

II. Current Actions

This notice is for a proposed three-year extension through December 31, 2000, of the Forms EIA-23, "Annual Survey of Domestic Oil and Gas Reserves," EIA-23P, "Oil and Gas Well Operator List Update Report," and EIA-64A, "Annual Report of the Origin of Natural Gas Liquids Production." Both Forms EIA-23P and EIA-64A will be extended without modification. For operators reporting on Form EIA-23, the definitions of proved reserves used for reporting will be modified to conform to the new "Society of Petroleum Engineers" (SPE) and "World Petroleum Congress" (WPC) definitions for proved reserves. These proposed modifications reflect the recent adoption by the SPE and the WPC of new definitions for proved reserves. The EIA strongly supported the adoption of the new definitions and feels that their adoption will allow the use of new estimation techniques. The new definitions are also expected to lead to improvements in the interpretation of U.S. proved reserves and their reliability.

In addition, respondents will be required to report the average price used in the estimates of proved reserves and production. Because knowledge of the oil and gas prices at the field level is essential to successful profitable operations, it is assumed that field level price data are readily available to large and intermediate size operators. EIA is interested in whether small operators can report price information at the State level. In conjunction with requesting the price reporting, the average annual survey size will be reduced by 42 percent by surveying small operators less frequently.

III. Request for Comments

Prospective respondents and other interested parties should comment on the actions discussed in item II. The following guidelines are provided to assist in the preparation of responses. Please indicate to which form(s) your comments apply.

General Issues

A. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency? Does the information have practical utility. Practical utility is defined as the actual usefulness of information to or for an agency, taking into account its accuracy, adequacy, reliability, timeliness, and the agency's ability to process the information it collects.

B. What enhancements can EIA make to the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?

As a Potential Respondent

A. Are the instructions and definitions clear and sufficient? If not, which instructions require clarification?

B. Can data be submitted by the due date?

C. Public reporting burden for these collections is estimated to average: for Form EIA-23, 8 hours for small operators, 62 hours for intermediate operators, and 333 hours for large operators; 15 minutes for operators reporting on Form EIA-23P; and 6 hours for natural gas plants reporting on Form EIA-64A. Burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide the information.

Please comment on (1) the accuracy of our estimates and (2) how the agency could minimize the burden of the collection of information, including the use of information technology.

D. EIA estimates that respondents will incur no additional costs for reporting other than the hours required to complete the collection. What is the estimated: (1) Total dollar amount annualized for capital and start-up costs, and (2) recurring annual costs of operation and maintenance, and purchase of services associated with this data collection?

E. Do you know of any other Federal, State, or local agency that collects similar data? If you do, specify the agency, the data element(s), and the methods of collection.

As a Potential User

A. Can you use data at the levels of detail indicated on the form?

B. For what purpose would you use the data? Be specific.

C. Are there alternate sources of data and do you use them? If so, what are their deficiencies and/or strengths?

D. For the most part, information is published by EIA in U.S. customary units, e.g., cubic feet of natural gas, short tons of coal, and barrels of oil. Would you prefer to see EIA publish more information in metric units, e.g., cubic meters, metric tons, and kilograms? If yes, please specify what information (e.g., coal production, natural gas consumption, and crude oil imports), the metric unit(s) of measurement preferred, and in which EIA publication(s) you would like to see such information.

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

Statutory Authority: Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13).

Issued in Washington, DC, May 30, 1997.

Jay H. Casselberry,

Agency Clearance Officer, Office of Statistical Standards Energy Information Administration.

[FR Doc. 97-14712 Filed 6-4-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

Agency Information Dissemination Activities: Proposed Discontinuance of Dissemination by Diskette; Comment Request

AGENCY: Energy Information Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Agency information dissemination activities: Proposed discontinuance of dissemination by diskette.

SUMMARY: The Energy Information Administration (EIA) is informing the public of a proposed change in the methods that EIA uses to disseminate data files and modeling programs and is soliciting public comments on the proposal.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 7, 1997. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below of your intention to do so as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Sandra Wilkins, National Energy Information Center, EI-231, Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, telephone (202) 586-1173, e-mail swilkins@eia.doe.gov, and FAX (202) 586-0727.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Ms. Wilkins at the address listed above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Background
- II. Current Actions
- III. Request for Comments

I. Background

In order to fulfill its responsibilities under the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (Pub. L. No. 93-275) and the Department of Energy Organization Act (Pub. L. No. 95-91), the EIA is obliged to carry out a central, comprehensive, and unified energy data and information program. As part of this program, EIA collects, evaluates, assembles, analyzes, and disseminates data and forecasts related to energy

resource reserves, production, demand, and technology, and related economic and statistical information relevant to the adequacy of energy resources to meet demands in the near and longer term future for the Nation's economic and social needs.

The EIA, as part of its continuing effort to provide adequate notice when initiating, substantially modifying, or terminating significant information products, (required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13)), is issuing this notice to provide the public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on the proposed discontinuance of the dissemination of EIA's data files and modeling programs on computer diskettes.

II. Current Actions

EIA currently disseminates statistical data, forecasts, and related information using various methods including printed publications, CD-ROM (EIA's "Energy InfoDisk"), EIA's Internet site (www.eia.doe.gov), an electronic publishing system (EPUB), an electronic mail subscription service ("listserve"), computer diskettes, and, for gasoline and diesel fuel price data, a 24-hour telephone hotline. EIA's Internet site has experienced significant increases each month in accessions while requests for data files and modeling programs on diskette are very infrequent.

Given the numerous methods available for users to acquire EIA's information and to increase the efficiency of EIA's operations, EIA is proposing to discontinue releasing data files and modeling programs on computer diskettes. The diskettes have been available for purchase through the Department of Energy's Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI).

III. Request for Comments

EIA stakeholders and other interested parties should comment on the action discussed in item II.

Statutory Authority: Section 3506 (d)(3) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13).

Issued in Washington, D.C. May 29, 1997.

Jay H. Casselberry,

Agency Clearance Officer, Statistics and Methods Group, Energy Information Administration.

[FR Doc. 97-14710 Filed 6-4-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-167-004]

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Compliance Filing

May 30, 1997.

Take notice that on May 27, 1997, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia) tendered for filing the revised tariff sheets listed on Appendix A to the filing in compliance with the Commission's directives in its "Order Accepting Compliance Filing Subject to Conditions and Granting Clarification and Rehearing in Part," issued May 16, 1997. Columbia proposes an effective date of June 1, 1997 for the revised sheets.

Columbia states that the revised sheets reflect changes to Columbia's tariff directed by the Commission in the compliance order as more fully set forth in the letter transmitting the tariff sheets to the Commission.

Columbia states that copies of its filing have been mailed to all of its customers, affected state regulatory commissions, and all parties to this proceeding.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with section 385.211 of the Commission's regulations. All such protests must be made as provided in section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but such protests will not serve to make protestants parties to this proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-14645 Filed 6-4-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-166-005]

Columbia Gulf Transmission Company; Notice of Compliance Filing

May 30, 1997.

Take notice that on May 27, 1997, Columbia Gulf Transmission Company

(Columbia Gulf) tendered for filing the revised tariff sheets listed on Appendix A to the filing in compliance with the Commission's directives in its "Order on Rehearing and Second Compliance Filing," issued May 14, 1997. Columbia Gulf proposed an effective date of June 1, 1997 for the revised sheets.

Columbia Gulf states that the revised sheets reflect changes to Columbia Gulf's tariff directed by the Commission in the compliance order as more fully set forth in the letter transmitting the tariff sheets to the Commission.

Columbia Gulf states that copies of its filing have been mailed to all of its customers, affected state regulatory commissions, and all parties to this proceeding.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with section 385.211 of the Commission's Regulations. All such protests must be made as provided in section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but such protests will not serve to make protestants parties to this proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER97-2261-000]

Constellation Power Source, Inc.; Notice of Issuance of Order

May 30, 1997.

Constellation Power Source, Inc. (CPS) filed an application for authorization to sell power at market-based rates, and for certain waivers and authorizations. In particular, CPS requested that the Commission grant blanket approval under 18 CFR part 34 of all future issuances of securities and assumptions of liabilities by CPS. On May 15, 1997, the Commission issued an Order Conditionally Accepting For Filing Proposed Market-Based Rates (Order), in the above-docketed proceeding.

The Commission's May 15, 1997 Order granted the request for blanket approval under part 34, subject to the