

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

December 5, 2005.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to

the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Animal Welfare, Part 3, Subparts B and C, Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, and Rabbits.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0092.

Summary of Collection: The Laboratory Animal Welfare Act (AWA) enacted in 1966 and amended in 1970 and 1985 requires the U.S. Department of Agriculture to regulate the humane care and handling of most warm-blooded animals used for research or exhibition purposes, sold as pets, or transported in commerce. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has the responsibility for enforcing the Animal Welfare Act and its provisions. APHIS collects information and requires certain recordkeeping in order to review and evaluate program compliance by regulated facilities and ensure a workable enforcement system to carry out the requirements of the AWA. Specific information requirements relate to certifications of shipping containers used to transport guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits as well as the conditions (e.g., temperature) necessary during transport, and acclimation certificates.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS collects information from regulated facilities including dealers, exhibitors, and research facilities, intermediate handlers and carriers, and from accredited veterinarians to ensure proper handling and care for guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits. Without this information, APHIS would be unable to detect violations and take appropriate actions consistent with the AWA.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 1,470.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 260.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E5-7104 Filed 12-8-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Great River Energy, Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of an environmental assessment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) in connection with possible impacts related to the construction and operation of a natural gas-fired simple cycle, combustion turbine power generation facility in Cambridge Township in Isanti County, Minnesota. The electrical output from the facility is expected to range from 170 megawatts (MW) to 190 MW depending upon operating conditions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nurul Islam, Environmental Protection Specialist, RUS, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-1414, FAX: (202) 720-0820; or e-mail: nurul.islam@wdc.usda.gov; or Mark Strohfus, Environmental Project Leader, GRE, 17845 East Highway 10, P.O. Box 800, Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800, telephone (763) 241-2491, FAX: (763) 241-6033, e-mail: MStrohfus@greenergy.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: GRE is proposing to construct a simple-cycle combustion turbine generation plant in Cambridge Township in Isanti County, Minnesota. Total electrical output is expected to range from 170 MW to 190 MW depending on operating conditions. An alternative site for the plant is also being proposed for the project. The alternative site location is at GRE's Elk River headquarters in Sherburne County, Minnesota. The Elk River site presently has a 40 MW facility fueled with refuse derived fuel and it would remain if the proposed plant were to be constructed at this alternative site. No additional land would be purchased if the plant were to be constructed at this location. Due to constraints on natural gas availability, a combustion turbine at the Elk River site would be equipped to fire fuel oil as a backup fuel. The generator would be connected to the Elk River Station. Construction of the