

The regulation is proposed to be revised to clarify this section by changing the unit of measurement from gallons per day, to an equivalent population served. This will eliminate the confusion, and should not result in a change to the threshold as the present threshold of 50,000 gallons per day for a new withdrawal is based on EPA's definition of Very Small Water Systems, "systems serving up to 500 people." Based on an average daily demand of 100 gallons per day per capita, the average daily withdrawal for very small systems will be 50,000 gallons per day.

To be consistent, the equivalent population will also be used for discharges.

Section 1940.311(b)(1)(v) will also be revised to remove the apparent conflict created by the revision to § 1940.311(b)(1)(ii).

In § 1940.311(b)(2) there has been confusion about the number of beds which may be added to an existing facility. This confusion has resulted in the unnecessary completion of Class II environmental assessments for some essential community facility projects.

The regulation is proposed to be revised to clarify this section by separately specifying the number of beds for new and existing projects.

In § 1940.311(b)(3)(iii) there has been confusion about whether medical waste is considered to be a hazardous waste. This confusion has resulted in the unnecessary completion of Class II environmental assessments for some essential community facility projects.

The regulation is proposed to be revised to clarify this section by adding a new section that will deal specifically with medical wastes.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 1940

Endangered and threatened wildlife, Environmental protection, Floodplains, National wild and scenic river system, Natural resources, Recreation, Water supply.

Accordingly, the Agencies propose to amend Chapter XVIII, Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations as follows.

PART 1940—GENERAL

1. The authority citation for part 1940 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1989; 42 U.S.C. 1480; 5 U.S.C. 301; 7 CFR 2.23 and 2.70.

Subpart G—Environmental Program

2. Section 1940.311 is amended by redesignating paragraph (b)(3)(iii) as (b)(3)(iv); revising paragraphs (b)(1)(i), (b)(1)(ii), (b)(1)(v), and (b)(2); and adding a new paragraph (b)(3)(iii) to read as follows:

§ 1940.311 Environmental assessments for Class I actions.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(1) * * *

(i) For existing Systems, there will not be either:

(A) A substantial increase in the volume of an existing discharge or the loading of pollutants from an existing or expanded sewage treatment facilities, or

(B) A substantial increase in an existing withdrawal from surface or ground waters.

(C) The existence of a substantial increase will depend on the particulars of the situation under consideration. Each proposal should be examined for the possibility of a substantial increase in discharge or withdrawal. A substantial increase may or may not be determined by such factors as: evidence of a large increase in pump or pipe size, other evidence of a large increase in hydraulic capacity, or the need for a new or amended discharge or withdrawal permit. Whatever factors are considered, the rationale behind the decision should be documented as part of the Class I assessment.

(ii) For all systems (existing and new), there will not be either:

(A) A new discharge to surface or ground waters, such that the additional design capacity of the facility exceeds the average daily discharge of an equivalent population of 500 persons, or

(B) A new withdrawal from surface or ground waters such that the additional design capacity of the facility exceeds the demand needed to serve an equivalent population of 500 persons, and

(C) The potential water quality impacts are analyzed and documented in the manner required for a Class II assessment and attached as an exhibit to the Class I assessment.

(D) A new well solely to provide "backup" capacity, required by a State regulatory agency or standard engineering practice, is not considered a new withdrawal.

* * * * *

(v) For a proposed expansion of a sewage treatment or water supply facility, such expansion would serve an equivalent population that is no more than 20 percent or 500 persons (whichever is the larger) greater than the existing population.

* * * * *

(2) Financial assistance for existing group homes, detention facilities, nursing homes, or hospitals that add no more than 25 beds or increase the number of beds by no more than 25 percent, whichever is greater, or new facilities of not more than 25 beds.

(3) * * *

(iii) Do not produce infectious, medical, biological, or special medical wastes (including radiological waste of medical origin) that would exceed small quantity generator limits as established by the appropriate regulatory agency, and provided the facility's management plan is reviewed to ensure compliance with the regulatory agency requirements. The management plan should include standard operating procedures for notification, permitting, and recordkeeping requirements as well as handling, storage, packaging, and disposal of infectious waste materials. Documentation of the compliance review must be attached as an exhibit to the Class I assessment.

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Dated: February 27, 1995.

Michael V. Dunn

Acting Under Secretary for Rural Economic and Community Development.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

18 CFR Part 154, 158, 201, 250, and 284

[Docket No. RM95-3-000; Rm95-4-000]

Filing and Reporting Requirements for Interstate Natural Gas Company Rate Schedules and Tariffs; Revisions to Uniform System of Accounts Forms, Statements, and Reporting Requirements for Natural Gas Companies; Notice of Informal Technical Conference

March 8, 1995.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule; notice of informal technical conference.

SUMMARY: The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will hold an informal technical conference pursuant to the Notices of Proposed Rulemaking issued on December 16, 1994, in Docket Nos. RM95-3-000 and RM95-4-000. The conference is a preliminary step in the process of modifying the electronic filing requirements to complement the proposed revisions to the regulations set forth in the December 16, 1994 notices.

DATES: Tuesday and Wednesday, April 4 and 5, 1995: 9:00 a.m.

ADDRESSES: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 810 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard A. White, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 825 North Capitol Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-0491.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission also provides all interested persons an opportunity to inspect or copy the contents of this document during normal business hours in Room 3104, 941 North Capitol Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

The Commission Issuance Posting System (CIPS), an electronic bulletin board service, provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission. CIPS is available at no charge to the user and may be accessed using a personal computer with a modem by dialing (202) 208-1397. To access CIPS, set your communications software to 19200, 14400, 12000, 9600, 7200, 4800, 2400, 1200, or 300 bps, full duplex, no parity, 8 data bits, and 1 stop bit. The full text of this rule will be available on CIPS for 60 days from the date of issuance in ASCII and WordPerfect 5.1 formats. After 60 days, the rule will be archived, but still accessible. The complete text on diskette in Wordperfect format may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, La Dorn Systems Corporation, also located in Room 3104, 941 North Capitol Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

Take notice that on Tuesday, April 4, 1995 and, if necessary, Wednesday, April 5, 1995, an informal technical conference will be convened to begin designing modifications to the electronic filing requirements necessitated by proposed Rulemaking issued on December 16, 1994, in Docket Nos. RM95-3-000 and RM95-4-000,¹ the Commission directed its Staff to convene a technical conference to obtain the participation of the industry and others for this purpose.

The conference is a preliminary step in the process of modifying the Commission's electronic filing requirements to complement the proposed revisions to the regulations set forth in the December 16, 1994 notices.

Objectives to be achieved by modifying the electronic filing requirements include:

- To employ user-friendly form fill, word processing, or spreadsheet applications as much as possible.
- To minimize the burden of the reporting requirements for regulated entities.

- To eliminate unnecessary processing steps by the Commission and the companies.
- To facilitate access to the information by the public.
- To the greatest extent possible, electronic data should be capable of being linked to related data in other filings.
- To ensure that electronically submitted data contains the same information as the paper copy of the filing.
- To ensure that electronic data can be easily correlated with the data in the paper filing.
- To ensure that all spreadsheets contain the underlying formulae and links.

The specific objectives of this conference are:

- To provide a form within which Staff can gain a better understanding of how the industry stores and processes the data required in the Commission's forms and filings.
- To determine the most efficient electronic means for the preparation and submittal of data.
- To determine the most efficient electronic means for the dissemination of data to the public.
- To determine whether additional conferences are desirable; and, if so, the format, agenda, and dates.

In light of these objectives, Commission Staff anticipates considering the following topics at the conference:

- An appropriate filing format for each type of submittal.
- How companies store data (mainframe, PCs, paper only) that the Commission proposes to be filed electronically.
- How companies prepare Form 2, Form 11, discount rate reports, index of customers, and section 4 rate cases (using commercial software, proprietary software, spreadsheets, databases, wordprocessing software). Whether companies use different hardware and software for different parts of the submittal. What spreadsheet, database, and wordprocessing software is used predominantly.
- Those aspects of the Commission's current electronic filing requirements that should not be changed.
- The use of form fill software for submitting each filing.
- Whether the Commission's form fill software for submitting FERC Form No. 1 would be useful for submitting other filings. (The Commission's form fill software for submitting FERC Form No. 1 is available on the Commission Issuance Posting System (CIPS) under option "FERC Form No. 1 Forum." The bulletin board number is (202) 208-1397.)
- What information from electronic filings should be accessible to the public. In what form would such data be most useful (spreadsheet, database, wordprocessing, ASCII).
- Transmission of electronic data to the Commission through telecommunication.
- Any special concerns of state commissions, small businesses, customers, consumer groups, and nonindustry users of electronically filed data.

- Participants should also be prepared to discuss any other relevant matter.

Commission Staff is currently preparing an agenda for the conference. In order that the conference be as productive as possible, Staff invites comments on the goals, issues, and topics of discussion. Such comments should be addressed to Richard A. White, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 825 North Capitol Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-0491. Comments should be received by March 28, 1995. Commenters are encouraged to submit comments on a 3½ inch diskette in ASCII format.

The conference will begin at 9:00 a.m. on April 4, 1995, in a hearing or conference room of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 810 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. The conference room will be designated in a subsequent notice. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Part 254

Response Plans for Facilities Seaward of the Coast Line

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: This notice extends, by 62 days, the comment period for a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPR) that the Minerals Management Service published in the **Federal Register** on January 13, 1995. The NPR is concerned with requirements for spill-response plans for oil handling facilities located seaward of the coast line.

DATES: The comment period is extended to May 15, 1995. Comments should be received or postmarked by that date.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be mailed or hand delivered to the Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 4700; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 22070-4817; Attention: Chief, Engineering and Standards Branch.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Mirabella or Lawrence Ake, Engineering and Standards Branch, telephone (703) 787-1600.

¹ Published in the **Federal Register** on January 13, 1995 at 60 FR 3111 and 3141, respectively.