

estimated cost of the proposed facility replacements would be \$100,632.

Comment date: August 5, 1996, in accordance with Standard Paragraph G at the end of this notice.

6. Northwest Pipeline Corporation

[Docket No. CP96-581-000]

Take notice that on June 19, 1996, Northwest Pipeline Corporation (Northwest), 295 Chipeta Way, Salt Lake City, Utah 84158, filed in Docket No. CP96-581-000 a request pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.211 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205, 157.211) for authorization to construct and operate the new Merlin Meter Station in Josephine County, Oregon to deliver natural gas to The Washington Water Power Company (Water Power), a local distribution company, under Northwest's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-433-000 pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Northwest proposes to construct and operate the new Merlin Meter Station consisting of a 2-inch hot tap, two 1-inch regulators, two 2-inch rotary meters, inlet and outlet piping and appurtenances at approximately milepost 126.95 on Northwest's Eugene to Grants Pass Lateral in Section 21, Township 35 South, Range 5 West, Josephine County, Oregon. The proposed Merlin Meter Station will have a design capacity of approximately 700 Dth per day at a delivery pressure of 300 psig. Northwest estimates that the total cost for the proposed meter station to be \$201,715.

Comment date: August 5, 1996, in accordance with Standard Paragraph G at the end of this notice.

7. Northern Natural Gas Company

[Docket No. CP96-584-000]

Take notice that on June 19, 1996, Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern), P.O. Box 3330, Omaha, Nebraska 68103-0330, filed in Docket No. CP96-584-000, a request pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.216(b) of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205 and 157.216) for authorization to abandon 23 small volume measuring facilities located in Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska, under Northern's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-401-000 and Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Northern asserts that it has the consent of each end-user to remove the measuring stations from their property. Northern states that the facilities to be abandoned are jurisdictional facilities under the NGA and were constructed pursuant to superseded 2.55 regulations, budget, or blanket authority, depending on the year the facilities were originally placed in-service.

Comment date: August 5, 1996, in accordance with Standard Paragraph G at the end of this notice.

Standard Paragraphs

F. Any person desiring to be heard or make any protest with reference to said filing should on or before the comment date file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this filing if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for the applicant to appear or be represented at the hearing.

G. Any person or the Commission's staff may, within 45 days after the issuance of the instant notice by the Commission, file pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Procedural Rules (18 CFR 385.214) a motion to intervene or notice of intervention and pursuant to Section 157.205 of the Regulations

under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205) a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed therefore, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for filing a protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-16566 Filed 6-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-00185; FRL-5370-9]

Agency Information Collection Activities

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that EPA is planning to submit the following continuing Information Collection Requests (ICRs) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Before submitting the ICRs to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the information collections described below. The ICRs are: (1) A continuing ICR entitled "Pre-Manufacture Review Reporting and Exemption Requirements for New Chemical Substances and Significant New Use Reporting Requirements for Chemical Substances," EPA ICR No. 0574, OMB No. 2070-0012, and (2) a continuing ICR entitled "Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs): Exclusions, Exemptions and Use Authorizations," EPA ICR No. 1001, OMB No. 2070-0008. 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 are listed in 40 CFR part 9.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before August 27, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Submit three copies of all written comments to: TSCA Document Receipts (7407), Room NE-G99, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460,

Telephone: 202-260-7099. All comments should be identified by the respective administrative record numbers: comments on ICR No. 0574 should reference administrative record number 158, and comments on ICR No. 1001 should reference administrative record number 157. These ICRs are available for public review at, and copies may be requested from, the docket address and phone number listed above.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect in 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form with respect to ICR No. 0574 must be identified by the administrative record number AR-158 and ICR number 0574. All comments and data in electronic form with respect to ICR No. 1001 must be identified by the administrative record number AR-157 and ICR number 1001. No CBI should be submitted through e-mail. Electronic comments on this document may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found in Unit III. of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information contact: Susan B. Hazen, Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: 202-554-1404, TDD: 202-554-0551, e-mail: TSCA-Hotline@epamail.epa.gov. For technical information contact the following individuals:

For ICR No. 0574, contact Miriam Wiggins-Lewis, Chemical Control Division (7405), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone 202-260-3937; Fax: 202-260-0118; e-mail: wiggins-lewis.miriam@epamail.epa.gov.

For ICR No. 1001, contact Margaret Reynolds, Chemical Management Division (7404), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone 202-260-3965; Fax: 202-260-1724; e-mail: reynold.peggy@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Entities potentially affected by this action are: with respect to ICR No. 0574,

manufacturers or importers of new chemical substances, as defined by the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), or manufacturers, processors, or importers of a chemical substance for a use that has been determined a significant new use, as defined by TSCA; and with respect to ICR No. 1001, chemical companies that manufacture chemical products, the manufacture of which is accompanied by the inadvertent generation of PCBs as trace byproducts or impurities, and companies that import chemical products that contain PCBs as trace byproducts or impurities. For the collection of information addressed in this notice, EPA would like to solicit comments to:

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility.

(ii) Evaluate 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.

(iii) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

(iv) 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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

II. Information Collections

EPA is seeking comments on two Information Collection Requests, which are identified and discussed separately below.

Title: Pre-Manufacture Review Reporting and Exemption Requirements for New Chemical Substances and Significant New Use Reporting Requirements for Chemical Substances, EPA ICR No. 0574, OMB No. 2070-0012, expires October 31, 1996.

Abstract: TSCA section 5 requires manufacturers and importers of new chemical substances to submit to EPA notice of intent to manufacture or import a new chemical substance 90 days before manufacture or import begins. EPA reviews the information contained in the notice to evaluate the health and environmental effects of the new chemical substance. On the basis of the review, EPA may take further regulatory action under TSCA, if warranted. If EPA takes no action within 90 days, the submitter is free to

manufacture or import the new chemical substance without restriction.

TSCA section 5 also authorizes EPA to issue Significant New Use Rules (SNURs). EPA uses this authority to take follow-up action on new or existing chemicals that may present an unreasonable risk to human health or the environment if used in a manner that may result in different and/or higher exposures of a chemical to humans or the environment. Once a use is determined to be a significant new use, persons must submit a notice to EPA 90 days before beginning manufacture, processing or importation of a chemical substance for that use. Such a notice allows EPA to receive and review information on such a use and, if necessary, regulate the use before it occurs.

Finally, TSCA section 5 also permits applications for exemption from section 5 review under certain circumstances. An applicant must provide information sufficient for EPA to make a determination that the circumstances in question qualify for an exemption. In granting an exemption, EPA may impose appropriate restrictions.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR parts 720, 721, and 723). 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.

Burden statement: The burden to respondents for complying with this ICR is estimated to total 241,611 hours per year, based on an average burden of approximately 105 hours per response for an estimated 432 respondents submitting one or more reports of information annually. These estimates include 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.

Title: Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs): Exclusions, Exemptions and Use Authorizations, EPA ICR No. 1001, OMB No. 2070-0008, expires January 31, 1997.

Abstract: TSCA section 6(e) generally prohibits the manufacture, processing, distribution in commerce, and use of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). However, federal regulations exclude certain manufacturing processes from these prohibitions, enabling chemical manufacturers to continue to manufacture essential chemical products, the manufacture of which is accompanied by the inadvertent generation of PCBs as trace byproducts or impurities. To be eligible for such an exclusion, chemical manufacturers must comply with certain certification, reporting and recordkeeping requirements. These requirements provide the means for EPA to verify that companies indeed generate only trace quantities of PCBs in their products and thus do not present an unreasonable risk of injury to human health or the environment. EPA also uses the data to identify sites for compliance inspections.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 761). 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.

Burden statement: The burden to respondents for complying with this ICR is estimated to total 1,030 hours per year, based on an average burden of approximately 25 hours per response for an estimated six respondents submitting a one-time report of information, and an average burden of approximately 5 hours for an estimated 176 respondents maintaining required records. These estimates include 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.

III. Public Record

A record has been established for this action under docket number "OPPTS-00185" (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not

include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, Rm. NE-B607, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

The official record for this action, as well as the public version, as described above will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into printed, paper form as they are received and will place the paper copies in the official record which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing. The official record is the paper record maintained at the address in ADDRESSES at the beginning of this document.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection and Information collection requests.

Dated: June 18, 1996.

Lynn R. Goldman,

Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 96-16589 Filed 6-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

[FRL-5521-1 OMB No. 2070-0081; EPA ICR No. 1289.04]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review; Wood Preservatives—Submission of Information Regarding Arsenic Exposure Levels in Wood Treatment Plants

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D)), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) for Wood Preservative—Submission of Information Regarding Arsenic Exposure Levels in Wood Treatment Plants described below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before July 29, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY CALL: Sandy Farmer at EPA, (202) 260-2740, and refer to EPA ICR No. 1289.04.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Wood Preservatives—Submission of Information Regarding Arsenic Exposure Levels in Wood Treatment Plants (OMB Control Number 2070-0081; EPA ICR No. 1289.04). This is a request for an extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: This information collection provides wood treaters that use arsenic formulations a way of exempting themselves from the FIFRA pesticide label requirements, which dictate that all applicators of the registered pesticide product wear NIOSH approved respirators. The program that provides this opportunity for facilities to exempt themselves from the respirator requirements is called the Permissible Exposure Limit Monitoring Program (PEL) and it is incorporated into the "Notice of Intent to Cancel Registrations of Pesticide Product Containing Creosote, Pentachlorophenol (Including Its Salts) and Inorganic Arsenic." It was published in the July 1984 Federal Register, vol. 49, No. 136, p. 28674. Facilities that choose to participate in the voluntary PEL can do the following to exempt themselves from the respirator requirements. First, the facility operator needs to conduct monitoring for air-borne arsenic. Operators with facilities that have air-borne arsenic levels that are higher than the permissible exposure limit would have to continue to require plant personnel to wear respirators. If a facility's air-borne arsenic levels are below the permissible exposure limit, plant personnel would no longer be required to wear respirators. Depending on how close the levels are to the permissible exposure limit, the facility would be required to retest periodically or fill out a checklist, which indicates if arsenic exposure levels are likely to increase due to changes in the facility's industrial process.

Participating facilities must submit the air monitoring test results to EPA or, if arsenic levels are low and testing is not required, then they can simply fill out the checklist and submit it to EPA. All submissions must certify that the information provided is accurate.

EPA uses the certification and air monitoring data to determine if the wood preserving facility is complying with the air-borne arsenic levels set by the cancellation order, which was set to ensure that plant personnel are not exposed to levels of arsenic that pose an