

B. Are the instructions and definitions clear and sufficient? If not, which instructions need clarification?

C. Can the information be submitted by the due date?

D. Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated at 3 hours per respondent per month (this reflects no change from the original estimate). The estimated burden includes the total time necessary to provide the requested information. In your opinion, how accurate is this estimate?

E. The agency estimates that the only cost to a respondent is for the time it will take to complete the collection. Will a respondent incur any start-up costs for reporting, or any recurring annual costs for operation, maintenance, and purchase of services associated with the information collection?

F. What additional actions could be taken to minimize the burden of this collection of information? Such actions may involve the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

G. Does any other Federal, State, or local agency collect similar information? If so, specify the agency, the data element(s), and the methods of collection.

As a Potential User of the Information To Be Collected

A. What actions could be taken to help ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of the information disseminated?

B. Is the information useful at the levels of detail to be collected?

C. For what purpose(s) would the information be used? Be specific.

D. Are there alternate sources for the information and are they useful? If so, what are their weaknesses and/or strengths?

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval of the form. They also will become a matter of public record.

Statutory Authority: Section 3507(h)(1) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Issued in Washington, DC, December 11, 2006.

Jay H. Casselberry,

Agency Clearance Officer, Energy Information Administration.

[FR Doc. E6–21367 Filed 12–14–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

Energy Information Administration Policy for Publicly Releasing Planned Electric Generating Unit Information for Years 1998–2000; Policy Statement

AGENCY: Energy Information Administration (EIA), DOE.

ACTION: Policy Statement. Energy Information Administration Policy for Publicly Releasing Planned Electric Generating Unit Information for Years 1998–2000.

SUMMARY: The EIA has modified its policy and will publicly release EIA survey information collected regarding planned electric generating units for the years 1998, 1999, and 2000.

DATES: This policy becomes effective on January 12, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Requests for information or questions about this policy should be directed to Mr. Kevin Lillis of EIA's Electric Power Division. Mr. Lillis may be contacted by phone (202–287–1757), FAX (202–287–1934), or e-mail (kevin.lillis@eia.doe.gov). His mailing address is Electric Power Division, EI–53, Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information about this policy should be directed to Mr. Lillis at the address listed above. Information on EIA's Electric Power Program is available on EIA's Internet site at <http://www.eia.doe.gov/fuelelectric.html>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Background
- II. Discussion of Comments
- III. Current Actions

I. Background

The Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (Pub. L. 93–275, 15 U.S.C. 761 *et seq.*) and the DOE Organization Act (Pub. L. 95–91, 42 U.S.C. 7101 *et seq.*) require the EIA to carry out a centralized, comprehensive, and unified energy information program. This program collects, evaluates, assembles, analyzes, and disseminates information on energy resource reserves, production, demand, technology, and related economic and statistical information. This information is used to assess the adequacy of energy resources to meet near and longer term domestic demands.

The purpose of EIA's Electric Power Program is to collect and disseminate basic and detailed data to meet EIA's

mandates and energy data users' needs for credible, reliable, and timely information on U.S. electric capacity, generation, sales, trade, transmission, and pricing. Prior to 1998, information collected by EIA on planned electric power generating units was considered as nonconfidential and was publicly available. With increasing competition and restructuring of the electric power industry, EIA collected information on planned electric generating units for the years 1998, 1999, and 2000 and stated that it would treat that information as confidential. After reconsidering the need to treat planned electric generating unit information as confidential, consulting with EIA survey respondents and customers, and obtaining Office of Management and Budget approval, EIA changed its policy. Planned electric generating unit information for calendar years 2001 and later has been collected as nonconfidential and is publicly available.

EIA received a request under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) for the planned generating unit information for calendar years 1998–2000. Given that such information prior to 1998 and after 2000 is publicly available, EIA undertook a process to determine whether the planned unit data for 1998–2000 should continue to be withheld or should be publicly released. EIA sent a letter to 963 respondents who reported having planned generating units in the 1998–2000 time period on Form EIA–860A, “Annual Electric Generating Report—Utility,” and/or Form EIA–860B, “Annual Electric Generating Report—Non-Utility,” on this issue. The letters were mailed on August 24 and August 28, 2006.

The letter asked respondents whether they objected to the public release of the information on planned electric generating units for the years 1998–2000. Respondents were asked to reply by September 29, 2006. Any respondent objecting to the release was requested to provide “EIA with specific details on why your information for 1998–2000 on planned generating units/facilities is sensitive and proprietary and how public release of the information would cause substantial competitive harm to your company.”

As of October 18, 2006, EIA received 52 responses to its letter. Of the 52 responses, 47 stated that they had no objection to the release of the information from 1998–2000 on planned electric generating units. Five respondents objected to the release of the planned electric generating unit information. Thus, less than one percent of the companies that reported planned

electric generating unit information for 1998–2000 objected to the public release of that information.

II. Discussion of Comments

Five companies objected to the release of the 1998–2000 information on planned electric generating units but none specifically addressed how public release of the information would cause substantial competitive harm to the company.

III. Current Actions

The information at issue is planned electric generating unit data for 1998, 1999 and 2000. As of October 2006, that information is over six years old. Planned electric generating unit information collected after 2000 is currently treated as non-confidential and is publicly available. Each survey respondent was provided with an opportunity to provide specific details on why its information for 1998–2000 on planned electric generating units was sensitive and proprietary and how public release of the information would cause substantial competitive harm to the company. Based on the fact that most of the responding companies support this change and the fact that the small number of companies who objected provided no details to show that releasing this historical information would cause substantial competitive harm, EIA's policy regarding the planned electric generating unit information for the period 1998–2000 will be considered as non-confidential and the planned electric generating unit information for the 1998–2000 time period will be made publicly available.

Statutory Authority: Section 52 of the Federal Energy Administration Act (Pub. L. 93–275, 15 U.S.C. 790a).

Issued in Washington, DC, December 11, 2006.

Jay H. Casselberry,

Agency Clearance Officer, Energy Information Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[IC06–715–001, FERC 715]

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

December 8, 2006.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3507, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) has submitted the information collection described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and extension of this information collection requirement. Any interested person may file comments directly with OMB and should address a copy of those comments to the Commission as explained below. The Commission received no comments in response to an earlier **Federal Register** notice of August 30, 2006 (71 FR 51589–51590) and has made this notation in its submission to OMB.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due by January 16, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Address comments on the collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Desk Officer. Comments to OMB should be filed electronically, c/o oir_submission@omb.eop.gov and include the OMB Control No. as a point of reference. The Desk Officer may be reached by telephone at 202–395–4650. A copy of the comments should also be sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of the Executive Director, ED–34, Attention: Michael Miller, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Comments may be filed either in paper format or electronically. Those persons filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing. For paper filings an original and 14 copies, of such comments should be submitted to the Secretary of the Commission, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 and should refer to Docket No. IC07–715–001.

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. User assistance for electronic filings is available at 202–502–8258 or by e-mail to efiling@ferc.gov. Comments

should not be submitted to this e-mail address.

All comments may be viewed, printed or downloaded remotely via the Internet through FERC's homepage using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. 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:

Description

The information collection submitted for OMB review contains the following:

1. *Collection of Information:* FERC 715 "Annual Transmission Planning and Evaluation Report"
2. *Sponsor:* Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
3. *Control No.:* 1902–0171

The Commission is now requesting that OMB approve and extend the expiration date for an additional three years with no changes to the existing collection. The information filed with the Commission is mandatory.

4. *Necessity of the Collection of Information:* Submission of the information is necessary for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities in implementing the statutory provisions of section 213(b) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), as amended by the Energy Policy Act of 1992. Through Section 213(b) Congress requires the Commission to collect annually from transmitting utilities, certain transmission system information and make it available to potential transmission providers, customers and state regulatory authorities. This information collection also supports the Commission's responsibilities under Sections 202, 207, 210–213, 304, 309 and 311 of the FPA, as amended (49 Stat. 838; 16 U.S.C. 791a–825r). The Commission's FERC–715 filing requirements are published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 18 CFR 141.300.

Through the FERC–715, the Commission gathers basic electric transmission system information. The Commission staff use the FERC–715 information to evaluate available transmission capacity and assess transmission reliability. Electrical transmission customers and transmission dependent utilities use the information, in conjunction with other