

information concerning the technical conference to discuss issues associated with solicitation processes for power procurement on June 10, 2004, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (e.s.t.) in the Commission's Meeting Room at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC. All interested persons are invited to attend. Microphones will be available to enable those in the audience to participate in the discussion as issues arise.

2. The conference will be transcribed. Those interested in acquiring the transcript should contact Ace Reporters at 202-347-3700 or 800-336-6646. Transcripts will be placed in the public record 10 days after the Commission receives the transcripts. Additionally, Capitol Connection offers the opportunity for remote listening and viewing of the conference. It is available for a fee, live over the Internet, by phone or via satellite. Persons interested in receiving the broadcast, or who need information on making arrangements, should contact David Reininger or Julia Morelli at Capitol Connection (703-993-3100) as soon as possible or visit the Capitol Connection Web site at <http://www.capitolconnection.org> and click on "FERC."

3. For more information about the conference, please contact Mary Beth Tighe at 202-502-6452 or mary.beth.tighe@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

**Solicitation Processes for Public Utilities
Technical Conference, June 10, 2004, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. (e.s.t.)**

Agenda

In *Boston Edison Re: Edgar Electric Company*, 55 FERC ¶ 61,382 (1991) (*Edgar*), the Commission held that in analyzing market-based rate transactions between an affiliated buyer and seller, the Commission must ensure that the buyer has chosen the lowest-cost supplier from among the options presented, taking into account both price and non-price terms. As such, *Edgar* addressed the concern in that case that utilities would choose to purchase power from their affiliates at inflated prices rather than at competitive levels from unaffiliated entities. The effect was that such higher costs could have been passed on to wholesale (as well as retail) customers. The Commission's *Edgar* policy, which has been in effect since 1991, involves a review of power purchase agreements between affiliates to determine whether the rate is just and reasonable and whether there is an absence of self-dealing. Recently, with the development of significant amounts of independent generation in every region, competitive alternatives to affiliate purchases have increased. Thus, the Commission is interested in having a

discussion addressing the issues listed below.

Panelists will each be asked to address issues among the following in an overview followed by questions and general discussion:

1. Is the Commission's *Edgar* policy adequate to ensure that the most competitive power procurement choice is being made by utilities when affiliates are involved? Should the policy include a requirement for a competitive solicitation? If so, how should the solicitation be designed?

2. To the extent you have been involved in solicitation processes to date:

■ Please briefly describe the product solicited (e.g., power purchase agreement, dispatchable asset-backed contract, firm load-following power).

■ Was the competition on price only or also non-price factors?

■ How were the following treated: transmission service; FTRs; participation by affiliates, including the use of utility land/facilities?

■ Discuss creditworthiness screening, conduct of the bid/auction, post-bid negotiations, regulatory oversight, and independent observer.

3. Prior to initiating a competitive solicitation, should there be a collaborative process (outreach) to achieve consensus on issues with respect to the solicitation design and the evaluation criteria to be used? If so, what should be the characteristics of that collaborative process?

4. Are there ways to ensure that there is no preferential dealing among affiliates in soliciting and awarding power purchase agreements? If so, what safeguards should be included?

5. To what extent are transmission service and monopsony power factors in the competitive solicitation? What criteria should be established under the Commission's *Edgar* policy to ensure that all participants are treated in a non-discriminatory manner?

6. Should a market monitor or independent entity oversee the administration of solicitations in which affiliates are involved? To the extent a monitor is involved, what criteria should be established to ensure that the monitor is independent of all parties participating in the solicitation process? For example, how should the monitor be selected? By whom? To whom should the monitor report? Who should pay for the monitor's services?

7. Provide proposals for "best practice" competitive solicitation methods or principles that could be used to ensure that power transactions are the result of a fair, transparent and accurate process.

8. How can FERC and State regulators coordinate in the design and oversight of solicitation processes?

Panel I—9 a.m.–10:30 a.m. (e.s.t.): John Hilke, Federal Trade Commission; Craig Roach, Principal, Boston Pacific Company, Inc.; Harvey Reiter, Partner, Stinson, Morrison, Hecker LLP; Ron Walter, Executive Vice President—Development, Calpine Corporation; Ed Comer, Vice President and General Counsel, Edison Electric Institute.
Break—10:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

Panel II—10:45 a.m.–12 p.m.: Tom Welch, Chairman, Maine Public Utilities Commission; Elizabeth Benson, Energy Associates, CLECO Independent Monitor; Ershel Redd, President, Western Region, NRG; Ted Banasiewicz, Principal, USA Power LLC.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY**

[OPPT-2004-0095; FRL-7361-9]

**TSCA Section 8 (a) Preliminary
Assessment Information Rule (PAIR);
Request for Comment on Renewal of
Information Collection Activities**

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), EPA is seeking public comment and information on the following Information Collection Request (ICR): TSCA Section 8 (a) Preliminary Assessment Information Rule (PAIR) (EPA ICR No. 0586.10, OMB No. 2070-0054). This ICR involves a collection activity that is currently approved and scheduled to expire on October 31, 2004. The information collected under this ICR relates to identifying, assessing, and managing human health and environmental risks from chemical substances, mixtures, and categories. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection activity and its expected burden and costs. Before submitting this ICR to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval under the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the collection.

DATES: Written comments, identified by the docket ID number OPPT-2004-0095, must be received on or before August 9, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier. Follow the detailed instructions as provided in Unit I. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information contact: Colby Lintner, Regulatory Coordinator, Environmental Assistance Division (7408M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

For technical information contact: Gerry Brown, Chemical Control Division (7405M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 564-8086; fax number: (202) 564-4765; e-mail address: brown.gerry@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are a manufacturer or importer of chemical substances, mixtures, or categories. Potentially affected entities may include, but are not limited to:

- Chemical manufacturing (NAICS 325), e.g., basic chemical manufacturing, resin, synthetic rubber, artificial and synthetic fibers and filaments manufacturing, paint, coating, adhesive manufacturing and other chemical product, and preparation manufacturing.
- Petroleum refineries (NAICS 32411), e.g., crude petroleum refineries, diesel fuels manufacturing, fuel oils manufacturing, oil refineries, petroleum distillation.

This listing is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in this unit could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes have been provided to assist you and others in determining whether this action might apply to certain entities. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Get Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?

1. *Docket.* EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket identification (ID) number OPPT-2004-0095. The official public docket consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received, and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the EPA Docket Center, Rm. B102-Reading Room, EPA West, 1301 Constitution

Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The EPA Docket Center Reading Room telephone number is (202) 566-1744 and the telephone number for the OPPT Docket, which is located in EPA Docket Center, is (202) 566-0280.

2. *Electronic access.* You may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the “**Federal Register**” listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA’s electronic public docket and comment system, EPA Dockets. You may use EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/> to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B.1. Once in the system, select “search,” then key in the appropriate docket ID number.

Certain types of information will not be placed in the EPA Dockets. Information claimed as CBI and other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute, which is not included in the official public docket, will not be available for public viewing in EPA’s electronic public docket. EPA’s policy is that copyrighted material will not be placed in EPA’s electronic public docket but will be available only in printed, paper form in the official public docket. To the extent feasible, publicly available docket materials will be made available in EPA’s electronic public docket. When a document is selected from the index list in EPA Dockets, the system will identify whether the document is available for viewing in EPA’s electronic public docket. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B.1. EPA intends to work towards providing electronic access to all of the publicly available docket materials through EPA’s electronic public docket.

For public commenters, it is important to note that EPA’s policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing in EPA’s electronic public docket as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, CBI, or

other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. When EPA identifies a comment containing copyrighted material, EPA will provide a reference to that material in the version of the comment that is placed in EPA’s electronic public docket. The entire printed comment, including the copyrighted material, will be available in the public docket.

Public comments submitted on computer disks that are mailed or delivered to the docket will be transferred to EPA’s electronic public docket. Public comments that are mailed or delivered to the docket will be scanned and placed in EPA’s electronic public docket. Where practical, physical objects will be photographed, and the photograph will be placed in EPA’s electronic public docket along with a brief description written by the docket staff.

C. How and to Whom Do I Submit the Comments?

You may submit comments electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, identify the appropriate docket ID number in the subject line on the first page of your comment. Please ensure that your comments are submitted within the specified comment period. Comments received after the close of the comment period will be marked “late.” EPA is not required to consider these late comments. If you wish to submit CBI or information that is otherwise protected by statute, please follow the instructions in Unit I.D. Do not use EPA Dockets or e-mail to submit CBI or information protected by statute.

1. *Electronically.* If you submit an electronic comment as prescribed in this unit, EPA recommends that you include your name, mailing address, and an e-mail address or other contact information in the body of your comment. Also include this contact information on the outside of any disk or CD ROM you submit, and in any cover letter accompanying the disk or CD ROM. This ensures that you can be identified as the submitter of the comment and allows EPA to contact you in case EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties or needs further information on the substance of your comment. EPA’s policy is that EPA will not edit your comment, and any identifying or contact information provided in the body of a comment will be included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket, and made available in EPA’s electronic public docket. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification,

EPA may not be able to consider your comment.

i. *EPA Dockets.* Your use of EPA's electronic public docket to submit comments to EPA electronically is EPA's preferred method for receiving comments. Go directly to EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/>, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once in the system, select "search," and then key in docket ID number OPPT-2004-0095. The system is an "anonymous access" system, which means EPA will not know your identity, e-mail address, or other contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment.

ii. *E-mail.* Comments may be sent by e-mail to oppt.ncic@epa.gov, Attention: Docket ID Number OPPT-2004-0095. In contrast to EPA's electronic public docket, EPA's e-mail system is not an "anonymous access" system. If you send an e-mail comment directly to the docket without going through EPA's electronic public docket, EPA's e-mail system automatically captures your e-mail address. E-mail addresses that are automatically captured by EPA's e-mail system are included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket, and made available in EPA's electronic public docket.

iii. *Disk or CD ROM.* You may submit comments on a disk or CD ROM that you mail to the mailing address identified in Unit I.C.2. These electronic submissions will be accepted in WordPerfect or ASCII file format. Avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

2. *By mail.* Send your comments to: Document Control Office (7407M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001.

3. *By hand delivery or courier.* Deliver your comments to: OPPT Document Control Office (DCO) in EPA East Bldg., Rm. 6428, 1201 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. Attention: Docket ID Number OPPT-2004-0095. The DCO is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the DCO is (202) 564-8930.

D. How Should I Submit CBI to the Agency?

Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI electronically through EPA's electronic public docket or by e-mail. You may claim information that you submit to EPA as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI (if you submit CBI on disk or CD ROM, mark the outside

of the disk or CD ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD ROM the specific information that is CBI). Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes any information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket and EPA's electronic public docket. If you submit the copy that does not contain CBI on disk or CD ROM, mark the outside of the disk or CD ROM clearly that it does not contain CBI. Information not marked as CBI will be included in the public docket and EPA's electronic public docket without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

E. What Should I Consider when I Prepare My Comments for EPA?

You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

1. Explain your views as clearly as possible.
2. Describe any assumptions that you used.
3. Provide copies of any technical information and/or data you used that support your views.
4. If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate that you provide.
5. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
6. Offer alternative ways to improve the collection activity.
7. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this notice.
8. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, be sure to identify the docket ID number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation.

F. What Information is EPA Particularly Interested in?

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of PRA, EPA specifically solicits comments and information to enable it to:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility.
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimates of the burdens of the proposed collections of information.

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

4. Minimize the burden of the collections of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated or electronic collection technologies or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

II. What Information Collection Activity or ICR Does this Action Apply to?

EPA is seeking comments on the following ICR:

Title: TSCA Section 8 (a) Preliminary Assessment Information Rule (PAIR).

ICR numbers: EPA ICR No. 0586.10, OMB Control No. 2070-0054.

ICR status: This ICR is currently scheduled to expire on October 31, 2004. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations in title 40 of the CFR, after appearing in the **Federal Register**, are listed in 40 CFR part 9, and included on the related collection instrument or form, if applicable.

Abstract: Section 8(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) authorizes EPA to promulgate rules under which manufacturers, importers, and processors of chemical substances and mixtures must maintain records and submit reports to EPA. EPA has promulgated the PAIR under TSCA section 8(a). EPA uses the PAIR to collect information to identify, assess, and manage human health and environmental risks from chemical substances, mixtures, and categories. The PAIR requires chemical manufacturers and importers to complete a standardized reporting form to help evaluate the potential for adverse human health and environmental effects caused by the manufacture or importation of identified chemical substances, mixtures, or categories. Chemicals identified by EPA or any other Federal Agency, for which a justifiable information need for production, use or exposure-related data can be satisfied by the use of the PAIR are proper subjects for TSCA section 8(a) PAIR rulemaking. In most instances the information that EPA receives from a PAIR report is sufficient to satisfy the information need in question.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 712). Respondents may claim all or part of a notice confidential. EPA will

disclose information that is covered by a claim of confidentiality only to the extent permitted by, and in accordance with, the procedures in TSCA section 14 and 40 CFR part 2.

III. What are EPA's Burden and Cost Estimates for this ICR?

Under PRA, "burden" means 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 this collection it includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

The ICR provides a detailed explanation of this estimate, which is only briefly summarized in this notice. The annual public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 29.5 hours per response. The following is a summary of the estimates taken from the ICR:

Respondents/affected entities: Manufacturers or importers of chemical substances, mixtures, or categories.

Estimated total number of potential respondents: 11.

Frequency of response: On occasion.

Estimated total/average number of responses for each respondent: 1.79.

Estimated total annual burden hours: 580 hours.

Estimated total annual burden costs: \$48,972.

IV. Are There Changes in the Estimates from the Last Approval?

This request reflects a decrease in the total estimated burden of 2,775 hours (from 3,355 hours to 580 hours) from that currently in the OMB inventory. This decrease is attributable to a reduction in the assumed number of PAIR reports filed annually, from an average of 118.00 per year to 19.67 per year. The more recent average is based on the past 3 years (2001–2003) of PAIR reporting data. The annual average numbers of respondents (reporting sites) is 11, which has also decreased from the previous assumed average of 48.

V. What is the Next Step in the Process for this ICR?

EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12. EPA will issue another **Federal Register** notice pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(a)(1)(iv) to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB. If you have any questions about this ICR or the approval process, please contact the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: May 25, 2004.

Susan B. Hazen,

Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.
[FR Doc. 04–12916 Filed 6–7–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–S

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–7671–9]

Fourth Meeting of the World Trade Center Expert Technical Review Panel To Continue Evaluation on Issues Relating to Impacts of the Collapse of the World Trade Center Towers

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The World Trade Center Expert Technical Review Panel will hold its fourth meeting intended to provide for greater input from individuals on ongoing efforts to monitor the situation for New York residents and workers impacted by the collapse of the World Trade Center. The panel members will help guide the EPA's use of the available exposure and health surveillance databases and registries to characterize any remaining exposures and risks, identify unmet public health needs, and recommend any steps to further minimize the risks associated with the aftermath of the World Trade Center attacks. The panel will meet several times over the course of approximately two years. These panel meetings will be open to the public, except where the public interest requires otherwise. Information on the panel meeting agendas, documents (except where the public interest requires otherwise), and public

registration to attend the meetings will be available from an Internet Web site. EPA has established an official public docket for this action under Docket ID No. ORD–2004–0003.

DATES: The fourth meeting of this panel will be held on June 22, 2004, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., eastern daylight savings time. On-site registration will begin at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at St. John's University, Saval Auditorium, 101 Murray Street (between Greenwich Street and West Side Highway), New York City (Manhattan). The auditorium is located on the second floor of the building and is handicap accessible. A government-issued identification (e.g., driver's license) is required for entry.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For meeting information, registration and logistics, please see the Web site <http://www.epa.gov/wtc/panel> or contact ERG at (781) 674–7374. The meeting agenda and logistical information will be posted on the Web site and will also be available in hard copy. For further information regarding the technical panel, contact Ms. Lisa Matthews, EPA Office of the Science Advisor, telephone (202) 564–6669 or e-mail: matthews.lisa@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Meeting Information

Eastern Research Group, Inc., (ERG), an EPA contractor, will coordinate the meeting. To attend the meeting as an observer, please register by visiting the Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/wtc/panel>. You may also register for the meeting by calling ERG's conference registration line between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. e.d.s.t. at (781) 674–7374 or toll free at 1–800–803–2833, or by faxing a registration request to (781) 674–2906 (include full address and contact information). Pre-registration is strongly recommended as space is limited, and registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline for pre-registration is June 17, 2004. Registrations will continue to be accepted after this date, including on-site registration, if space allows. There will be a limited time at the meeting for oral comments from the public. Oral comments will be limited to five (5) minutes each. If you wish to make a statement during the observer comment period, please check the appropriate box when you register at the Web site. Please bring a copy of your comments to the meeting for the record or submit them electronically via e-mail to meetings@erg.com, subject line: WTC.