

health risks. There are no other MSHA-approved units.

(c) The Drager X-plore 8000 PAPRs are ergonomically designed for greater movement in tight workspaces. This respirator has the following features: helps protect against certain airborne contaminants; is easy to use and maintain; has interchangeable components, which will enable Sufco to customize the PAPR system to help meet the needs of our specific application; is intrinsically safe; has audible and visual alarms; has a multi-speed blower; and the battery offers long run time and charges quickly.

(d) The Drager X-plore 8000 is intrinsically safe and certified by UL under the ANSI/UL 60079–11:13 standard to be used in hazardous locations.

(e) The alternative method will provide no less than the same measure of protection afforded the miners under the existing standard.

The petitioner proposes the following alternative method:

(a) The batteries for the PAPRs shall be charged out by the last open crosscut when not in operation.

(b) The batteries shall be charged by the following products: Drager battery Charger for the X-plore 8000 standard charger.

(c) The Drager X-plore 8000 PAPR shall only use the Drager X-plore 8700 battery.

(d) Affected miners shall be trained in the proper use and care of the PAPR units in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.

(e) The instrument shall be checked for physical damage and the integrity of the case.

(f) If methane is detected in concentrations of 1.0 percent or more, procedures in accordance with 30 CFR 75.323 shall be followed.

(g) There are no representatives of miners at Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, Sufco Mine. A copy of this petition has been posted on the bulletin board on December 29, 2024.

In support of the proposed alternative method, the petitioner has also submitted manufacturer spec sheets for the Drager X-plore PAPR and certificates of compliance from CSAGroup.

The petitioner asserts that the alternative method will guarantee no less than the same measure of protection afforded the miners under the mandatory standard.

Song-ae Aromie Noe,

Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances.

[FR Doc. 2025–01648 Filed 1–23–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4520–43–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Request for Comments on the National Science Foundation's Proposed Intellectual Property Options

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Request for comments. Extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On December 12, 2024, the National Science Foundation (NSF) published in the **Federal Register** a document entitled “Request for Comments on NSF’s Proposed Intellectual Property Options.” In response to requests by prospective commenters that they would benefit from additional time to adequately consider and respond to the RFC, NSF has determined that an extension of the comment period until Friday, February 21, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. (eastern), is appropriate. NSF also is adding language to clarify the intent for intellectual property options.

DATES: The end of the comment period for the document entitled “Request for Comments on NSF’s Proposed Intellectual Property Options” published on December 12, 2024 (89 FR 101641), is extended from January 24, 2025, until February 21, 2025.

ADDRESSES: To respond to this Request for Comments, please use the official submission form available at: <https://airtable.com/app9KPUhqR2lAb4Zf/pag9d0QhLcOXkGlud/form>.

Respondents only need to provide feedback on one or more questions of interest or relevance to them. Each question is voluntary and optional. The response to each question has a 4,000-character limit including spaces.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, please direct questions to Allen Walker through email at NSF-IPOptions-RFC@nsf.gov, phone at 703–292–2291, or mail at National Science Foundation, ATTN: Allen Walker, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks public comments to inform the proposed implementation of new intellectual property (IP) provision options for use in NSF public-private partnerships, particularly those advancing research and development, that include co-funding of awards by private partners. NSF is committed to fostering innovation and promoting the translation of research into practical applications. To enhance the effectiveness of public-private partnerships, NSF seeks to implement a set of options for IP provisions that

provide greater flexibility and balance the interests of both academia and industry.

Please note that the intellectual property options discussed herein apply only to NSF awards that stem from direct partnerships between NSF and industry partners prior to issuance of the grant. These types of awards currently represent a small percentage of NSF’s overall funding portfolio. NSF defines a direct partnership as an explicit agreement between NSF and one or more other organizations to jointly resource (*i.e.*, via dollars and/or in-kind offerings) a funding opportunity.

These IP options do not apply to the rest of the NSF award portfolio. NSF maintains a consistent policy of not claiming or retaining any intellectual property rights resulting from its awards, including those made through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) awards. NSF shall neither enforce nor participate in any such negotiations between awardees and industry partners. These IP options also do not apply to downstream partnerships, such as those developed by NSF awardees for additional non-NSF resources (financial and/or in-kind), thereby enhancing the activities of the original award.

Recent engagements, including the 2023 NSF-Industry Partnership Summit and subsequent listening sessions, have highlighted the need for optional IP strategies that can adapt to the unique requirements of various funded projects. NSF intends to incorporate these IP options into partnership agreements involving industry and/or non-profit organizations for funding opportunities whose funded awards may result in the generation of IP.

Through this Request for Comments (RFC), NSF invites input from a wide range of stakeholders, including industry, academia, non-profit organizations, other government agencies, and other interested parties.

The 2023 NSF-Industry Partnership Summit and subsequent engagements revealed differing viewpoints in stakeholders’ perspectives regarding NSF’s existing IP terms. In response, the Directorate for Technology, Innovation and Partnerships (TIP) has developed a series of IP grant-of-rights options to address these concerns. These options are informed by the Bayh-Dole Act and aim to promote the practical application and commercialization of federally funded research while preserving potential access to the IP for the U.S. Government.

Below is the language for each of the three IP grant-of-rights options to be used in partnership agreements. These IP options can be tailored according to the particular research area and the specific terms and conditions agreed upon between NSF and the partner(s) in a particular public-private partnership.

A. Research License With Commercial Option

The disposition of rights to inventions or works of authorship made during NSF-funded research is governed by federal law, regulation, and policy, including but not limited to, 35 U.S.C. 200–212 and 37 CFR 401. Pursuant to applicable laws, regulations, and policies, the entire right, title, and interest of Intellectual Property (IP) that directly results from activities funded by NSF (“Project IP”) is retained by the entity that created it. While recipients are permitted to temporarily withhold the publication of data and software related to inventions to facilitate patent application filings, NSF terms and conditions require the subsequent prompt publication of all research outputs—including results, data, and software—generated in the performance of the research.

All partners are entitled to a non-exclusive, royalty-free license for use of Project IP for research purposes for a period of 18 months from the date of disclosure of the Project IP. This license shall not extend to any IP other than Project IP. This 18-month period is structured as follows:

1. Notice Period: For the first 12 months after disclosure of the Project IP, any partner shall have a right to indicate in writing that they are exercising their Right of First Negotiation (“ROFN”) for an opportunity to secure an exclusive commercial license during the Negotiation/Option Period.

2. Negotiation/Option Period: Following the 12-month Notice Period, there shall be a 6-month period during which partners so exercising their ROFN may negotiate for an exclusive commercial license.

If an exclusive commercial license is secured by one partner during the Negotiation/Option Period, all other partners’ rights shall automatically become a perpetual, non-exclusive, royalty-free license for research purposes only.

If no exclusive commercial license is secured by the end of the Negotiation/Option Period, the non-exclusive license granted herein shall, for all partners, automatically convert into a perpetual non-exclusive, royalty-free license for research purposes only.

Pursuant to the Bayh-Dole Act, NSF is entitled to a non-exclusive, irrevocable, paid-up license throughout the world for use of Project IP that directly results from activities funded by NSF.

B. Convertible Commercial License

The disposition of rights to inventions or works of authorship made during NSF-funded research is governed by federal law, regulation, and policy, including but not limited to, 35 U.S.C. 200–212 and 37 CFR 401. Pursuant to applicable laws, regulations, and policies, the entire right, title, and interest of Intellectual Property (IP) that directly results from activities funded by NSF (“Project IP”) is retained by the entity that created it. While recipients are permitted to temporarily withhold the publication of data and software related to inventions to facilitate patent application filings, NSF terms and conditions require the subsequent prompt publication of all research outputs—including results, data, and software—generated in the performance of the research.

All partners are entitled to a non-exclusive, royalty-free license for use of Project IP for both research and commercial purposes for a period of 18 months from the date of disclosure of the Project IP. This license shall not extend to any IP other than Project IP. This 18-month period is structured as follows:

1. Notice Period: For the first 12 months after disclosure of the Project IP, any partner shall have the have a right to indicate in writing that they are exercising their Right of First Negotiation (“ROFN”) for an opportunity to secure an exclusive commercial license during the Negotiation/Option Period.

2. Negotiation/Option Period: Following the 12-month Notice Period, there shall be a 6-month period during which partners so exercising their ROFN may negotiate for an exclusive commercial license.

If an exclusive commercial license is secured by one partner during the Negotiation/Option Period, all other partners’ rights shall automatically convert into a perpetual non-exclusive, royalty-free license for research purposes only.

If no exclusive commercial license is secured by the end of the Negotiation/Option Period, the non-exclusive license granted herein shall, for all partners, automatically convert into a perpetual non-exclusive, royalty-free license for research purposes only.

Pursuant to the Bayh-Dole Act, NSF is entitled to a non-exclusive, irrevocable, paid-up license throughout the world for

use of Project IP that directly results from activities funded by NSF.

C. Research-Only License

The disposition of rights to inventions or works of authorship made during NSF-funded research is governed by federal law, regulation, and policy, including but not limited to, 35 U.S.C. 200–212 and 37 CFR 401. Pursuant to applicable laws, regulations, and policies, the entire right, title, and interest of Intellectual Property (IP) that directly results from activities funded by NSF (“Project IP”) is retained by the entity that created it, following applicable federal law. While recipients are permitted to temporarily withhold the publication of data and software related to inventions to facilitate patent application filings, NSF terms and conditions require the subsequent prompt publication of all research outputs—including results, data, and software—generated in the performance of the research.

All partners are entitled to a non-exclusive, royalty-free license for use of Project IP for research purposes. This license shall not extend to any intellectual property other than Project IP.

Pursuant to the Bayh-Dole Act, NSF is entitled to a non-exclusive, irrevocable, paid-up license throughout the world for use of Project IP that directly results from activities funded by NSF.

Questions for Public Comment

NSF welcomes comments from the public on any issues that are relevant to this topic, and is particularly interested in answers to the following questions:

Overall Impact: How do you believe these proposed IP options will impact innovation, technology transfer, and economic growth?

Balance: Do these options ensure a balanced distribution of IP rights between academia and industry partners? How can the proposed IP options be further refined to ensure maximum balance in IP arrangements?

Flexibility: What additional flexibility should be incorporated into the IP options to accommodate and incentivize a range of research initiatives?

Adoption: What strategies could NSF employ to encourage widespread adoption of these IP options among potential partners?

Barriers: What potential barriers exist to implementing these IP options, and how might they be overcome?

Translation and Incentives: Do the proposed IP options effectively promote the translation of research into practice while incentivizing industry participation and ensuring benefits for

universities and researchers? What improvements could be made to enhance these aspects?

Additional Options: Are there other IP grant-of-rights options or frameworks that NSF should consider to better support collaborative research initiatives and facilitate research impact?

NSF, at its discretion, will use the information submitted in response to this RFC to help inform future program directions, new initiatives, and potential funding opportunities. The information provided will be analyzed, may appear in reports, and may be shared publicly on agency websites. Respondents are advised that the government is under no obligation to acknowledge receipt of the information or provide feedback to respondents with respect to any information submitted. *No proprietary, classified, confidential, or sensitive information should be included in your response submission.* The government reserves the right to use any non-proprietary technical information in any resultant solicitations, policies, or procedures.

(Authority: Public Law 117–167.)

Dated: January 22, 2024.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2025–01683 Filed 1–23–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC–2025–0001]

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: Weeks of January 27, February 3, 10, 17, 24, and March 3, 2025. The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the internet at: <https://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/schedule.html>.

PLACE: 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 Anne Silk, NRC Disability Program Specialist, at 301–287–0745, by videophone at 240–428–3217, or by email at Anne.Silk@nrc.gov. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

STATUS: Public.

Members of the public may request to receive the information in these notices electronically. If you would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555, at 301–415–1969, or by email at Betty.Thweatt@nrc.gov or Samantha.Miklaszewski@nrc.gov.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of January 27, 2025

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of January 27, 2025.

Week of February 3, 2025—Tentative

Thursday, February 6, 2025

9:00 a.m. Briefing on ADVANCE Act Activities (Public Meeting)
(Contact: Mike King: 301–415–6637;
Luis Betancourt: 301–415–6146)

Additional Information: The meeting will be held in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The public is invited to attend the Commission's meeting in person or watch live via webcast at the web address—<https://video.nrc.gov/>.

Week of February 10, 2025—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of February 10, 2025.

Week of February 17, 2025—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of February 17, 2025.

Week of February 24, 2025—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of February 24, 2025.

Week of March 3, 2025—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of March 3, 2025.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: For more information or to verify the status of meetings, contact Chris Markley at 301–415–6293 or via email at Christopher.Markley@nrc.gov.

The NRC is holding the meetings under the authority of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Dated: January 22, 2025.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Christopher Markley,

Policy Coordinator, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025–01747 Filed 1–22–25; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

POSTAL SERVICE

Product Change—Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, and USPS Ground Advantage® Negotiated Service Agreement

AGENCY: Postal Service™.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a domestic shipping services contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Mail Classification Schedule's Competitive Products List.

DATES: *Date of required notice:* January 24, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sean C. Robinson, 202–268–8405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Postal Service® hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), on January 16, 2025, it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission a *USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage® Contract 1317 to Competitive Product List*. Documents are available at www.prc.gov, Docket Nos. MC2025–1144, K2025–1144.

Sean Robinson,

Attorney, Corporate and Postal Business Law.

[FR Doc. 2025–01642 Filed 1–23–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710–12–P

POSTAL SERVICE

Product Change—Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, and USPS Ground Advantage® Negotiated Service Agreement

AGENCY: Postal Service™.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a domestic shipping services contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Mail Classification Schedule's Competitive Products List.

DATES: *Date of required notice:* January 24, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sean C. Robinson, 202–268–8405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Postal Service® hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), on January 13, 2025, it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission a *USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage® Contract*