

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory
CommissionNotice of Application Tendered for
Filing With the Commission

October 14, 1997.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

- a. *Type of Application:* Minor License.
- b. *Project No.:* P-10768-001.
- c. *Date Filed:* August 28, 1997.
- d. *Applicant:* City of Portland, Michigan.
- e. *Name of Project:* Municipal Hydroelectric Facility.
- f. *Location:* On the Grand River in Ionia County, Michigan.
- g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. 791 (a)-825(r).
- h. *Applicant Contact:* Robert Masselink, P.E. or Glen Hendrix, Earth Tech, Inc., 5555 Glenwood Hills Parkway, Grand Rapids, MI 49588, (616) 942-9600.
- i. *FERC Contact:* William Diehl, P.E. (202) 219-2813.
- j. *Comment Date:* 60 days from the issuance date of this notice.
- k. *Description of Project:* The constructed project consists of the Portland Municipal Dam, a reservoir of about 625 acre-feet on the Grand River, and a forebay and powerhouse complex located at the south end of the dam. The powerhouse is equipped with two turbine-generator units having a total installed capacity of 375 kW.
- 1. With this notice, we are initiating consultation with the MICHIGAN STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER (SHPO), as required by section 106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 36, CFR 800.4.
- m. Pursuant to § 4.32(b)(7) of 18 CFR of the Commission's regulations, if any resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person believes that an additional scientific study should be conducted in order to form an adequate factual basis for a complete analysis of the application on its merit, the resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person must file a request for a study with the Commission not later than 60 days from the issuance date of this notice and serve a copy of the request on the applicant.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-27664 Filed 10-17-97; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY

[FRL-5910-6]

Agency Announcement of Information
Collection Activities: 1997 Iron and
Steel Industry Survey (EPA ICR No.
1830.01)AGENCY: Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is planning to submit the following proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): 1997 Iron and Steel Industry Survey (EPA ICR No. 1830.01). This industry includes cokemaking, sintering, ironmaking, steelmaking, ladle metallurgy, vacuum degassing, casting, hot forming, salt bath descaling, acid pickling, cold forming, alkaline cleaning, hot coating, and electroplating. Before submitting an Information Collection Request (ICR) to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments from the public on specific aspects of the proposed information collection survey instrument as described below.

DATES: Comments must be received by EPA no later than December 19, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The public may contact Mr. George Jett at the EPA for a paper copy of the draft survey instrument or may download the draft survey instrument from the Internet at: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/Events/index.html#ann>. Mr. Jett may be reached by mail at the U.S. EPA, Engineering and Analysis Division (Mail Code 4303), 401 M Street SW., Washington, DC 20460; or by telephone at (202) 260-7151 or FAX at 202-260-7185. The draft survey instrument includes all pertinent instructions, information request questions, and definitions.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected Entities: Entities affected by the proposed survey include facilities that manufacture iron and steel included in the following manufacturing operations: cokemaking, sintering, ironmaking, steelmaking, ladle metallurgy, vacuum degassing, casting, hot forming, salt bath descaling, acid pickling, cold forming, alkaline cleaning, hot coating, and electroplating. The survey is intended to identify and collect data from iron and steel industrial sites that generate and

discharge process wastewater from all manufacturing processes associated with potential water-using industrial activities.

Title: 1997 Iron and Steel Industry Survey (EPA ICR No. 1830.01).

Abstract: The survey is intended to collect technical (Part A) and economic (Part B) information required by EPA in order to develop revised effluent limitations guidelines for the iron and steel manufacturing point source category as described above. EPA is required by section 304 (m) of the Clean Water Act of 1987 (33 U.S.C. 1314 [ml]) to review effluent limitations guidelines and standards periodically to determine whether the current regulations remain appropriate in light of changes in the industrial category caused by advances in manufacturing technologies, in-process pollution prevention, or end-of-pipe wastewater treatment. EPA is also required by the terms of a Consent Decree with the Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. (NRDC), to develop revised effluent limitations guidelines and standards for the Iron & Steel industry (D.D.C. Civ. No. 89-2980, January 31, 1992, as modified). This survey is being conducted pursuant to those legislative and judicial requirements.

This survey instrument will be issued under authority of section 308 of the Clean Water Act of 1987 (Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 5 U.S.C. 1318), and responses from data collection survey instrument recipients are mandatory. The survey instruments will be mailed to respondents after OMB approves the ICR. The ICR that will be submitted by EPA to OMB will include discussion of the comments received in response to today's announcement. The proposed survey instrument is a necessary part of the data collection portion of the effluent limitations guidelines development process. The proposed survey instrument will provide EPA with the technical and economic data required to evaluate effective pollution control technologies and the economic achievability of any final rule that the Agency issues. EPA will consider both technical performance and economic achievability when making final decisions on 40 CFR part 420.

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 EPA would like to solicit comments to:

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) Evaluate 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;

(iii) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through 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.

Burden Statement: 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.

The proposed survey instrument was developed in such a manner as to reduce burden and improve clarity. EPA has conducted several outreach meetings through project status briefings with the major industry trade associations. Additionally, the survey instrument was distributed in advance of this notice to the following industry trade associations: American Iron and Steel Institute, Steel Manufacturers Association, Specialty Steel Industry of North America, the Cold Finished Steel Bar Institute, The Wire Association International, Incorporated, the Steel Tube Institute of North America, and the American Galvanizers Association, Incorporated.

Because of the complexity of the industry and the substantial changes in the iron and steel industry since part 420 was promulgated (47 FR 23284, May 27, 1982), EPA has decided to prepare a detailed survey instrument to characterize accurately current conditions in the iron and steel industry as a basis for establishing equitable regulations. The September 1995 "Preliminary Study of the Iron and Steel Category, 40 CFR part 420 Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards" (EPA 821-R-95-037), provides the basis for reassessing the existing regulations. This document is available through the National Technical Information Services under document number PB 96-126-156.

EPA typically develops and distributes a screener questionnaire in order to better define the target population for a regulation. The

screener allows the agency to eliminate facilities from consideration which are not anticipated to fit under the scope of the regulation. However, for the iron and steel industry, a number of factors make this additional step unnecessary. These factors include the existence of well organized trade associations, facility lists from a variety of data sources, and past agency experience. EPA believes that the target population for this regulation (approximately 577 facilities) is small enough that the survey instrument can be distributed to all facilities. (This number may change before the survey is mailed as we refine our methodology for determining the target population). Therefore there will be no screener questionnaire, and the survey instrument will be considered as a complete census and not merely a partial survey of the industry. This will allow the Agency to characterize more accurately the industry, and thereby develop a regulation more pertinent to the entire industry than if a partial survey were used. The Agency solicits comment on this decision.

The EPA burden estimate on industrial facilities is deemed to be primarily proportional to the types and number of manufacturing processes. The EPA burden estimate is presented in Table 1. The EPA burden estimate is based on an estimated population of 577 facilities with different configurations of manufacturing processes (from large integrated mills to medium sized mills (mini-mills) to small stand alone facilities). EPA estimates that the total burden will be 98,895 hours.

TABLE 1.—BURDEN ESTIMATE FOR 1997 IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY SURVEY

	Large	Medium	Small
Number of Facilities	22	130	425
Technical Hours/Facility	515	195	105
Economic Hours/Facility	45	40	30

Finally, EPA will maintain a temporary, toll-free telephone number once the survey instrument has been mailed that survey recipients may call to obtain assistance in completing the survey instrument. EPA believes that the toll-free telephone number will greatly reduce burden by helping recipients to answer specific questions within the context of their individual operations.

Request for Comments: Since EPA must develop a sound technical and economic basis for equitable national standards, EPA is soliciting comments and suggestions regarding the substance and form of the draft survey instrument.

For example, are the directions and questions clear and concise; are the definitions consistent with industry jargon and use of terms; are the right questions in the survey; if not, please suggest more appropriate ones; do the questions adequately cover all pertinent factors relevant to developing equitable guidelines; if not, what needs to be added? EPA is also soliciting comments on means of reducing the data collection burden. EPA requests that all suggestions be supported in order to properly evaluate the suggestion. Any burden reduction suggestions must consider the need to collect information on the pollutants being discharged by

the industries, the processes that generate the pollutants, alternative controls, the economic achievability of the proposed regulations, and the benefits derived from reducing pollution in our oceans, lakes, rivers, and streams. Please send any suggestions to Mr. George Jett at the address listed above.

Tudor T. Davies,

Director, Office of Science and Technology.

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