

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Project No. 309-PA]

Pennsylvania Electric Co.; GPU Generation, Inc.; Notice of Scoping Meetings Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 for an Applicant Prepared Environmental Assessment

August 11, 1999.

Pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 1992, and as part of the license application, the Pennsylvania Electric Company/GPU Generation, Inc. (GPU) intends to prepare an Applicant Prepared Environmental Assessment (APEA) to file along with the license application, with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) for the Piney Project No. 309. The license for the project expires on October 12, 2002.

In February 1998, GPU started the consultation process with preparation and distribution of the Initial Information Package. This was followed by an initial consultation meeting on March 10, 1998. Study plans were subsequently drafted and reviewed, and field studies commenced in January 1999.

Recently GPU discussed the APEA process for the relicensing of the Piney Project with fish and wildlife agencies, and on June 24, 1998, GPU requested Commission approval to enter into the alternative licensing process. Notice of GPU's request was issued on July 15, 1999, and the Commission has not acted on the request. As part of the APEA process, GPU has prepared a Scoping Document I (SDI), which provides information on the scoping process, APEA schedule, background information, environmental issues, and proposed project alternatives.

The purpose of this notice is to: (1) Advise all parties as to the proposed scope of the environmental analysis, including cumulative effects, and to seek additional information pertinent to this analysis; and (2) advise all parties of their opportunity for comment.

Scoping Process

The purpose of the scoping process is to identify significant issues related to the proposed action and to determine what issues should be addressed in the document to be prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The SDI will be circulated to enable appropriate federal, state, and local resource agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and other

interested parties to participate in the scoping process. SDI provides a brief description of the proposed action, project alternatives, the geographic and temporal scope of a cumulative effects analysis, and a list of issues.

Scoping Meetings and Site Visit

GPU and Commission staff will conduct two scoping meetings. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are invited to attend and assist in identifying the scope of environmental issues that should be analyzed in the APEA.

The scoping meetings will be held on August 26, 1999, at the Clarion Holiday Inn in Clarion, Pennsylvania. The agency scoping meeting will be held from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, and the public scoping meeting will be held from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm. The public is invited to attend either or both meetings. For more details, interested parties should contact Thomas Teitt of GPU at (814) 533-8788 or (717) 948-8177, prior to the meeting date.

Objectives

At the scoping meetings, NEP and Commission staff will: (1) summarize the environmental issues identified for analysis in the APEA; (2) solicit from the meeting participants all available information, especially quantified data, on the resources at issue; and (3) encourage statements from experts and the public on issues that should be analyzed in the APEA. Individuals, organizations, and agencies with environmental expertise and concerns are encouraged to attend the meetings and to assist in defining and clarifying the issues to be addressed.

Meeting Procedures

The meeting will be conducted according to the procedures used at Commission scoping meetings. Because this meeting will be a NEPA scoping meeting, the Commission will not conduct another scoping meeting when the application and APEA are filed with the Commission in the Fall of 2000.

The meetings may be recorded by a stenographer or tape, and become a part of the formal record of the Commission proceeding on the Piney Project. Individuals presenting statements at the meetings will be asked to identify themselves for the record. Speaking time allowed for individuals will be determined before each meeting, based on the number of persons wishing to speak and the approximate amount of time available for the session. Persons choosing not to speak but wishing to express an opinion, as well as speakers unable to summarize their positions

within their allotted time, may submit written statements for inclusion in the public record no later than September 9, 1999.

All filings should contain an original and 8 copies. Failure to file an original and 8 copies may result in appropriate staff not receiving the benefit of your comments in a timely manner. All comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, and should clearly show the following captions on the first page: Piney Project, FERC No. 309. A copy of each filing should also be sent to Thomas R. Tiett, GPU Generation, Inc., 1001 Broad St., Johnstown, PA 15907.

Based on all written comments, a Scoping Document II (SDII) may be issued. SDII will include a revised list of issues, based on the scoping sessions.

For further information regarding the APEA scoping process, please contact William Guey-Lee, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426 at (202) 219-2809, or Thomas Tiett (717) 948-8177.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 99-21283 Filed 8-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6423-4]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Synopses of Proposed Contract Actions and Market Research Activity**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Synopses of Proposed Contract Actions and Market Research Activity, EPA ICR Number 1910.01. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before September 16, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260-2740, by email at farmer.sandy@epa.gov, or download a copy of the ICR off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1910.01.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Synopses of Proposed Contract Actions and Market Research Activity; OMB Control No: not yet assigned, EPA ICR No: 1910.01. This is a new collection.

Abstract: EPA's Office of Acquisition Management is required by the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), parts 5 and 10, to publicize certain contract actions, and to conduct market research activity prior to solicitation of certain contract requirements. In addition to the mandated requirements, the FAR encourages the publication of contract actions and the conduct of market research in other instances. The information collected from these activities is used to make procurement decisions such as: the supply or service to procure, which sources to utilize, extent of small business participation, contract type, etc. Responses to synopses notices and market research inquiries are voluntary, but may be required in order to be considered for the award of an Agency contract.

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 **Federal Register** document required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on 5/14/99, 64 FR 26408. No comments were received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3.03 hours per response. 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.

Respondents/Affected Entities:

Businesses; Not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents:

8100

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 24,559 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Capital, Operating/ Maintenance Cost Burden: \$0.

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 1910.01 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Policy, Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460;

and

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: August 12, 1999.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 99-21312 Filed 8-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-U

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6423-5]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Reporting Requirements Under EPA's Water Alliances for Voluntary Efficiency (WAVE) Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Reporting Requirements Under EPA's Water Alliances for Voluntary Efficiency (WAVE) Program, OMB Control Number 2040-0164, EPA ICR Number 1654.03, expiring October 31, 1999. The ICR describes the nature

of the information collection and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before September 16, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260-2740, by email at farmer.sandy@epa.gov, or download a copy of the ICR off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1654.03.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Reporting Requirements Under EPA's Water Alliances for Voluntary Efficiency (WAVE) Program (OMB Control No. 2040-0164; EPA ICR No. 1654.03) expiring October 31, 1999. This is an extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: EPA initially collects facility information and thereafter annually collects water, energy, and cost savings information from participants in the WAVE program. WAVE Partners are commercial businesses or institutions that voluntarily agree to implement cost-effective water efficiency measures in their facilities. Initially the WAVE Program targeted the lodging industry, but is expanding to include office buildings, educational institutions and medical facilities. Another type of participant, "Supporters," will work with EPA to promote water efficiency. Supporters are equipment manufacturers, water management companies, utilities, state and local governments, or the like.

The purpose of the WAVE Program is pollution prevention. As defined by EPA, pollution prevention means "source reduction" as defined under the Pollution Prevention Act, and other practices that reduce or eliminate the creation of pollutants through increased efficiency in the use of raw materials, energy, water, or other resources, or through protection of natural resources by conservation. By promoting water efficiency, WAVE prevents pollution in two basic ways. First, wastewater flows are reduced which can increase treatment efficiency at wastewater treatment plants resulting in reduced pollutant loads. Second, less water used means that less energy will be used to treat, transport, and heat drinking water and to transport and treat wastewater. To the extent that the reduced energy use so achieved is electrical energy, power plant emissions are reduced. Water efficiency also causes less water to be withdrawn and helps preserve streamflow to maintain a healthy aquatic environment; in addition, less pumping of groundwater lowers the