

Priorities Board. This notice also describes the functions of the Board. Notice of this meeting is required under Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This document is intended to notify the public of their opportunity to attend the meeting. The public is being given less than 15 days' notice because of the need to accommodate the schedules of the members.

DATES: February 26, 1998.

TIME: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., EST.

LOCATION: Room 100, 80 F St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20208-7564.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thelma Leenhouts, Designated Federal Official, National Educational Research Policy and Priorities Board, 80 F St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20208-7564. Telephone: (202) 219-2065; fax: (202) 219-1528; e-mail: Thelma_Leenhouts@ed.gov. The main telephone number for the Board is (202) 208-0692.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Educational Research Policy and Priorities Board is authorized by Section 921 of the Educational Research, Development, Dissemination, and Improvement Act of 1994. The Board works collaboratively with the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Educational Research and Improvement to forge a national consensus with respect to a long-term agenda for educational research, development, and dissemination, and to provide advice and assistance to the Assistant Secretary in administering the duties of the Office.

The Executive Committee teleconference will consist of a review of the agenda for the next quarterly meeting of the Board on March 19 and 20, 1998, and related matters. A final agenda will be available from the Board's office on February 19. Records are kept of all Board proceedings and are available for public inspection at the office of the National Educational Research Policy and Priorities Board, 80 F St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20208-7564.

Dated: February 12, 1998.

Eve M. Bither,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 98-4090 Filed 2-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER98-1642-000, et al.]

Puget Sound Energy, Inc., et al.; Electric Rate and Corporate Regulation Filings

February 10, 1998.

Take notice that the following filings have been made with the Commission:

1. Puget Sound Energy, Inc.

[Docket No. ER98-1642-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE), tendered for filing the Agreement Regarding Canadian Entitlement between PSE and Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County (Chelan). A copy of the filing was served upon Chelan.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

2. The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company

[Docket No. ER98-1644-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (CEI), submitted an Electric Power Service Agreement establishing Wellsboro Electric Company (Wellsboro), as a customer under the terms of CEI's market-based power sales tariff, FERC Electric Tariff Original Volume No. 4, and a Transaction Agreement governing a specific sale agreed upon by CEI and Wellsboro.

CEI requests an effective date of January 1, 1998, for the Electric Power Service Agreement and Transaction Agreement. To the extent necessary to permit this requested effective date, CEI requests waiver of the Commission's notice requirements. CEI states that copies of the filing were served upon Wellsboro and the public utilities commissions of Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

3. PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

[Docket No. ER98-1645-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. (PJM), tendered for filing 3 executed service agreements for point-to-point service under the PJM Open Access Tariff.

Copies of this filing were served upon the parties to the service agreements.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

4. Northern Indiana Public Service Company

[Docket No. ER98-1646-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern Indiana Public Services Company (Northern), filed a Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement pursuant to its Open Access Transmission Tariff and a Service Agreement pursuant to its Power Sales Tariff with the Town of Brookston, Indiana. Northern Indiana has requested an effective date of February 1, 1998.

Copies of this filing have been sent to the Town of Brookston, to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, and to the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

5. Northern Indiana Public Service Company

[Docket No. ER98-1647-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern Indiana Public Services Company (Northern), filed a Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement pursuant to its Open Access Transmission Tariff and a Service Agreement pursuant to its Power Sales Tariff with the Town of Walkerton, Indiana. Northern Indiana has requested an effective date of February 1, 1998.

Copies of this filing have been sent to the Town of Walkerton, to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, and to the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

6. Puget Sound Energy, Inc.

[Docket No. ER98-1648-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE), tendered for filing the Agreement Regarding Canadian Entitlement between PSE and Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County (Chelan). A copy of the filing was served upon Chelan.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

7. El Paso Electric Company

[Docket No. ER98-1650-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, El Paso Electric Company (El Paso), tendered for filing a Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service Agreement under its Open Access Transmission Tariff for delivery of up to 200 MW of electricity to Commission Federal de Electricidad during 1998. EPE has asked for a waiver

of the FERC's notice requirements in order to make the Service Agreement effective as of January 1, 1998.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

8. Deseret Generation & Transmission Co-operative

[Docket No. ER98-1651-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Deseret Generation & Transmission Co-operative, tendered for filing an executed umbrella non-firm point-to-point service agreement with Idaho Power company under its open access transmission tariff. Deseret requests a waiver of the Commission's notice requirements for an effective date of January 8, 1998. Deseret's open access transmission tariff is currently on file with the Commission in Docket No. OA97-487-000. Idaho Power Company has been provided a copy of this filing.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

9. Northern Indiana Public Service Company

[Docket No. ER98-1652-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern Indiana Public Services Company (Northern), filed a Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement pursuant to its Open Access Transmission Tariff and a Service Agreement pursuant to its Power Sales Tariff with the Town of Kingsford Heights, Indiana. Northern Indiana has requested an effective date of February 1, 1998.

Copies of this filing have been sent to the Town of Kingsford Heights, to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, and to the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

10. Northern Indiana Public Service Company

[Docket No. ER98-1653-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern Indiana Public Services Company (Northern), filed a Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement pursuant to its Open Access Transmission Tariff and a Service Agreement pursuant to its Power Sales Tariff with the Town of Bremen, Indiana. Northern Indiana has requested an effective date of February 1, 1998.

Copies of this filing have been sent to the Town of Bremen, to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, and to the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

11. Northern Indiana Public Service Company

[Docket No. ER98-1654-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern Indiana Public Services Company (Northern), filed a Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement pursuant to its Open Access Transmission Tariff and a Service Agreement pursuant to its Power Sales Tariff with the Town of Winamac, Indiana. Northern Indiana has requested an effective date of February 1, 1998.

Copies of this filing have been sent to the Town of Winamac, to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, and to the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

12. Northern Indiana Public Service Company

[Docket No. ER98-1655-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern Indiana Public Services Company (Northern), filed a Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement pursuant to its Open Access Transmission Tariff and a Service Agreement pursuant to its Power Sales Tariff with the Town of Chalmers, Indiana. Northern Indiana has requested an effective date of February 1, 1998.

Copies of this filing have been sent to the Town of Chalmers, to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, and to the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

13. Northern States Power Company (Minnesota Company)

[Docket No. ER98-1656-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern States Power Company (Minnesota) (NSP) tendered for filing the Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service Agreement between NSP and NSP Wholesale (POD: City of Kasson, MN).

NSP requests that the Commission accept the agreement effective January 1, 1998, and requests waiver of the Commission's notice requirements in order for the agreement to be accepted for filing on the date requested.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

14. Northern States Power Company (Minnesota Company)

[Docket No. ER98-1657-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern States Power Company (Minnesota) (NSP) tendered for filing the Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service Agreement between NSP and NSP Wholesale (POD: City of Kasota, MN).

NSP requests that the Commission accept the agreement effective January 1, 1998, and requests waiver of the Commission's notice requirements in order for the agreement to be accepted for filing on the date requested.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

15. Northern States Power Company (Minnesota Company)

[Docket No. ER98-1658-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern States Power Company (Minnesota) (NSP) tendered for filing the Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service Agreement between NSP and NSP Wholesale (POD: City of Madelia, MN).

NSP requests that the Commission accept the agreement effective January 1, 1998, and requests waiver of the Commission's notice requirements in order for the agreement to be accepted for filing on the date requested.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

16. Northern States Power Company (Minnesota Company)

[Docket No. ER98-1659-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern States Power Company (Minnesota) (NSP) tendered for filing the Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service Agreement between NSP and NSP Wholesale (POD: City of Buffalo, MN).

NSP requests that the Commission accept the agreement effective January 1, 1998, and requests waiver of the Commission's notice requirements in order for the agreement to be accepted for filing on the date requested.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

17. Northern States Power Company (Minnesota Company)

[Docket No. ER98-1660-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northern States Power Company (Minnesota) (NSP) tendered for filing the Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service Agreement between NSP and

NSP Wholesale (POD: City of Sioux Falls, SD).

NSP requests that the Commission accept the agreement effective January 1, 1998, and requests waiver of the Commission's notice requirements in order for the agreement to be accepted for filing on the date requested.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

18. Southwestern Public Service Company

[Docket No. ER98-1661-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, New Century Services, Inc., on behalf of Southwestern Public Service Company (Southwestern), submitted an executed umbrella service agreement under Southwestern's market-based sales tariff with Aquila power Corporation (Aquila). This umbrella service agreement provides for Southwestern's sale and Aquila's purchase of capacity and energy at market-based rates pursuant to Southwestern's market-based sales tariff.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

19. The Washington Water Power Company

[Docket No. ER98-1662-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, The Washington Water Power Company (WWP) tendered for filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission pursuant to 18 CFR 35.13 an executed Interconnection and Operating Agreement between WWP and Kootenai Electric Cooperative. WWP requests an effective date of January 1, 1998.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

20. PP&L, Inc.

[Docket No. ER98-1663-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, PP&L, Inc. filed a summary of activity conducted under its market-based rates tariff, FERC Electric Tariff, Original Volume No. 5, during the quarter ending December 31, 1997.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

21. Allegheny Power Service Corporation, on behalf of Monongahela Power Company, The Potomac Edison Company and West Penn Power Company

[Docket No. ER98-1664-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Allegheny Power Service Corporation

on behalf of Monongahela Power Company, The Potomac Edison Company and West Penn Power Company (Allegheny Power) filed Supplement No. 38 to add three (3) new customers to the Standard Generation Service Rate Schedule under which Allegheny Power offers standard generation and emergency service on an hourly, daily, weekly, monthly or yearly basis. Allegheny power requests a waiver of notice requirements to make service available as of January 29, 1998, to CMS Marketing, Services and Trading Company, Columbia Power Marketing Corporation, and Tenaska Power Services Company.

Copies of the filing have been provided to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, the Maryland Public Service Commission, the Virginia State Corporation Commission, the West Virginia Public Service Commission, and all parties of record.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

22. Central Power and Light Company, West Texas Utilities Company, Public Service Company of Oklahoma, Southwestern Electric Power Co.

[Docket No. ER98-1665-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Central Power and Light Company (CPL), West Texas Utilities Company (WTU), Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) and Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) (collectively, the "CSW Operating Companies") submitted for filing service agreements under which the CSW Operating Companies will provide transmission service to Tex-La Electric Cooperative of Texas, Inc. (Tex-La).

The CSW Operating Companies state that a copy of the filing has been served on Tex-La.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

23. Union Electric Company

[Docket No. ER98-1666-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Union Electric Company tendered for filing its quarterly report detailing sale transactions undertaken for the quarter of October 1, 1997-December 31, 1997.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

24. Northeast Utilities Service Company

[Docket No. ER98-1667-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Northeast Utilities Service Company

(NUSCO), on behalf of The Connecticut Light and Power Company, Western Massachusetts Electric Company, Holyoke Water Power Company, Holyoke Power and Electric Company and Public Service Company of New Hampshire (collectively, the NU System Companies), tendered for filing NUSCO's activity under the NU System Companies' Tariff No. 7 (market-based rates) for the quarter ending December 31, 1997.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

25. Atlantic City Electric Company

[Docket No. ER98-1668-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Atlantic City Electric Company (AE) tendered for filing its 4th Quarter 1997 Summary Report.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

26. Duke Power, a division of Duke Energy Corporation

[Docket No. ER98-1669-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Duke Power (Duke), a division of Duke Energy Corporation, tendered for filing Schedule MR quarterly transaction summaries for service under Duke's FERC Electric tariff, Original Volume No. 3 for the quarter ended December 31, 1997.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

27. Texas-New Mexico Power Company

[Docket No. ER98-1687-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Texas-New Mexico Power Company (TNMP) tendered for filing a service agreement and an operating agreement pursuant to which TNMP will provide a network integration transmission service to Southwestern Public Service Company pursuant to TNMP's FERC Open Access Transmission Tariff.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

28. Texas-New Mexico Power Company

[Docket No. ER98-1688-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Texas-New Mexico Power Company (TNMP) tendered for filing First Revised Sheet No. 138, Replacing Original Sheet No. 138, of TNMP's FERC Open Access Transmission Tariff. The revised sheet updates the list of Network Integration Transmission Service customers of TNMP.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

29. Louisville Gas and Electric Company

[Docket No. ER98-1689-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Louisville Gas and Electric Company (LG&E) tendered for filing an executed Purchase and Sales Agreement between LG&E and Sonat Power Marketing L.P. under LG&E's Rate Schedule GSS.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

30. Allegheny Power Service Corp. on behalf of Monongahela Power Company, The Potomac Edison Company, and West Penn Power Company (Allegheny Power Company)

[Docket No. ER98-1690-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Allegheny Power Service Corporation on behalf of Monongahela Power Company, The Potomac Edison Company and West Penn Power Company (Allegheny Power) filed Supplement No. 27 to add Columbia Power Marketing Corporation, e prime, inc., and Tenaska Power Services Co., to Allegheny Power's Open Access Transmission Service Tariff which has been submitted for filing in Docket No. OA96-18-000. The proposed effective date under the Service Agreements is January 29, 1998.

Copies of the filing have been provided to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, the Maryland Public Service Commission, the Virginia State Corporation Commission, the West Virginia Public Service Commission.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

31. Kentucky Utilities Company

[Docket No. ER98-1691-000]

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, Kentucky Utilities Company (KU) tendered for filing service agreements between KU and Columbia Power Marketing Corporation, Tenaska Power Services Co., and Avista Energy, Inc., for service under Kentucky Utilities Company's (KU), Transmission Services Tariff and Columbia Power Marketing Corporation, Tenaska Power Services Co., Carolina Power & Light Company, and NESI Power Marketing Inc., for service under KU's Power Services (PS), Tariff. KU also tendered for filing a termination of its PS and TS service agreements with Delhi Energy Services, Inc.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

32. Ameren Services Company

[Docket No. ER98-1692-000]

Take notice that on February 2, 1998, Ameren Services Company (Ameren Services) tendered for filing a Network Operating Agreement and a Service Agreement for Network Integration Transmission Service between Ameren Services and Edgar Electric Cooperative Association (EEC). Ameren Services asserts that the purpose of the Agreements is to permit Ameren Services to provide transmission service to EEC pursuant to Ameren's Open Access Transmission Tariff.

Comment date: February 14, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

33. Ameren Services Company

[Docket No. ER98-1693-000]

Take notice that on February 2, 1998, Ameren Services Company (AS) tendered for filing a Service Agreement for Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service between AS and Electric Clearinghouse, Inc. (ECI). AS asserts that the purpose of the Agreement is to permit AS to provide transmission service to ECI pursuant to Ameren's Open Access Transmission Tariff filed in Docket No. EC96-7-000, et al.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

34. Colt Electric Power Corporation

[Docket No. ER98-1694-000]

Take notice that on February 3, 1998, Colt Electric Power Corporation tendered for filing a Notice of Cancellation of FERC Electric Rate Schedule No. 1.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

35. Ameren Services Company

[Docket No. ER98-1695-000]

Take notice that on February 2, 1998, Ameren Services Company (Ameren Services) tendered for filing Network Operating Agreements and Service Agreements for Network Integration Transmission Service between Ameren Services, the City of Hannibal, Missouri and the City of Kirkwood, Missouri (the Cities). Ameren Services asserts that the purpose of the Agreements is to permit Ameren Services to provide transmission service to the Cities pursuant to Ameren's Open Access Transmission Tariff.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

36. Union Electric Company

[Docket No. ER98-1696-000]

Take notice that on February 2, 1998, Union Electric Company (UE) tendered for filing a Service Agreement for Market Based Rate Power Sales between UE and the City of Hannibal, Missouri and the City of Kirkwood, Missouri (the Cities). UE asserts that the purpose of the Agreement is to permit UE to make sales of capacity and energy at market based rates to the Cities pursuant to UE's Market Based Rate Power Sales Tariff filed in Docket No. ER97-3664-000.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

37. Long Island Lighting Company

[Docket No. ER98-1697-000]

Take notice that on February 2, 1998, Long Island Lighting Company (LILCO) filed a Service Agreement for Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service between LILCO and New York Power Authority (Transmission Customer).

The Service Agreement specifies that the Transmission Customer has agreed to the rates, terms and conditions of LILCO's open access transmission tariff filed on July 9, 1996, in Docket No. OA96-38-000.

LILCO requests waiver of the Commission's sixty (60) day notice requirements and an effective date of February 1, 1998, for the Service Agreement. LILCO has served copies of the filing on the New York State Public Service Commission and on the Transmission Customer.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

38. PacifiCorp

[Docket No. ER98-1698-000]

Take notice that PacifiCorp on February 2, 1998, tendered for filing in accordance with the Commission's June 26, 1997 Order under FERC Docket No. ER97-2801-000, a Report showing PacifiCorp's transactions under PacifiCorp's FERC Electric Tariff, Original Volume No. 12 for the quarter ending on December 31, 1997.

Copies of this filing were supplied to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and the Public Utility Commission of Oregon.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

39. Florida Power & Light Company

[Docket No. ER98-1699-000]

On February 2, 1998 Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) filed Service Agreements with the City of Gainesville, Florida, Columbia Power Marketing Corporation and the City of Tallahassee, Florida for service pursuant to Tariff No. 1 for Sales of Power and Energy by Florida Power & Light. In addition, FPL filed a Service Agreement with the City of Tallahassee, Florida for service pursuant to FPL's Market Based Rates Tariff. FPL requests that the Service Agreements be made effective on January 15, 1998.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

40. Washington Water Power Company

[Docket No. ER98-1700-000]

Take notice that on February 2, 1998, Washington Water Power Company tendered for filing Agreements regarding Canadian Entitlement between Washington Water Power and Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County and Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County.

A copy of this filing was served upon Chelan and Grant.

Comment date: February 24, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

Standard Paragraph

E. Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date. 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 proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of these filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

David P. Boergers,*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-4167 Filed 2-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5969-1]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program**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 EPA is planning to submit the following continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Underground Injection Control Program, EPA ICR No. 0370.13, OMB No 2040-0042 which expires 6/30/98. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Information requests or comments regarding this ICR should be directed to Denny Cruz, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, Mail Code 4606, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Denny Cruz, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water at 202-260-7776, or through E-mail: Cruz.Denny@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are owners and operators of underground injection wells and their State Agencies including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Trust Territories, Indian Tribes, and Alaska Natives and in some instances, U.S. EPA Regional Administrators and staff.

Title: Information Collection Request for the Underground Injection Control Program (OMB Control No. 2040-0042; EPA ICR No. 0370.13.), expiring June 30, 1998.

Abstract: The Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program under the Safe Drinking Water Act established a Federal and State regulatory system to protect underground sources of drinking water from contamination by injected fluids. Owners and operators of underground injection wells must obtain permits, conduct environmental monitoring, maintain records, and report results to EPA or the State primacy agency. States must report to EPA on permittee compliance and

related information. The information is reported using standardized forms and the regulations are codified at 40 CFR parts 144 through 148. The data are used to ensure the safety of underground sources of drinking water. 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. In the ICR for 1995-1997, the total burden associated with this ICR was estimated to be 361,741 hours per year and the total cost was estimated to be \$ 14 million per year. We expect that the burden for the continuing ICR for 1998-2000 will exceed the burden reported in the three previous years because of significant changes to the methodology used to calculate operator burden. Some changes reflect new requirements for burden estimation resulting from the