

implements these filing requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) under 18 CFR part 33.

*Action:* The Commission is requesting a three-year approval of these reporting requirements, with no changes to the existing collection of data.

*Burden Statement:* Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents annually (1)	Number of responses per respondent* (2)	Average burden hours per response # (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)x(2)x(3)
134 .....	1	395	52,930

\*The Commission anticipates that over the next three years it will receive on average per year the following number of filings: merger applications (2); disposition of facilities (109); corporate restructuring (20); and acquisition of securities (3).

\*The Commission has estimated that it takes on average anywhere from 91 hours to 12,557 hours to comply with the requirements of Part 33 and encompasses non-merger transactions i.e. divestiture of assets, acquisition of securities; simple merger applications where no competitive concerns are raised to complex merger applications where horizontal competitive concerns are raised and there is a need for extensive analysis.

Estimated cost burden to respondents: 52,930 hours / 2,080 hours per year × \$107,185 per year = \$2,727,549.

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information including:

(1) Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) 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; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the

burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond.

**Linda Mitry,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E4-1861 Filed 8-19-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC04-574-000; FERC-574]

#### Commission Information Collection Activities, Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension

August 16, 2004.

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of section 3506(c)(2)(a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described below.

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due by October 15, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained from and written comments may be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Attn: Michael Miller, Office of the Executive Director, ED-30, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Comments may be filed either in paper format or electronically. Those parties filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing. For paper filings, the original and 14 copies of such comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First

Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 and refer to Docket No. IC04-574-000.

Documents filed electronically via the Internet must be prepared in WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format, or ASCII format. To file the document, access the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> and click on "Make an E-filing," and then follow the instructions for each screen. First time users will have to establish a user name and password. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgement to the sender's e-mail address upon receipt of comments.

All comments may be viewed, printed or downloaded remotely via the Internet through FERC's home page using the eLibrary link. For user assistance, contact [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-free at (866) 208-3676 or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 502-8415, by fax at (202) 273-0873, and by e-mail at [michael.miller@ferc.gov](mailto:michael.miller@ferc.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The information collected under the requirements of FERC-574 "Gas Pipeline Certificates: Hinshaw Exemption" (OMB No. 1902-0116) is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of sections 1(c), 4 and 7 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) (Pub. L. 75-688) (15 U.S.C. 717-717w). Natural gas pipeline companies file applications with the Commission furnishing information in order for a determination to be made as to whether the applicant qualifies for an exemption under the provisions of the Natural Gas Act (section 1(c)). If the exemption is granted, the pipeline is not required to file certificate applications, rate schedules, or any other applications or forms prescribed by the Commission.

The exemption applies to companies engaged in the transportation or sale for resale of natural gas in interstate

commerce if: (a) It receives gas at or within the boundaries of the state from another person; (b) such gas is transported, sold, consumed within such state; (c) the rates, service and facilities of such company are subject to regulation by a State Commission. The

data required to be filed by pipeline companies for an exemption is specified by 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 152.

*Action:* The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the current

expiration date, with no changes to the existing collection of data.

*Burden Statement:* Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents annually (1)	Number of responses per respondent (2)	Average burden hours per response (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)×(2)×(3)
1 .....	1	245	245

The estimated total cost to respondents is \$12,625 (245 hours divided by 2,080 hours per employee per year times \$107,185 per year average salary (including overhead) per employee = \$12,625 (rounded off)).

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information including: (1) Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) 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; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information

on those who are to respond, including 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.

**Linda Mitry,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC04-576-000; FERC-576]

#### Commission Information Collection Activities, Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension

August 16, 2004.

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of Section 3506(c)(2)(a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described below.

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due by October 15, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained from and written comments may be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Attn: Michael Miller, Office of the Executive Director, ED-30, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. Comments may be filed either in paper format or electronically. Those parties filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing. For paper filings, the original and 14 copies of such

comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 and refer to Docket No. IC04-576-000.

Documents filed electronically via the Internet must be prepared in WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format, or ASCII format. To file the document, access the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> and click on "Make an E-filing," and then follow the instructions for each screen. First time users will have to establish a user name and password. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgement to the sender's e-mail address upon receipt of comments.

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#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 502-8415, by fax at (202) 273-0873, and by e-mail at [michael.miller@ferc.gov](mailto:michael.miller@ferc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The information collected under the requirements of FERC-576 "Report by Certain Gas Companies of Service Interruptions" (OMB No. 1902-0004) is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of Sections 4, 7, 10 and 16 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) (Pub. L. 75-688, 52 Stat. 821-833, 15 U.S.C. 717-717w). The Commission is authorized to oversee continuity of service in the transportation of natural gas in interstate commerce. The information collected by FERC-576 notifies the Commission in a timely manner of any interruption of service or possible hazard to public health or safety.

The Commission in response to timely notification of a serious interruption may contact other pipelines to determine available supply, and if