

toll free at (866) 208-3676 or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 502-8415, by fax at (202) 273-0873 and by e-mail at michael.miller@ferc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Abstract:

The information collected under the requirements of FERC-512, "Application for Preliminary Permit" (OMB No. 1902-0073) is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of sections 4(f), 5 and 7 of the Federal Power Act (FPA), 16 U.S.C. Sections 797, 798 and 800. The purpose of obtaining a preliminary permit is to

maintain priority of the application for a license for a hydropower facility while the applicant conducts surveys to prepare maps, plans, specifications and estimates; conducts engineering, economic and environmental feasibility studies; and making financial arrangements. The conditions under which the priority will be maintained are set forth in each permit. During the term of the permit, no other application for a preliminary permit or application for a license submitted by another party can be accepted. The term of the permit is three years. The information collected under the designation FERC-512 is in the form of a written application for a preliminary permit which is used by

Commission staff to determine an applicant's qualifications to hold a preliminary permit, review the proposed hydro development for feasibility and to issue a notice of the application in order to solicit public and agency comments. The Commission implements these mandatory filing requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) under 18 CFR 4.31-4.33, 4.81-4.83.

Action: The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the current expiration date, with no changes to the existing collection of data.

Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents (1)	Annual re- sponses per respondent (2)	Average burden hours per response (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)×(2)×(3)
50	1	73	3,650

Estimated cost burden to respondents is \$188,089 (*i.e.*, 3,650 hours divided by 2,080 hours per full time employee per year multiplied by \$107,185 per year equals \$188,089).

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide the information including: (1) Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than anyone particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission,

including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.* permitting electronic submission of responses.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-291 Filed 2-13-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

**Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission**

[Docket No. IC04-588-000; FERC-588]

**Commission Information Collection
Activities, Proposed Collection;
Comment Request; Extension**

February 10, 2004.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of section 3506(c) (2) (a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), the Federal Energy

Regulatory Commission (Commission) is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described below.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due by April 16, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained from Michael Miller, Office of the Executive Director, ED-30, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Comments may be filed either in paper format or electronically. Those parties filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing. For paper filings, the original and 14 copies of such comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 and refer to Docket No. IC04-588-000.

Documents filed electronically via the Internet must be prepared in WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format or ASCII format. To file the document, access the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> and click on "Make an E-filing," and then follow the instructions for each screen. First time users will have to establish a user name and password. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgement to the sender's e-mail address upon receipt of comments.

All comments may be viewed, printed or downloaded remotely via the Internet through FERC's homepage using the eLibrary link. For user assistance, contact FERConlineSupport@ferc.gov or

toll-free at (866) 208-3676 or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 502-8415, by fax at (202) 273-0873, and by e-mail at michael.miller@ferc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information collected under the requirements of FERC-588 "Emergency Natural Gas Transportation, Sale and Exchange Transactions" (OMB No. 1902-0144) is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of sections 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) (Pub. L. 75-688) (15 U.S.C. 717-717w) and provisions of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 (NGPA), 15 U.S.C. 3301-3432. Under the NGA, a natural gas company must obtain Commission

approval to engage in the transportation, sale or exchange of natural gas in interstate commerce. However, section 7(c) exempts from certificate requirements "temporary acts or operations for which the issuance of a certificate will not be required in the public interest." The NGPA also provides for non-certificated interstate transactions involving intrastate pipelines and local distribution companies.

A temporary operation, or emergency, is defined as any situation in which an actual or expected shortage of gas supply would require an interstate pipeline company, intrastate pipeline, or local distribution company, or Hinshaw pipeline to curtail deliveries of gas or provide less than the projected

level of service to the customer. The natural gas companies file the necessary information with the Commission so that it may determine if the transaction/operation qualifies for exemption. A report within 48 hours of the commencement of the transportation, sale or exchange, a request to extend the sixty-day term of the emergency transportation, if needed, and a termination report are required. The data required to be filed for the 48 hour report is specified by 18 CFR 284.270.

Action: The Commission is requesting a three-year approval of the collection of data. This is a mandatory information collection requirement.

Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as follows:

Number of respondents annually	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total annual burden hours
(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)×(2)×(3)
8	1	10	80

The estimated total cost to respondents is \$4,123.00 (80 hours divided by 2,080 hours per employee per year times \$107,185 per year average salary per employee = \$4,123.00 (rounded)).

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information including: (1) Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology *e.g.* permitting electronic submission of responses.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-292 Filed 2-13-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP04-127-001]

Algonquin Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Compliance Filing

February 9, 2004.

Take notice that on February 4, 2004, Algonquin Gas Transmission Company (Algonquin) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Fourth Revised Volume No. 1, Sub Fourth Revised Sheet No. 654, effective February 1, 2004.

Algonquin states that the purpose of this filing is to comply with the Commission's Order issued in the captioned docket on January 29, 2004 (January 29 Order).

Algonquin states that it is making changes in Section 18 of its General Terms and Conditions, Billing and Payments, as required by Paragraph 3 of the January 29 Order. Specifically, Algonquin is providing its customers with (i) e-mail notification of the posting of final electronic invoices, and (ii) an opportunity to designate an agent to receive electronic invoices and e-mail notifications.

Algonquin states that copies of its filing have been served on all affected customers, interested state commissions, and all parties on the Commission's official service list.