

transactions. The information obtained quarterly from authorization holders is used to ensure compliance with any terms and conditions of authorization. In addition, the data are used to monitor the North American natural gas trade, which in turn enables the Federal Government to: perform market and regulatory analyses; improve the capability of industry and the Government to respond to any future energy-related supply problems; and keep the general public informed of international natural gas trade.

II. Current Actions

FE is proposing a three-year extension, without change, of the currently-approved Form FE-746R.

III. Request for Comments

Prospective respondents and other interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed extension. The following guidelines are provided to assist in the preparation of comments.

General Issues

A. Is the proposed collection 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. Could the Agency enhance 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 or elaboration?

B. Can data be submitted by the due date?

C. Public reporting burden for preparing applications to be submitted to FE is estimated to range between 8 hours (for short-term authorizations of up to two years) to 24 hours for long-term authorizations (over 2 years). The public reporting burden for the quarterly reports after authorization is estimated to range from 0.25 of an hour to 8 hours per response, with an average burden of 2 hours. The estimated burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide the information.

Please comment on (1) the accuracy of the agency's estimate and (2) how the agency could minimize the burden of

collecting information, including the use of information technology.

D. The EIA estimates that respondents will incur no additional costs for reporting other than the hours required to complete the collection. What is the estimated: (1) total dollar amount annualized for capital and start-up costs; and (2) recurring annual costs of operation and maintenance, and purchase of services associated with this data collection?

E. Does any other Federal, State, or local agency collect similar data? If so, specify the agency, the data element(s), and the methods of collection.

As a Potential User

A. Is the data useful at the levels of detail indicated on the form?

B. For what purpose(s) would the data be used? Be specific.

C. Are there alternate sources of data and are they used? 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 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Issued in Washington, DC., October 15, 1998.

Jay H. Casselberry,

Agency Clearance Officer, Statistics and Methods Group, Energy Information Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-28032 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC98-561-001; FERC-561]

Proposed Information Collection and Request for Comments

October 14, 1998.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of submission for review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) has submitted the energy information collection listed in this notice to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under provisions of Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13). Any interested person may file

comments on the collection of information directly with OMB and should address a copy of those comments to the Commission as explained below. The Commission received public comments from one entity in response to an earlier notice issued June 23, 1998, 63 FR 35204 (June 29, 1998) and has replied to these comments in its submission to OMB.

DATES: Comments regarding this collection of information are best assured of having their full effect if received on or before November 19, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Address comments to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Desk Officer, 725 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20503. A copy of the comments should also be sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Attention: Mr. Michael Miller, 888 First Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 208-1415, by fax at (202) 273-0873, and by e-mail at michael.miller@ferc.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The energy information collection submitted to OMB for review contains:

1. *Collection of Information:* FERC-561 "Annual Report of Interlocking Positions."

2. *Sponsor:* Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

3. *Control No.:* OMB No. 1902-0099. The Commission is now requesting that OMB approve a three-year extension of the current expiration date, with no substantive changes to the existing collection. There is an increase in the reporting burden due to an increase in the rate of interlock changes per year. There has been an increase in the number of public utilities changing ownership and thus an increase in the number of officers and directors changing positions. This results in an increase in the number of changes made annually to the filing. This increase reflects an adjustment to the Commission's regulatory burden for this information collection requirement. These are mandatory collection requirements.

4. *Necessity of Collection of Information:* Submission of the information is necessary to enable the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of Title II, Section 211 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, 16 U.S.C. 825d which amended Part III Section 305(c) of the Federal

Power Act. Submission of the list is necessary to fulfill the requirements of Section 211—Interlocking Directorates, which defines monitoring and regulatory operations concerning interlocking directorate positions held by utility personnel and possible conflicts of interest. The information is collected by the Commission to identify persons holding interlocking position between public utilities and possible conflicts of interest. Through this process, the Commission is able to review and exercise oversight of interlocking directorates of public utilities and their related activities. Specifically, the Commission must determine that individuals in utility operations holding two positions at the same time would not adversely affect the public interest. The Commission can employ enforcement proceedings when violations and omissions of the Act's provisions occur. The compliance with these requirements is mandatory. The reporting requirements are found at 18 CFR 46.6 and 131.31.

5. *Respondent Description:* The respondent universe currently comprises on average, 1,600 respondents subject to the Commission's regulations.

6. *Estimated Burden:* 800 total burden hours, 1600 respondents, 1 response annually, 0.5 hours per response (average).

7. *Estimated Cost Burden to Respondents:* 800 hours ÷ 2,088 hours × \$109,889 per year = \$41,758. Average cost per respondent = \$26.09.

Statutory Authority: Title II, Section 211 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, 16 U.S.C. 825d which amended Part III Section 305(c) of the Federal Power Act.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-28014 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. RP98-391-000 and RP98-391-001]

Colorado Interstate Gas Company; Notice of Technical Conference

October 14, 1998.

The filing in the above captioned proceeding raises issues that should be addressed in a technical conference.

Take notice that the technical conference will be held on Wednesday, October 21, 1998, at 11:00 a.m., in a room to be designated at the offices of

the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426.

All interested parties and staff are permitted to attend.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-28015 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP99-83-000]

Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

October 14, 1998.

Take notice that on October 9, 1998, Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company (ESNG) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, certain revised tariff sheets in the above captioned docket bear a proposed effective date of November 2, 1998.

Pursuant to the Commission's Order issued July 15, 1998 in Docket No. RM96-1-008 (Order No. 587-H), Standards for Business Practices of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines, ESNG tenders for filing tariff sheets, as set forth on Appendix A to the filing, adopting standards governing intraday nominations. The new standards are 1.3.39 through 1.3.44. Modifications were made to existing standards. Standards 1.3.2, 1.3.20, 1.3.22 and 1.3.32 were revised. Standards 1.3.10 and 1.3.12 were deleted.

The new standards, pursuant to Order No. 587-H, establish three synchronization times for Buyers to coordinate their intraday nominations: 6:00 p.m. to take effect the next gas day; and 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to take effect on the same gas day.

ESNG states that copies of the filing have been served upon its jurisdictional customers and interested State Commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 or 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make

protestants parties to the proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-28011 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99-3-000]

El Paso Natural Gas Company; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

October 14, 1998.

Take notice that on October 2, 1998, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso), P.O. Box 1492, El Paso, Texas 79978, filed in Docket No. CP99-3-000 a request pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.212 of Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205, 157.212) to certificate expanded service arrangements at the J.L. Hinson Tap Delivery Point all as more fully set forth in the request that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

El Paso states that the certification of expanded service arrangements will permit the delivery of natural gas by El Paso to a second local distribution company (LDC), West Texas Gas Inc. (West Texas), in addition to natural gas service that can be provided by Westar Gas Transmission Company (Westar).

El Paso states that Brian Hamilton, the end-user receiving natural gas service via the J.L. Hinson Tap Delivery Point from Westar, has requested that natural gas service arrangements at this delivery point be expanded to permit the delivery by El Paso of natural gas from a second LDC, West Texas. In order to accommodate this request, El Paso has agreed to expand the existing certificated service arrangement at the existing J.L. Hinson Tap Delivery Point to allow delivery by a second LDC, under Section 311(a) of the NGPA, and to provide Section 311 transportation service to the J.L. Hinson Tap Delivery Point in Lamb County, Texas.

The request further states that El Paso expanded service to the J.L. Hinson Tap Delivery Point via West Texas under Section 311(a) and has exclusively used this delivery point for the transportation and delivery of natural gas under Park 284, Subpart B.