

Cost Allocation

Under the proposed New Services Agreement, GPUS will render all services on an at cost basis. Each core business or support process in the Operations Division will maintain records to accumulate all costs of doing business and to determine the cost of service. The factors in determining cost of service include: wages and salaries of employees, fees and other charges of contractors supplying goods and services, and related expenses, like insurance, taxes, pensions and other employee welfare expenses. The Corporate Division will maintain records of general administrative expenses, including the costs of operating GPUS as a corporate entity.

Whenever possible, charges for services rendered or personnel assigned or leased to a particular Public Utility Company and related expenses and nonpersonnel expenses incurred for the benefit of a particular Public Utility Company will be billed directly to that Public Utility Company.

When an Operations Division service is rendered for the benefit of two or more companies and the benefits cannot be directly charged, the costs will be shared by the receiving companies in proportion to the average of: (1) Gross distribution plant, (2) energy delivered to ultimate consumers in KWH, and (3) operating and maintenance expense excluding purchased power. This multiple factor formula is currently in use and the factors are updated annually. The formula will be applied to those functions that provide support services for the operation of the Public Utility Companies, GPUN and Genco.

When a Corporate Division service which is principally used by the Public Utility Companies cannot be directly charged, the multiple factor formula will be used. In other cases, Corporate Division services which cannot be directly charged will be allocated based on the direct payroll cost ratio formula. This formula is based on the amount of payroll and payroll overheads directly charged to individual GPU system companies, including nonutility subsidiaries. The direct payroll cost ratio formula will equitably allocate the costs of Corporate Division services to all GPU system companies, since the bulk of the allocated costs associated with the Corporate Division is represented by payroll.

The applicants represent that all other costs will be fairly and equitably allocated in accordance with rules 90 and 91 of the Act.

Applicants undertake not to change the organization of GPUS, the type and

character of the companies to be serviced, the methods of cost allocation among the Public Utility Companies, the scope or character of the services rendered subject to section 13 of the Act, or any applicable rule, regulation or order without prior Commission authorization by order or under the 60-day letter procedure.

Applicants represent that the proposed consolidation will not involve the formation of any new legal entities, the write-down of any rate-based assets or the transfer of any utility assets. GPUS will obtain working capital from a working capital account, funded by the Public Utility Companies and established under Article 6 of the proposed New Services Agreement.

New Century Energies, Inc., et al. (70-9341)

New Century Energies, Inc. ("New Century Energies"), a registered holding company, located at 1225 17th Street, Denver, Colorado, 80202-5534, has filed an application-declaration under sections 6(a), 7, 12(b), 32 and 33 of the Act and rules 45, 53, and 54 under the Act.

New Century Energies is currently authorized under the terms of orders dated August 1, 1997 and May 14, 1998 (NCAR Nos. 26750 and HCAR Nos. 26872, respectively), among other things, to use the proceeds of the issuance of short-term debt and common stock to invest, directly or indirectly through one or more special purpose subsidiaries or project parents ("Intermediate Subsidiaries"), in exempt wholesale generators ("EWGs") and foreign utility companies ("FUCOs"), and to issue guarantees of the obligations of these entities. Under the terms of these orders and rule 53(a)(1) under the Act, New Century Energies may not use the net proceeds of these issuances for these investments or issue guarantees for these obligations if New Century Energies' "aggregate investment," as defined in rule 53(a) under the Act, in all EWGs and FUCOs exceeds 50% of New Century Energies' "consolidated retained earnings," as defined in the rule.

New Century Energies requests that the Commission modify this limitation and exempt New Century Energies from the requirements of rule 53(a)(1). Specifically, New Century Energies requests an order that would allow it to use the net proceeds of common stock sales and borrowings to invest in EWGs and FUCOs and to issue guarantees of the obligations of these entities¹⁵ in an

¹⁵ Guarantees may also be issued for the obligations of Intermediate Subsidiaries.

aggregate amount that, when added to new Century Energies' then existing aggregate investment in EWGs and FUCOs, would not at any time exceed 100% of New Century Energies' consolidated retained earnings.¹⁶

New Century Energies' aggregate investment in EWGs and FUCOs as of December 31, 1997 (approximately \$364.4 million) represents approximately 50.9% of its consolidated retained earnings (approximately \$715.6 million).

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-27119 Filed 10-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Data Collection Available for Public Comments and Recommendations

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Small Business Administration's intentions to request approval on a new, and/or currently approved information collection.

DATES: Comments should be submitted on or before December 8, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Curtis B. Rich, Management Analyst, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, S.W., Suite 5000, Washington, D.C. 20416. Phone Number: 202-205-6629.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: "Validation of Pass Registration".

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Form No's: 1167 and 1395.

Description of Respondents: Small Businesses interested in federal procurement Opportunities.

Annual Responses: 189,600.

Annual Burden: 33,200.

Comments: Send all comments regarding this information collection to, Glen Harwood, Pass Program Manager, Office of Government Contracting, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street S.W., Suite 8000, Washington, D.C. 20416. Phone No: 202-205-7310.

Send comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary

¹⁶ New Century Energies is currently seeking authority in a separate filing to issue certain debt securities, the proceeds of which would be used, among other things, to invest in EWGs and FUCOs.

for the proper performance of the function of the agency, accuracy of burden estimate, in addition to ways to minimize this estimate, and ways to enhance the quality.

Title: "Evaluation of the 7(a) and 504 Guaranteed Loan" Programs.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Form No: 1980.

Description of Respondents: 7(a) and Guaranteed Loan participants.

Annual Responses: 700.

Annual Burden: 583.

Comments: Send all comments regarding this information collection to, Gail Hepler, Financial Analyst, Office of Financial Assistance, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street S.W., Suite 8300, Washington, D.C. 20416. Phone No: 202-205-7530.

Send comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, accuracy of burden estimate, in addition to ways to minimize this estimate, and ways to enhance the quality.

Jacqueline White,

Chief, Administrative Information Branch

[FR Doc. 98-27224 Filed 10-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3133]

State of Louisiana; And Contiguous Counties in Mississippi and Texas

As a result of the President's major disaster declaration on September 23, 1998, and amendments thereto on September 30, I find that the following Parishes in the State of Louisiana constitute a disaster area due to damages caused by Tropical Storm Francis and Hurricane Georges beginning on September 9, 1998 and continuing: Cameron, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. John The Baptist, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, and Washington. Applications for loans for physical damage may be filed until the close of business on November 22, 1998 and for economic injury until the close of business on June 23, 1999 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations:

U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 3 Office, 4400 Amon Carter Blvd., Suite 102, Ft. Worth, TX 76155

In addition, applications for economic injury loans from small businesses located in the following contiguous parishes and counties may be filed until

the specified date at the above location: Ascension, Assumption, Calcasieu, East Baton Rouge, Jefferson Davis, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. Mary, and Vermilion Parishes in the State of Louisiana; Amite, Hancock, Marion, Pearl River, Pike, and Walthall Counties in the State of Mississippi; and Jefferson and Orange Counties in the State of Texas.

The interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners With Credit Available Elsewhere	6.875
Homeowners Without Credit Available Elsewhere	3.437
Businesses With Credit Available Elsewhere	8.000
Businesses and Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere	4.000
Others (Including Non-Profit Organizations) With Credit Available Elsewhere	7.125
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and Small Agricultural Cooperatives Without Credit Available Elsewhere ...	4.000

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 313308. For economic injury the numbers are 9A1400 for Louisiana, 9A1500 for Texas, and 9A3000 for Mississippi.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: October 1, 1998,

Bernard Kulik,

Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 98-27222 Filed 10-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3137]

State of South Carolina

Charleston County and the contiguous counties of Berkeley, Dorchester, Colleton, and Georgetown in the State of South Carolina constitute a disaster area as a result of excessive amounts of rainfall that occurred on September 21, 1998. Applications for loans for physical damage as a result of this disaster may be filed until the close of business on November 30, 1998 and for loans for economic injury until the close of business on July 1, 1999 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations:

U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 2 Office, One Baltimore Place, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30308

The interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage	
Homeowners With Credit Available Elsewhere	6.875
Homeowners Without Credit Available Elsewhere	3.437
Businesses With Credit Available Elsewhere	8.000
Businesses and Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere	4.000
Others (Including Non-Profit Organizations) With Credit Available Elsewhere	7.125
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and Small Agricultural Cooperatives Without Credit Available Elsewhere ...	4.000

The numbers assigned to this disaster are 313706 for physical damage and 9A2600 for economic injury.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: October 1, 1998.

Fred P. Hochberg,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-27220 Filed 10-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3136]

U.S. Territory of the Virgin Islands

As a result of the President's major disaster declaration on September 28, 1998, I find that the Islands of St. Croix, St. John, St. Thomas, and Water Island in the U.S. Virgin Islands constitute a disaster area due to damages caused by Hurricane Georges which occurred September 19-22, 1998. Applications for loans for physical damages may be filed until the close of business on November 27, 1998, and for loans for economic injury until the close of business on June 28, 1999 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations:

U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 1 Office, 360 Rainbow Blvd., South, 3rd Floor, Niagara Falls, NY 14303

The interest rates are:

	Percent
Physical Damage:	
Homeowners With Credit Available Elsewhere	6.875
Homeowners Without Credit Available Elsewhere	3.437
Businesses With Credit Available Elsewhere	8.000
Businesses and Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere	4.000