

from all interested entities and individuals to provide them with a reasonable opportunity to present their views and recommendations, with respect to the need for and impact of the facilities, early in the planning stages of the proposed facilities as required under FPA Section 216(d).

Additionally, FERC has the authority to issue a permit to construct electric transmission facilities if a state has withheld approval for more than a year or has conditioned its approval in such a manner that it will not significantly reduce transmission congestion or is not economically feasible.<sup>1</sup> FERC envisions that, under certain circumstances, the

Commission's review of the proposed facilities may take place after one year of the state's review. Under Section 50.6(e)(3) the Commission will not accept applications until one year after the state's review and then from applicants who can demonstrate that a state may withhold or condition approval of proposed facilities to such an extent that the facilities will not be constructed.<sup>2</sup> In cases where FERC's jurisdiction rests on FPA section 216(b)(1)(C),<sup>3</sup> the pre-filing process should not commence until one year after the relevant State applications have been filed. This will give states one full year to process an application

without any intervening Federal proceedings, including both the pre-filing and application processes. Once that year is complete, an applicant may seek to commence FERC's pre-filing process. Thereafter, once the pre-filing process is complete, the applicant may submit its application for a construction permit.

*Type of Respondent:* Electric transmission facilities.

*Estimate of Annual Burden:*<sup>4</sup> The Commission estimates the annual public reporting burden for the information collection as:

#### FERC-729: ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION FACILITIES

	Number of respondents	Annual number of responses per respondent	Total number of responses	Average burden and cost per response <sup>5</sup>	Total annual burden hours and total annual cost
	(1)	(2)	(1) * (2) = (3)	(4)	(3) * (4) = (5)
Electric Transmission Facilities .....	1	1	1	9,600 \$758,400	9,600 \$758,400

*Comments:* Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the 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 and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: July 8, 2019.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[**ER-FRL-9045-7**]

#### Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

*Responsible Agency:* Office of Federal Activities, General Information 202-564-5632 or <https://www.epa.gov/nepa/>.

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements

Filed 07/01/2019 Through 07/05/2019 Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

#### Notice

Section 309(a) of the Clean Air Act requires that EPA make public its comments on EISs issued by other Federal agencies. EPA's comment letters on EISs are available at: <https://cdxnodengn.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-public/action/eis/search>.

*EIS No. 20190158, Final, NMFS, WA, 10 Salmon and Steelhead Hatchery*

Programs in the Duwamish-Green River Basin, Review Period Ends: 08/12/2019, Contact: Charlene Hurst 503-230-5409.

*EIS No. 20190159, Final Supplement, BLM, AZ, Ray Land Exchange Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Proposed Plan Amendments, Review Period Ends: 08/26/2019, Contact: Michael Werner 602-417-9561.*

*EIS No. 20190160, Draft, BR, CA, Reinitiation of Consultation on the Coordinated Long-term Operations of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, Comment Period Ends: 08/26/2019, Contact: Katrina Harrison 916-414-2425.*

Dated: July 8, 2019.

**Robert Tomiak,**

*Director, Office of Federal Activities.*

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<sup>1</sup> FPA section 216(b)(1)(C).

<sup>2</sup> The Commission will not issue a permit authorizing construction of the proposed facilities until, among other things, it finds that the state has, in fact, withheld approval for more than a year or had so conditioned its approval.

<sup>3</sup> In all other instances (*i.e.*, where the state does not have jurisdiction to act or otherwise to consider

interstate benefits, or the applicant does not qualify to apply for a permit with the State because it does not serve end use customers in the State), the pre-filing process may be commenced at any time.

<sup>4</sup> "Burden" is the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. For further explanation

of what is included in the information collection burden, refer to Title 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.

<sup>5</sup> FERC staff estimates that industry costs for salary plus benefits are similar to Commission costs. The cost figure is the FY2018 FERC average annual salary plus benefits (\$164,820/year or \$79/hour).