

expense which is a component of their cost of service which in turn is used to determine the transportation rate to assess customers. Staff's recommended book depreciation rates become legally binding when issued in an order by the Commission. These rates remain in

effect until a subsequent review is requested and the outcome indicates that a modification is justified. The Commission implements these filing requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) under 18 CFR Parts 347 and 357.

Action: The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the current expiration date.

Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents annually (1)	Number of responses per respondent (2)	Average burden hours per response (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)x(2)x(3)
5	1	40	200

Estimated cost burden to respondents: 200 hours divided by 2,088 hours per year times \$110,000 per year equals \$11,000. The cost per respondent is equal to \$2,200.

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information including: (1) reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) 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; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including 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.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC98-6-000; FERC Form 6]

Proposed Information Collection and Request for Comments

June 19, 1998.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of proposed information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of Section 3506(c)(2)(a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described below.

DATES: Consideration will be given to comments submitted on or before August 24, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained from and written comments may be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Attn: Michael Miller, Office of the Chief Information Officer, CI-1, 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 information collected under the requirements of FERC Form 6 "Annual

Report of Oil Pipeline Companies" (OMB NO. 1902-0022) is used by the Commission to implement the statutory Provisions of the Interstate Commerce Act (ICA), (49 U.S.C.). The ICA authorizes the Commission to make investigations and to collect and record data and to prescribe rules and regulations concerning accounts, records and memoranda as necessary or appropriate for purposes of administering the ICA. The Commission may prescribe a system of accounts for jurisdictional companies and, after notice and opportunity for hearing may determine the accounts in which particular outlays and receipts will be entered, charged or credited. Every pipeline carrier subject to the provisions of Section 20 of the ICA must file with the Commission copies of FERC Form 6.

The Commission's Office of Chief Accountant uses the information collected in its audit program and the continuous review on the financial condition of regulated companies. The Office of Pipeline Regulation uses the data in its various rate proceedings and supply programs, and the Offices of Economic Policy and General Counsel use the data in their programs relating to the administration of the ICA. Data on certain schedules of the FERC Form 6 is used to compute annual charges which are then assessed against oil pipeline companies to recover the Commission's annual costs. These annual charges are required by Section 3401 of the Budget Act.

The ICA mandates the collection of information needed by the Commission to perform its regulatory responsibilities in the setting of the just and reasonable rates. The Commission could be held in violation of the ICA if the information was not collected.

The Commission implements these filing requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) under 18 CFR Section 260.2 and Parts 351; 352; 356 and 357.2.

Action: The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the current expiration date.

Burden Statement: Public Reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents annually (1)	Number of responses per respondent (2)	Average burden hours per response (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)×(2)×(3)
159	1	* 111	17,649

* Rounded off

Estimated cost burden to respondents: 17,649 hours divided by 2088 hours per year times \$109,889 per year equals \$928,848. The cost per respondent is equal to \$5,842.

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information including: (1) reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Commission's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be

collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including 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.

David P. Boegers,
Acting Secretary.
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[IC98-574-000 FERC-574]

Proposed Information Collection and Request for Comments

June 19, 1998.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of Section 3506(c)(2)(a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described below.

DATES: Consideration will be given to comments submitted on or before August 24, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained from and written comments may be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Attn: Michael Miller, Office of the Chief Information Officer, CI-1, 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 information collected under the requirements of FERC-574 "Gas Pipeline Certificates: Hinshaw Exemption" (OMB No. 1902-0116) is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of Sections 1(c), 4 and 7 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) Pub. L. 75-688) (15 U.S.C. 717-717w). Natural Gas Pipeline companies file applications with the Commission furnishing information in order for a determination to be made as to whether the applicant qualifies for an exemption from the provisions of the Natural Gas Act (Section 1(c). If the exemption is granted, the pipeline is not required to file certificate applications, rate schedules, or any other applications or forms otherwise prescribed by the Commission.

The exemption applies to companies engaged in the transportation or sale for resale or natural gas in interstate commerce if: (a) it receives gas at or within the boundaries of the state from another person; (b) such gas is transported, sold, consumed within such state; and (c) the rates, service and facilities of such company are subject to regulation by a State Commission. The data required to be filed by pipeline companies for an exemption is specified by 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 152.

Action: The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the current expiration date, with no changes to the existing collection of data.

Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents annually (1)	number of responses per respondent (2)	Average burden hours per response (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)×(2)×(3)
1	1	245	245