

Yes  
No  
Don't know

22. If you'd like, please use this space to elaborate on your answer to question 21.

23. How valuable would it be to your research to be able to select the specific locations of the SMART sensor modules along the cable?

Very valuable  
Valuable  
Somewhat valuable  
Not very valuable  
Not valuable at all

24. How important is it to include one or more Branching Units?

Very important  
Important  
Somewhat important  
Not very important  
Not important at all

25. In terms of current and future research, in your view what are potential uses for Branching Units?

26. Referring again to the above Figure and noting the corridor available around the trunk lines to deploy stubs from Branching Units (dark gray shaded areas surrounding the white dotted lines), would you place additional BUs?

Yes  
No  
Don't Know

27. If you'd like, please use this space to elaborate on your answers to question 26. If you answered yes, please indicate where and why.

28. What potential do you see for the cable to enable the vision of the networked ocean as a relay platform for an "internet of Underwater Things", such as subsea gliders, submersible float sensors, ROVs and similar submersible autonomous instrumentation systems?

**Partnerships and the Project**

The Whitepaper (<https://goosoocean.org/news/un-ocean-decade-challenge-7-white-paper-a-roadmap-for-the-observing-system-we-need/>) addressing Challenge 7 ("Expand the Global Ocean Observing System") from the UN IOC/UNESCO Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030) ("Ocean Decade 2030") program indicates that significant investments will be needed to meet the challenges for global ocean observation goals while current investments and mechanisms are inadequate. There is a clear call for multi-sector engagements such as public-private partnerships and

international collaborations for a "new economic thinking" to provide the resources needed.

29. What private and/or public sector groups (e.g., academic, non-profit, industry, etc.) do you think may have an active interest in partnership activities with NSF for aspects of the cable system development?

**Contribution of the Antarctic SMART Cable To Resolve Global Challenges**

30. Beyond the potential direct benefits to support science in the Antarctic and the region covered directly by the Antarctic SMART Cable, there may be broader benefits to developing the Antarctic SMART Cable. In your view, what are the global, national, and societal benefits of this cable?

**Future Science Workshop**

31. A successor science workshop is being considered for 2025 to build upon and extend the work of the June 2021 workshop and this Electronic On-Line Submission. How interested would you be in attending virtually or in-person, provided full or partial travel expenses could be provided?

<b>Future Science Workshop Participation</b>	<b>Very Interested</b>	<b>Interested</b>	<b>Somewhat Interested</b>	<b>Not Very Interested</b>	<b>Not Interested at All</b>
Attending Virtually	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attending In-person	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Final Thoughts**

32. If there is anything else you'd like to share or elaborate upon regarding the topics mentioned here, please provide them here.

33. Please complete the form below to indicate your interest in future participation in this project. This is completely voluntary, and your responses collected will be included in the analysis regardless of your response below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address \_\_\_\_\_

(Authority: 42 U.S.C. 1861, et al.)

Dated: August 23, 2024.

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

[FR Doc. 2024-19375 Filed 8-27-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**[NRC-2023-0199]**

**Information Collection: U.S. NRC Acquisition Regulation**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of submission to the Office of Management and Budget; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has recently submitted a request for renewal of an existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review. The information collection is entitled, "U.S. NRC Acquisition Regulation."

**DATES:** Submit comments by September 27, 2024. 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:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under Review—

Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

David Cullison, NRC Clearance 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-2023-0199 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-2023-0199.

- *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, at 301-415-4737, or by email to [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov). The supporting statement and burden spreadsheet are available in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML24204A067 and ML24024A068.

- *NRC’s PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov) or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (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*

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under Review—

Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

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**

Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the NRC recently submitted a request for renewal of an existing collection of information to OMB for review entitled, “U.S. NRC Acquisition Regulation.” The NRC hereby informs potential respondents that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and that a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The NRC published a **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day comment period on this information collection on April 2, 2024, 89 FR 22756.

1. *The title of the information collection:* U.S. NRC Acquisition Regulation.

2. *OMB approval number:* 3150-0169.

3. *Type of submission:* Extension.

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

5. *How often the collection is required or requested:* Monthly, once (at time of award), and on occasion (when changes occur).

6. *Who will be required or asked to respond:* Contractors and bidders.

7. *The estimated number of annual responses:* 6,258 (6,112 reporting responses + 146 recordkeepers).

8. *The estimated number of annual respondents:* 428.

9. *The estimated number of hours needed annually to comply with the information collection requirement or request:* 17,412 (14,834 reporting + 2,578 recordkeeping).

10. *Abstract:* The mandatory requirements of the Nuclear Regulatory

Commission Acquisition Regulation (NRCAR) implement and supplement the government-wide Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and ensure that the regulations governing the procurement of goods and services with the NRC satisfy the needs of the agency. This includes reports and recordkeeping requirements for certain contractors or offerors to submit a monthly progress report that summarizes work performed during the previous month, and/or retain records of equipment, payroll, inspection and quality control records, as applicable. Because of differing statutory authorities among Federal agencies, the FAR permits agencies to issue a regulation to implement FAR policies and procedures internally to satisfy the specific need of the agency. The NRCAR includes policies, procedures, solicitation provisions and contract clauses needed to ensure effective and efficient evaluation, negotiation, and administration of agency acquisitions. Certain reports, such as reports of contractor organizational conflicts of interest or changes in key personnel are collected from contractors on as needed basis as changes occur whether at the time award or throughout the life of the contract. Some reports are required to be submitted monthly such as the Financial Status report and Technical Progress report. There are also some reports that bidders are required to submit upon request, such as responses to pre-award questions that demonstrate their ability to meet minimum standards set forth in the FAR.

Dated: August 23, 2024.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**David Cullison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2024-19332 Filed 8-27-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

**POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION**

[Docket Nos. MC2024-533 and CP2024-541; MC2024-534 and CP2024-542; MC2024-535 and CP2024-543; MC2024-546 and CP2024-554; MC2024-547 and CP2024-555; MC2024-548 and CP2024-556; MC2024-549 and CP2024-557; MC2024-550 and CP2024-558; MC2024-551 and CP2024-559]

**New Postal Products**

**AGENCY:** Postal Regulatory Commission.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission’s consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This