

the Board either before or after the meeting. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact William J. Raup at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests to make oral presentations must be received five days prior to the meeting; reasonable provision will be made to include the statements in the agenda. The Chair of the Board is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting will be available for public review and copying within 30 days at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC, on March 30, 1998.

Rachel M. Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-8672 Filed 4-1-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Energy Information Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Agency information collection activities: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Energy Information Administration (EIA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension to FE-329R, "Regulations Implementing the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978."

DATES: Written comments must be submitted by June 1, 1998. 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 make a submission as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Ms. Ellen Russell, Fossil Energy, FE-52, Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, (Phone—(202) 586-9624) (e-mail address—ellen.russell@hq.doe.gov) and FAX (202-586-6050).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Ms. Russell 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 Energy Information Administration (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 information 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 reduce paperwork and respondent burden (required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13)), conducts a presurvey consultation program to provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing reporting documents. This program helps to prepare data requests in the desired format, minimize reporting burden, develop clearly understandable reporting documents, and assess the impact of collection requirements on respondents. Also, EIA will later seek approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the collections under Section 3507(h) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13, Title 44, U.S.C. Chapter 35).

A three-year extension of OMB's approval for the information collection requirements contained in 10 CFR parts 500, 501, 503, and 504 regulations (OMB No. 1901-0297) is being requested. The owners/operators of powerplants may self-certify the alternate fuel capability of their powerplants. The Office of Fossil Energy uses the data to verify that the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 provisions are met.

II. Current Actions

This request is for a three-year extension of the current OMB expiration

date, with no changes to the regulations in 10 CFR 500, 501, 503, and 504.

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.

General Issues

A. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency and 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 this collection is estimated to average 20 hours per response. 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 estimate 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?

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, D.C. March 26, 1998.

Jay H. Casselberry,

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

[FR Doc. 98-8668 Filed 4-1-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

American Statistical Association Committee on Energy Statistics; Notice of Open Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), notice is hereby given of the following meeting:

Name: American Statistical Association Committee on Energy Statistics.

Date and Time: Thursday, April 23, 9:00 a.m.—4:45 p.m. Friday, April 24, 9:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Place: Holiday Inn-Capitol, 550 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. William I. Weinig, EI-70, Committee Liaison, Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, Telephone: (202) 426-1101.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of Committee

To advise the Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration (EIA), on EIA technical statistical issues and to enable the EIA to benefit from the Committee's expertise concerning other energy statistical matters.

Tentative Agenda

Thursday, April 23, 1998

- A. Opening Remarks
- B. Greenhouse Gases and Analysis
- C. Modeling the New England Power Pool
- D. An Introduction to Web-site Related Challenges
- E. Public Comment

Friday, April 24, 1998

- A. Addressing Declining Budgets with Improved Survey Technologies
- B. Future Electric Power Data

C. Efforts to Minimize Impacts of Deregulation on Respondent Cooperation

D. Public Comment

E. Closing Comments by the Chairperson

Public Participation

The meeting is open to the public. The Chairperson of the committee is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Written statements may be filed with the committee either before or after the meeting. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. William Weinig, EIA Committee Liaison, at the address or telephone number listed above.

Transcripts

Available for public review and copying at the Public Reading Room, (Room 1E-190), 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-3142, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Issued at Washington, DC on March 30, 1998.

Rachel M. Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-8671 Filed 4-1-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-284-000]

Northern Border Pipeline Company; Notice of Application for Abandonment

March 27, 1998.

Take notice that on March 17, 1998, Northern Border Pipeline Company (Northern Border) 1111 South 103rd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124 filed in Docket No. CP98-284-000, an application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act for permission and approval to abandon certain measurement facilities at the Ventura Measurement Station (Ventura Station) located near Ventura, Iowa, all as more fully set forth in the application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Specifically, Northern Border proposes to abandon nine 12-inch meter runs, the run pipe and valves for a tenth meter run, the inlet and outlet headers and appurtenances at the Ventura Station. Northern Border states that the existing measurement facilities are no longer required a Northern Border is

installing a single 30-inch ultrasonic meter at the Ventura Station to accommodate the measurement of natural gas delivered at the Ventura Station. Northern Border asserts that the existing orifice meters are functioning near operational limits and the abandonment of these existing measurement facilities and the installation of the ultrasonic meter will result in reduced operation and maintenance expenses. Northern Border indicates that the estimated cost of removal of the facilities is \$10,000 and the estimated salvage value of the facilities is \$380,599.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before April 17, 1998, 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 385.214 or 385.211) 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 Regulation 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 application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that permission and approval for the proposed abandonment are 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 Northern Border to appear or be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-8620 Filed 4-1-98; 8:45 am]

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