

plans, feasibility investigations of measures selected for consideration, and program criteria. Consequently, the Draft PEIS is a broad scope document to provide "umbrella" coverage for implementing the Enhancement Project with subsequent tiering for NEPA compliance of specific follow-on actions, as appropriate.

Six alternatives, including no action, are considered in the Draft PEIS. The no action alternative is presented as the most likely future condition that could be expected without the implementation of additional Title XII provisions beyond the currently established riverflows, which includes the new operational criteria required by the legislation. This alternative provided the basis for impact comparisons. Five action alternatives present the implementation of all elements of the Enhancement Project at different levels of implementation of project components. A preferred alternative has not been selected in the Draft PEIS. Alternative 1 includes implementation of all the Enhancement Project measures except the Basin Conservation Program. Alternative 2 consists of all the measures cited in Alternative 1 plus different levels (Alternatives 2A, 2B, and 2C) of water conservation program implementation at various locations within the Yakima basin. Alternative 2A consists of all the measures cited in Alternative 1 plus a 7.5-percent basin-wide reduction in diversion demand (except for the Wapato Irrigation Project and the Yakima-Tieton Canal). Alternative 2B consists of all the measures cited in Alternative 1 plus a 15-percent reduction in diversion demand from the Yakima River downstream from the Roza Diversion Dam (except for the Wapato Irrigation Project and the Yakima-Tieton Canal). Alternative 2C consists of all the measures cited in Alternative 1 plus a 21-percent reduction in diversion demand at diversion points between the Sunnyside and Roza Canals. Alternative 3 consists of all the measures cited in Alternative 1 except for implementation of the Kachess Reservoir augmentation and specific tributary measures.

Environmental consequences that would result from implementation of any of the alternatives should have no significant adverse impacts, such that irrigation contracts will not be modified and any minor adverse impacts identified could be mitigated to a level of insignificance by implementation of mitigation measures. Beneficial impacts are considered to be enhanced water quality, increased streamflow, and overall reinforcement of fish and wildlife habitat, as well as an increase

in the reliability of irrigation water supplies.

Dated: April 13, 1998.

John W. Keys, III,

Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Notice of Proposed Information Collection

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing that the information collection request for the title described below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The information collection request describes the nature of the information collection and the expected burden and cost.

DATES: OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, public comments should be submitted to OMB by May 22, 1998, in order to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory information and related form, contact John A. Trelease at (202) 208-2783, or electronically to jtreleas@osmre.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). OSM has submitted a request to OMB to renew its approval of the collection of information for the permanent program performance standards—underground mining activities, 30 CFR Part 817. OSM is requesting a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

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 number for this collection of information is listed in 30 CFR 817.10, which is 1029-0048.

As required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), a **Federal Register** notice soliciting comments on these collections of information was published on January 29, 1998 (63 FR 4472). No comments were received. This notice provides the public with an additional 30 days in which to comment on the following information collection activity:

Title: Permanent Program Performance Standards—Underground Mining Activities, 30 CFR Part 817.

OMB Control Number: 1029-0048.

Summary: Sections 515 and 516 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 provide that permittees conducting surface coal mining operations with underground mining activities shall meet all applicable performance standards of the Act. The information collected is used by the regulatory authority in monitoring and inspecting surface coal mining activities to ensure that they are conducted in compliance with the requirements of the Act.

Bureau Form Number: None.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion, quarterly and annually.

Description of Respondents: 2,837 active underground coal mining operators.

Total Annual Responses: 52,690.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 183,284.

Send comments on the need for the collections of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collections; and ways to minimize the information collection burdens on respondents, such as use of automated means of collections of the information, to the following addresses. Please refer to the appropriate OMB control number in all correspondence.

ADDRESSES: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Department of Interior Desk Officer, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503. Also, please send a copy of your comments to John A. Trelease, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 210-SIB, Washington, DC 20240, or electronically to jtreleas@osmre.gov.

Dated: April 15, 1998.

Richard G. Bryson,

Chief, Division of Regulatory Support.

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