appellant with light duty, and in each case the light duty assignment ended due to a wide-ranging reduction in force that was not directed specifically at eliminating light-duty assignments. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) denied the appellants' applications for disability retirement on the ground that the employing agencies had 'accommodated' the appellants' medical conditions.

''*Applicable regulations.* The Bracey appeal arises under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS). The governing CSRS regulations promulgated by OPM provide in pertinent part that an individual is entitled to a disability annuity only if, inter alia: He or she, 'while employed in a position subject to the [CSRS],' became 'disabled because of a medical condition, resulting in a service deficiency in performance, conduct, or attendance, or if there is no actual service deficiency, the disabling medical condition must be incompatible with either useful and efficient service or retention in the position'; and the employing agency is 'unable to accommodate the disabling medical condition in the position held or in an existing vacant position.' 5 CFR 831.1203(a)(2), (4).

''For purposes of the CSRS regulations, *disabled* means: unable * * * because of disease or injury, to render useful and efficient service in the employee's current position, or in a vacant position in the same agency at the same grade or pay level for which the individual is qualified for reassignment.

''5 CFR 831.1202. *Accommodation* means: an adjustment made to an employee's job or work environment that enables the employee to perform the duties of the position. Reasonable accommodation may include modifying the worksite; adjusting the work schedule; restructuring the job; obtaining or modifying equipment or devices; providing interpreters, readers, or personal assistants; and reassigning or retraining the employee.

''Id. *Vacant position* means: an unoccupied position of the same grade or pay level and tenure for which the employee is qualified for reassignment that is located in the same commuting area and is serviced by the same appointing authority of the employing agency.

''Id. The Wilson appeal arises under the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS). The governing FERS regulations promulgated by OPM differ somewhat from the CSRS regulations quoted above. The FERS regulations provide in pertinent part that an individual is entitled to a disability annuity only if, inter alia: He or she, 'while employed in a position subject to FERS,' became 'disabled because of a medical condition, resulting in a deficiency in performance, conduct, or attendance, or if there is no such deficiency, the disabling medical condition must be incompatible with either useful and efficient service or retention in the position'; '[a]ccomodation of the disabling medical condition in the position held' is 'unreasonable'; and the individual did 'not * * * decline[] an offer of reassignment to a vacant position.' 5 CFR 844.103(a)(2), (4), (5).

''5 CFR 844.102. *Accommodation* means: a reasonable adjustment made to an employee's job or work environment that enables the employee to perform the duties of the position. Accommodation may include modifying the worksite; adjusting the work schedule; restructuring the job; obtaining or modifying equipment or devices; providing interpreters, readers, or personal assistants; and retraining the employee.

''Id. *Vacant position* means: an unoccupied position of the same grade or pay level and tenure for which the employee is qualified for reassignment that is located in the same commuting area and, except in the case of a military reserve technician, is serviced by the same appointing authority of the employing agency.

''Id. *Request for an advisory opinion.* The Board requests an advisory opinion on the following related questions concerning the above-quoted regulations:

''(1) Is a light-duty assignment considered a 'position' under the CSRS and FERS regulatory definitions of 'disabled,' 'accommodation,' and 'vacant position,' when the light-duty assignment does not constitute an established position in the employing agency?

''(2) If an employee covered by the CSRS cannot perform the duties of his or her position of record or any established position in the employing agency, is a light-duty assignment an 'accommodation' under 5 CFR 831.1203(a)(4)?

''(3) If an employee covered by FERS cannot perform the duties of his or her position of record or any established position in the employing agency, is a light-duty assignment a 'reasonable accommodation' under 5 CFR 844.103(a)(4)?''

DATES: All briefs in response to this notice shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board on or before November 12, 1998.

ADDRESSES: All briefs should include the case names and docket numbers noted above (*Bracey* v. *Office of Personnel Management,* MSPB Docket No. DC–831E–97–0643–I–1, and *Wilson* v. *Office of Personnel Management,* MSPB Docket No. AT–844E–97–0645–I–1) and be entitled ''Amicus Brief.'' Briefs should be filed with the Office of the Clerk, Merit Systems Protection Board, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20419. Parties wishing to obtain copies of the initial decisions in *Bracey* and *Wilson* should contact one of the individuals listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shannon McCarthy, Deputy Clerk of the Board, or Matthew Shannon, Counsel to the Clerk, (202) 653–7200.

Dated: October 5, 1998.

Robert E. Taylor,

Clerk of the Board.

[FR Doc. 98–27283 Filed 10–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7400–01–M

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Arts; Leadership Initiatives Advisory Panel

Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92–463), as amended, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Leadership Initiatives Advisory Panel (Open Studio section) to the National Council on the Arts will be held on October 16, 1998. The panel will meet via teleconference from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Room 617 at the Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506.

This meeting is for the purpose of Panel review, discussion, evaluation, and recommendation on applications for financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, including information given in confidence to the agency by grant applicants. In accordance with the determination of the Chairman of May 14, 1998, these sessions will be closed to the public pursuant to subsection (c)(4)(6) and (9)(B) of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code.

Further information with reference to this meeting can be obtained from Ms. Kathy Plowitz-Worden, Panel Coordinator, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC 20506, or call (202) 682–5691.

Dated: October 7, 1998.

Kathy Plowitz-Worden,

Panel Coordinator, National Endowment for the Arts.

[FR Doc. 98–27419 Filed 10–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7537–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Advisory Panel for Developmental Mechanisms; Notice of Meeting

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

Name: Advisory Panel for Developmental Mechanisms (1141).

Date and Time: October 21–23, 1998, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Place: Room 390, NSF, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA.

Type of Meeting: Part-Open.

Contact Person: Dr. Judith Plesset and Dr. Judith Verbeke, Program Directors, Developmental Mechanisms, Room 685, Division of Integrative Biology & Neurosciences, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230, Telephone: (703) 306–1417.

Purpose of meeting: to provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Mintues: May be obtained from the contact persons listed above.

Agenda: Open Session: October 21, 1998; 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., to discuss goals and assessment procedures. Closed Session: October 21, 1998; 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; October 22, 1998; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., October 23, 1998; 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.—to review and evaluate Developmental Mechanisms proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary of confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Reason for Late Notice: Notice was received on time but misplaced.

Dated: October 7, 1998.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98–27372 Filed 10–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering; Notice of Meeting

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

Name: Committee on Equal Opportunities in Sciences and Engineering (1173).

Date and Time: October 29–30, 1998, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Type of Meeting: Open.

Place: Hilton Hotel, 950 North Stafford Street, Arlington, VA, (703) 528–6000.

Contact Person: Darryl G. Gorman, CEOSE Executive Secretary, (703) 306–1395, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

Minutes: May be obtained from the contact person listed above.

Purpose of Committee: To provide advice to the Foundation concerning options that would enable all Americans to participate fully in our scientific and technological democracy.

Agenda

Thursday, October 29, (Arlington Hilton Hotel, Room TBD)

8:00 am—Breakfast reception with NSF Staff
8:30 am—Welcome and Introductions, Dr. Arturo Bronson
Approval of June 1998 Minutes
9:00 am—Congressional Report
Congressional Staff Representative, Mr. Joel Widder
9:45 am—Break
10:00 am—Human Resource Development at NSF—Human Resources Development Task Force
Dr. Joseph Bordogna
Ms. Linda Massaro
Mr. Larry Rudolph
Dr. Wanda E. Ward
Dr. Luther S. Williams
11:30 am—Educating for the Future (NSF Investment Theme)
Dr. Luther S. Williams
12:00 Noon—Working Lunch
12:00 Noon—GPRA Update
Dr. Judith Sunley
12:30 pm—Report to Congress: Updates & Discussion
Dr. Arturo Bronson
Dr. George Castro
Dr. Lesia Crumpton
1:00 pm—Educational Activities within Research Centers, NSF Panel (e.g., STCs, CIRE, ERCs, MSRCs, CREST, PACI)
2:00 pm—Overview of Office of Integrative Activities
Dr. Nathaniel Pitts
3:00 pm—Break
3:15 pm—Break-out Subgroups on Report to Congress
5:30 pm—Adjournment for the Day

Friday, October 30

8:30 am—Report of CEOSE Groups
9:00 am—Capacity Building: ''Empowerment'', Cost Sharing, Information Infrastructure
Dr. Eric Jolly, NSF Staff
10:00 am Break
10:15 am White House Executive Orders (EOs) (EOs Directors/Chairs to be invited)
11:30 am Disabilities Issues
Dr. Lawrence Scadden
12 Noon Working Lunch
1:00 pm Federal Agencies' Best Practices
Dr. Betty White NASA
2:00 pm Meeting with Director and Deputy Director
Dr. Rita Colwell
Dr. Joseph Bordogna
3:00 pm Report to Congress Sub-Groups Reconvene
5:00 pm Adjournment

Dated: October 5, 1998.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98–27371 Filed 10–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–352 and 353]

Philadelphia Electric Company; Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted the request of Philadelphia Electric Company (the licensee) to withdraw its May 3, 1996, application for proposed amendment to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF–39 and NPF–85 for the Limerick Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Montgomery and Chester Counties, Pennsylvania.

The proposed amendment would have revised the frequency of testing the Standby Gas Treatment System and the Reactor Enclosure Recirculation System.

The Commission had previously issued a Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment published in the **Federal Register** on December 4, 1996 (61 FR 64391). However, by letter dated September 11, 1998, the licensee withdrew the proposed change.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated May 3, 1996, as supplemented November 10, 1997, and the licensee's letter dated September 11, 1998, which withdrew the application for license amendment. The above documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Pottstown Public Library, 500 High Street, Pottstown, PA 19464.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of October 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Bartholomew C. Buckley,

Senior Project Manager, Project Directorate I–2, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98–27347 Filed 10–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P