]

### Information Collection: NRC Online Form, Request for Alternatives

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Renewal of existing information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) invites public comment on the renewal of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for an existing collection of information. The information collection is entitled, NRC Online Form, "Request for Alternatives."

**DATES:** Submit comments by August 31, 2021. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods; however, the NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the Federal Rulemaking Website:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov/> and search for Docket ID NRC-2021-0055. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301-415-0624; email: [Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov](mailto:Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**CONTACT** section of this document.

- *Mail Comments to:* David Cullison, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Mail Stop: T-6 A10M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

For additional direction on obtaining information and submitting comments, see "Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments" in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Cullison, Office of the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-2084; email: [Infocollects.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:Infocollects.Resource@nrc.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments

##### A. Obtaining Information

Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2021-0055 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 <https://www.regulations.gov/> and search for Docket ID NRC-2021-0055. A copy of the collection of information and related instructions may be obtained without charge by accessing Docket ID NRC-2021-0055 on this website.

• *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS)*: You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, 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](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). A copy of the collection of information and related instructions may be obtained without charge by accessing ADAMS Accession No. ML21060B371. The supporting statement is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML21055A387.

• *Attention*: The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of public documents, is currently closed. You may submit your request to the PDR via email at [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov) or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

• *NRC's Clearance Officer*: A copy of the collection of information and related instructions may be obtained without charge by contacting the NRC's Clearance Officer, David Cullison, Office of the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-2084; email: [Infocollects.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:Infocollects.Resource@nrc.gov).

#### B. Submitting Comments

The NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the Federal Rulemaking Website (<https://www.regulations.gov>). Please include Docket ID NRC-2021-0055 in your comment submission.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information in comment submissions that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. All comment submissions are posted at <https://www.regulations.gov> and entered into ADAMS. Comment submissions are not routinely edited to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the OMB, 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 submission. Your request should state that comment submissions are not routinely edited to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment into ADAMS.

## II. Background

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the NRC is requesting public comment on its intention to request the OMB's approval for the information collection summarized below.

1. *The title of the information collection*: NRC Online Form, "Request for Alternative Under 10 CFR 50.55a(z)(1) and 10 CFR 50.55a(z)(2)."

2. *OMB approval number*: 3150-0244.

3. *Type of submission*: Revision.

4. *The form number, if applicable*: Not applicable.

5. *How often the collection is required or requested*: On occasion.

6. *Who will be required or asked to respond*: All holders of, and certain applicants for, nuclear power plant construction permits and operating licenses under the provisions of part 50 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities" who use alternatives to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a paragraphs (b) through (h) when authorized by the NRC have the option of using the online form.

7. *The estimated number of annual responses*: 297.

8. *The estimated number of annual respondents*: 104.

9. *The estimated number of hours needed annually to comply with the information collection requirement or request*: 1,782.

10. *Abstract*: Section 50.55a of 10 CFR incorporates by reference Division 1 rules of Section III, "Rules for Construction of Nuclear Power Plant Components," and Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components," of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (B&PV Code); and the rules of the ASME "Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants" (OM Code). These rules of the ASME B&PV and OM Codes set forth the requirements to which nuclear power plant components are designed, constructed, tested, repaired, and inspected. Section 50.55a(z) of 10 CFR allows applicants to use alternatives to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a paragraphs (b) through (h) when authorized by the NRC. To facilitate licensees' requests for alternatives to the requirements in the above regulations, the NRC is providing an optional online form to submit the required information for a specific alternative request under 10 CFR 50.55a(z).

## III. Specific Requests for Comments

The NRC is seeking comments that address the following questions:

1. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the NRC to properly perform its functions? Does the information have practical utility?

2. Is the estimate of the burden of the information collection accurate?

3. Is there a way to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?

4. How can the burden of the information collection on respondents be minimized, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

Dated: June 29, 2021.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**David C. Cullison,**

*NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2021-0001]

### Sunshine Act Meetings

**TIME AND DATE**: Weeks of July 5, 12, 19, 26, August 2, 9, 2021.

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

**STATUS**: Public.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED**:

#### Week of July 5, 2021

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of July 5, 2021.

#### Week of July 12, 2021—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of July 12, 2021.

#### Week of July 19, 2021—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of July 19, 2021.

#### Week of July 26, 2021—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of July 26, 2021.

#### Week of August 2, 2021—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of August 2, 2021.

#### Week of August 9, 2021—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of August 9, 2021.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION**: For more information or to verify the status of meetings, contact Wesley Held at 301-287-3591 or via email at