

Facilities investment with interest. Western will continue to include these revenues in the power repayment study as they are received.

Joint Planning Study Costs

Comment: A Contractor continues to address concern for costs incurred under the Joint Planning Agreement (JPA) for future transmission and generation project studies, which the contractor asserts are being allocated inappropriately to the BCP Contractors. The Contractor believes these study costs, in addition to the costs required for any transmission upgrades to the system (generator addition, transmission interconnection, etc.), should be charged to the project sponsors or included in Western's Open Access Tariff (OAT) rates. The Contractor also states whether the study costs are charged to the project sponsors or included in the OAT rates, the JPA study costs to date should be tracked and reimbursed to the BCP Contractors.

Response: Western agrees that study work which is project specific to a new line in Western's system, or an interconnection to Western's system, should and will be charged to the entity requesting the interconnection or to the Project (Parker-Davis, Intertie, Boulder Canyon, Colorado River Storage Project) which is being upgraded. Study work charges for the Mead Fault 230-kV duty studies will be charged to the projects shown to impact the system causing the upgrade. After completion of the contracts with those entities causing the impact, Western will be able to move the charges from the BCP, and other Projects, to the entities causing the needed upgrade.

If a project is not interconnecting to Western's system but could potentially cause an impact from one or more busses away, Western will have to perform studies and participate in study groups to assure our needs are considered and met. Often these situations do not enable Western to pass along study costs to the project. In these cases the costs are applied to those Projects on Western's system that are most impacted.

If studies work is of a general nature, Western reserves the authority to assign costs to the Project influenced by the project involved. Work on the California Independent System Operator, the Nevada Independent Scheduling Administrator, and the Arizona Independent Scheduling Administrator is of a general nature. BCP will receive charges from work on these efforts since they pertain to the use of Hoover in their operations, as well as other transmission and generation issues.

BCP's participation is 15 percent of the total cost of the efforts. Western's efforts in the Western Systems Coordinating Council and other reliability forums will also be charged based on the distribution formula for general efforts. In recent years, due to deregulation and significant systems changes, Western has been required to expend an increasing effort to address and protect system reliability.

Finally, the Contractor seems to have misconstrued the nature of the JPA. The JPA is a forum to review projects being considered by JPA signatories to coordinate and collaborate. Studies are performed on upgrades or new initiatives, charged to the appropriate Project, presented and discussed in the JPA committee meetings, and finalized in the annual JPA meeting before becoming a part of Western's system plans. The JPA has also been used as a forum to keep JPA signatories and other interested parties aware of activities impacting the systems.

By Amendment No. 3 to Delegation Order No. 0204-108, published November 10, 1993 (58 FR 59716), the Secretary of Energy delegated (1) the authority to develop long-term power and transmission rates on a nonexclusive basis to the Administrator of Western; (2) the authority to confirm, approve, and place such rates into effect on an interim basis to the Deputy Secretary of Energy; and (3) the authority to confirm, approve, and place into effect on a final basis, to remand, or to disapprove such rates to FERC. By subsequent Order effective April 15, 1999, the Secretary rescinded all delegations of authority to the Deputy Secretary, whether contained in Delegation Orders, Departmental Directives, or elsewhere, concerning the Department's Power Marketing Administrations, including, but not limited to, authority delegated or affirmed in Delegation Order No. 0204-108, as amended. However, on November 24, 1999, in Delegation Order No. 0204-172 the Secretary reinstate the authority delegated to the Deputy Secretary in Amendment No. 3 to Delegation Order No. 0204-108, which had been rescinded by his April 15, 1999, Order.

These charges and rates are established pursuant to section 302(a) of the DOE Organization Act, 42 U.S.C. 7152(a), through which the power marketing functions of the Secretary of the Interior and Reclamation under the Reclamation Act of 1902, 43 U.S.C. 371, *et seq.*, as amended and supplemented by subsequent enactments, particularly section 9(c) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939, 43 U.S.C. 485h(c), and

other acts specifically applicable to the project system involved, were transferred to and vested in the Secretary.

Dated: December 3, 1999.

T.J. Glauthier,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-32411 Filed 12-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6509-1]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; A Pilot Study of Children's Total Exposure to Persistent Pesticides and Other Persistent Organic Pollutants (CTEPP)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: A Pilot Study of Children's Total Exposure to Persistent Pesticides and Other Persistent Organic Pollutants, EPA ICR Number 1892.02. 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 January 14, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the ICR contact Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260-2740, by email at farmer.sandy@epa.gov, or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1892.02. For technical information about the collection contact Gary Evans at (919) 541-3124.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: A Pilot Study of Children's Total Exposure to Persistent Pesticides and Other Persistent Organic Pollutants, EPA ICR Number 1892.02. This is a new collection.

Abstract: The research study, "A Pilot Study of Children's Total Exposure to Persistent Pesticides and Other Persistent Organic Pollutants," (CTEPP) is a pilot-scale project involving about 260 children, which investigates the possible exposures that young children may have to common contaminants in their everyday surroundings. These

contaminants include several pesticides, phenols, polychlorinated biphenyls, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, some of which are suspected of being endocrine disrupters. The targeted compounds are persistent in the indoor and sometimes the outdoor environments, so that very low levels may exist in the children's surrounding microenvironments and provide a source of chronic, non-acute exposure. The aim of CTEPP is to obtain scientifically valid data and statistically robust relationships describing the exposures of a subpopulation of young children, between the ages of 18 months and 5 years, in several North Carolina and Ohio counties. The CTEPP data will be used to evaluate and refine existing exposure models so that improved, realistic estimates of exposure can be made, and to identify the important exposure pathways.

The CTEPP study has direct practical utility to the Food Quality and Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA). It will provide critical data on aggregate chronic, sub-acute pesticide exposures and pathways for approximately 260 children in several microenvironments. It will allow evaluation and refinement of the approaches and models used for estimating exposure, and it will facilitate the identification of the important exposure pathways. The objectives of CTEPP are thus threefold: (1) To measure the total exposures at sub-acute levels of a small set of preschool children in several NC and OH counties to a suite of persistent pesticides and other persistent organic pollutants that they may encounter in their everyday environments; (2) to evaluate and refine exposure models using real, physical data; and (3) to apportion the exposure pathways and identify the important exposure media, so that ultimately children's exposures can be lowered. Therefore, CTEPP investigates the total exposures to persistent organic compounds in the environment of a group of pre-elementary school children through the ingestion, inhalation, and dermal absorption pathways, in several non-occupational settings, through multiple environmental media.

Responses to the collection of information are voluntary. 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 and 48 CFR Chapter 15. The **Federal Register** document required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of

information was published on 2/1/1999 (64 FR 4868); no comments were received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6.3 hours per respondent. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes 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.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Parents, day care or pre-school operators, children.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 312.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 657 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden (non-labor costs): \$0.

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 1892.02 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Information, Collection Strategies Division (2822), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460; and

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: December 10, 1999.

Oscar Morales,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

[FR Doc. 99-32519 Filed 12-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6509-2]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; National Health Protection Survey of Beaches

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*), this document announces that the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: National Health Protection Survey of Beaches, EPA ICR Number 1814.02, OMB Control Number 2040-0189, expiration date 02/29/2000. 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 January 14, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandy Farmer at EPA, (202) 260-2740, by email at farmer.sandy@epa.gov, or download a copy off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1814.02.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: National Health Protection Survey of Beaches (OMB Control No. 2040-0189; EPA ICR No. 1814.02; expiring 02/29/00). This is a request for an extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Bacterial and other microbiological contaminants continue to pose potentially serious human health problems for the Nation's recreational waters, including bathing beaches. These adverse effects have been one of EPA's long-standing concerns. They are directly related to such Clean Water Act responsibilities as water quality standards and surface water quality, and to the Agency's efforts to ensure that the waters of the United States are "fishable" and "swimmable." In 1986, EPA formally issued a revision to its bacteriological ambient water quality criteria recommendations to protect persons participating in body contact recreation. Since that time, few states have adopted the revised criteria, and the use of the bacterial criteria has varied greatly from one location to the next. In addition, recent studies have confirmed the adverse health effects resulting from