

Command, which performs as its principle function the enforcement of criminal laws.

Information specifically authorized to be classified under E.O. 12958, as implemented by DoD 5200.1-R, may be exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(1).

Records maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President and other individuals under 18 U.S.C. 3506, may be exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(3).

Records maintained solely for statistical research or program evaluation purposes and which are not used to make decisions on the rights, benefits, or entitlement of an individual except for census records which may be disclosed under 13 U.S.C. 8, may be exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(4).

Investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for federal civilian employment, military service, federal contracts, or access to classified information may be exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(5), but only to the extent that such material would reveal the identity of a confidential source.

Testing or examination material used solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the Federal service may be exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(6), if the disclosure would compromise the objectivity or fairness of the test or examination process.

An exemption rule for this system has been promulgated in accordance with requirements of 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(1), (2), and (3), (c) and (e) and published in 32 CFR part 701, subpart G. For additional information, contact the system manager.

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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 modifications and extensions of the following Electric Power Forms:

EIA-411, "Coordinated Bulk Power Supply Program Report;"

EIA-412, "Annual Report of Public Electric Utilities;"

EIA-417R, "Electric Power Systems Emergency Report;"

EIA-759, "Monthly Power Plant Report;"

EIA-767, "Steam-Electric Plant Operation and Design Report;"

EIA-826, "Monthly Electric Utility Sales and Revenue Report with State Distributions;"

EIA-860, "Annual Electric Generator Report;"

EIA-861, "Annual Electric Utility Report;"

EIA-867, "Annual Nonutility Power Producer Report;" and

EIA-900, "Monthly Nonutility Sales for Resale Report."

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before August 31, 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 DOE contact listed below of your intention to do so as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to John G. Colligan, Energy Information Administration, Electric Power Division, EI-53, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0650; telephone (202) 426-1174; e-mail jcolliga@eia.doe.gov; and FAX (202) 426-1311.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of forms and instruction sets should be directed to John Colligan 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. 93-275) and the Department of Energy Organization Act (Pub. L. 95-91), the 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 forms. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden is minimized, reporting forms are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. 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. 104-13, Title 44, U.S.C. Chapter 35).

#### Confidentiality Notice

The issue of the confidential treatment of data collected on any of the forms listed above is being addressed and will be resolved as a separate matter under other **Federal Register** notices. Whatever final confidentiality procedures are implemented will be applied to each of the EIA survey forms above as appropriate.

#### II. Current Actions

The EIA will request (a) a 3-year extension, through December 31, 2001, for all forms listed, and (b) modifications to the specific forms as described below. The proposed changes the EIA is requesting through this action reflect the current state of the electric power industry.

Additional changes may be required, prior to the new expiration date, in order to be up-to-date with the rapidly changing industry.

Form EIA-411, "Coordinated Bulk Power Supply Program," Propose changing planning projections period (Items 1, 2, and 4) from 10 years to 5 years. The form and instructions will be modified to show this changes.

Form EIA-412, "Annual Report of Public Electric Utilities," Propose changing the reporting threshold from 120,000 MWh to 150,000 MWh. The instructions will be modified to show this change.

Form EIA-417R, "Annual Summary of Emergency Occurrences," no change.

Form EIA-759, "Monthly Power Plant Report," no change.

Form EIA-767, "Steam-Electric Plant Operation and Design Report," no change.

Form EIA-826, "Monthly Electric Utility Sales and Revenue Report with State Distributions." Propose adding

two new data tables: (1) the distribution company will be asked to provide data about the monthly bill if they are billing the consumer for another energy service provider; and (2) the energy service provider will report data if billing is done by them or a third party other than the distribution company. The form and instructions will be modified to show these changes.

Form EIA-860, "Annual Electric Generator Report," two changes are proposed: (1) the survey form designation and name will be altered to, Form EIA-860-A, "Annual Electric Generator Report—Utility;" and (2) the planning projection period (Schedule II and Schedule III) will be changed from 10 years to 5 years. The form and instructions will be modified to show these changes.

Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Utility Report." Three changes are proposed: (1) Item 5 on Schedule II indicating new plant intention(s) will be deleted; (2) Schedule IV will require energy service providers to report the total dollars paid by the consumer(s) whether or not the energy service provider issues the bill; and (3) the Demand Side Management (Schedule V) threshold will be raised from 120,000 MWh to 150,000 MWh. The form and instructions will be modified to show these changes.

Form EIA-867, "Annual Nonutility Power Producer Report." Three changes are proposed: (1) the form name and number will be changed to, Form EIA-860-B "Annual Electric Generator Report—Nonutility"; (2) Item 3(a) estimated useful thermal output and 3(b) thermal output used will be added to Schedule IVB. The form and instructions will be modified to show these changes.

Form EIA-900, "Monthly Nonutility Sales for Resale Report." Six changes are proposed: (1) the survey name will be changed to "Monthly Nonutility Power Report;" three new data elements on (2) fuel type, (3) gross generation (kWh), and (4) fossil fuel consumption will be added; and (5) sales for resale and (6) sales to other end users will be deleted. The form and instructions will be modified to show these changes.

### 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. Please indicate to which form(s) your comments apply.

#### General Issues

A. Are the proposed collections of information necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency? 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 estimates for each form collection are shown below. Burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide the information.

EIA-411, "Coordinated Bulk Power Supply Program Report,"—15.50 hrs. per response (previous estimate was 20.7 hrs.)

EIA-412, "Annual Report of Public Electric Utilities,"—30.3 hrs. per response (no change from previous estimate)

EIA-417R, "Electric Power Systems Emergency Report and Annual Summary of Emergency Occurrences,"—2.89 hrs. per response (no change from previous estimate). Note: The frequency, magnitude, and duration of emergency occurrences are hard to predict, therefore making reporting times hard to predict.

EIA-759, "Monthly Power Plant Report,"—1.4 hrs. per response (no change from previous estimate)

EIA-767, "Steam-Electric Plant Operation and Design Report," 84 hrs. per response for plants of 100 MW or more, and 4 hrs. for plants from 10 MW but less than 100 MW. (no change from previous estimate)

EIA-826, "Monthly Electric Utility Sales and Revenue Report with State Distributions,"—1.5 hrs. per response (previous estimate was 1.4 hrs.)

EIA-860, "Annual Electric Generator Report,"—15.0 hrs. per response (previous estimate was 15.3 hrs)

EIA-861, "Annual Electric Energy Industry Report,"—7.5 hrs per response (previous estimate was 7.9 hrs.)

EIA-867, "Annual Nonutility Power Producer Report,"—2.12 hrs. per response (no change from previous estimate)

EIA-900, "Monthly Nonutility Sales for Resale Report,"—25 hrs. per response (no change from previous estimate).

Please comment on (1) the accuracy of our estimates and (2) how the agency could minimize the burden of the collections of information, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

D. EIA estimates that respondents will incur no additional costs for reporting other than the hours required to complete the collections. What is the estimated: (1) total dollar amount annualized for capital and start-up costs, and (2) recurring annual costs of operating and maintaining and purchasing service costs associated with these data collections?

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 forms?

B. For what purpose would you use the data? Be specific.

C. Identify any alternate sources of data. 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, DC, June 24, 1998.

**Lynda T. Carlson,**

*Director, Statistics and Methods Group,  
Energy Information Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-596-000]

### Columbia Gulf Transmission Company; Notice of Application

June 24, 1998.

Take notice that on June 5, 1998, as supplemented on June 17, 1998, Columbia Gulf Transmission Company (Columbia Gulf), 2603 Augusta, Suite 125, Houston, Texas 77057-5637, filed in Docket No. CP98-596-000, an application pursuant to Sections 7(b) and 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)