

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Project No. 2494-002]

Puget Sound Energy, Inc.; Notice of Meeting

April 1, 1999.

A meeting will be convened by staff of the Office of Hydropower Licensing on April 23, 1999, at 1:30 p.m. EDT at the Commission's Headquarters, room 62-26, located at 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC.

By letter dated March 26, 1999, Puget Sound Energy requested a meeting to provide an update on the White River collaborative settlement process and provided an outline of issues to be discussed.

We will not discuss issues dealing with the pending rehearing of the Commission's December 19, 1997, order issuing license for the project. We will restrict discussion primarily to process issues related to setting up and conducting a collaborative settlement process.

If a federal agency wishes to participate by teleconference, they need to call 1-700-991-1854 and enter access code 25369. A non-federal agency should call 1-800-545-4387 and an operator will answer. They will need to give the operator the conference identification number: M58619. The operator will ask them for their name and phone number. The AT&T conference operator will then call them back and they will be part of this conference call.

Any person wishing to attend or needing additional information should contact John Smith at (202) 219-2460 or e-mail at john.smith@ferc.fed.us.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6320-6]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Continuing Collection; Comment Request; Registration of Fuels and Fuel Additives—Health-effects Research Requirements for Manufacturers

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): Registration of Fuels and Fuel Additives—Health-effects Research Requirements for Manufacturers (40 CFR part 79—Subpart F) (EPA ICR Number 1696.03, OMB Control Number 2060-0297, expiration date: 7-31-99). Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 7, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Fuels and Energy Division, Office of Mobile Sources, Office of Air and Radiation, Mail Code 6406J, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC 20460. A paper or electronic copy of the ICR may be obtained without charge by contacting the person listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James W. Caldwell, (202) 564-9303, fax: (202) 565-2085, caldwell.jim@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Affected entities:* Entities potentially affected by this action are those which manufacture or import gasoline or diesel fuel, or manufacture or import an additive for gasoline or diesel fuel.

Title: Registration of Fuels and Fuel Additives—Health-effects Research Requirements for Manufacturers (40 CFR part 79—Subpart F), OMB Control Number 2060-0297, EPA ICR Number 1696.03, Expiring: 7-31-99.

Abstract: In accordance with the regulations at 40 CFR part 79, Subparts A, B, C, and D, Registration of Fuels and Fuel Additives, manufacturers (including importers) of gasoline and diesel fuel, and manufacturers (including importers) of additives for gasoline or diesel fuel, are required to have their products registered by EPA prior to their introduction into commerce. Registration involves providing a chemical description of the fuel or additive, and certain technical, marketing, and health-effects information. The development of health-effects data, as required by 40 CFR part 79, Subpart F, is the subject of this ICR. The information collection requirements for Subparts A through D, and the supplemental notification requirement of Subpart F (indicating how the manufacturer will satisfy the research requirements) are covered by a separate ICR (EPA ICR Number 309.09, OMB Control Number 2060-1050). The

health-effects information will be used to determine if there are any products whose evaporative or combustion emissions pose an unreasonable risk to public health, thus meriting further investigation and potential regulation. This information is required for specific groups of fuels and additives as defined in the regulations. For example, all gasolines and gasoline additives which consist of only carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and/or sulphur, and which involve a gasoline oxygen content of less than 1.5 weight percent, fall into a "baseline" group. Oxygenates, such as ethanol and methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), when used in gasoline at oxygen levels of at least 1.5 weight percent, define separate "nonbaseline" groups for each oxygenate. Additives which contain elements other than carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and/or sulphur fall into separate "atypical" groups. There are similar grouping requirements for diesel fuels and additives.

Manufacturers may perform the research independently or may join with other manufacturers to share in the costs for each applicable group. Several research consortiums (groups of manufacturers) have been formed. The largest consortium, organized by the American Petroleum Institute (API), represents most of the manufacturers of baseline and nonbaseline gasolines, diesel fuels, and additives. The research is structured into three tiers of requirements for each group. Tier 1 requires an emissions characterization and a literature search for information on the health effects of those emissions. Voluminous Tier 1 data were submitted by API and others in 1997. Tier 2 requires short-term inhalation exposures of laboratory animals to emissions to screen for adverse health effects. Alternative Tier 2 testing can be required in lieu of the standard Tier 2 if EPA concludes that such testing would be more appropriate. The EPA reached that conclusion with respect to gasoline and gasoline-oxygenate blends, and alternative requirements have been established for the API consortium for baseline gasoline and six gasoline-oxygenate blends. A similar situation exists with the Ethyl Corporation and its manganese additive MMT, and alternative requirements have been proposed. The API submitted Tier 2 data for diesel in 1997. Tier 3 provides for follow-up research, if necessary. No Tier 3 requirements have been established, and it is unlikely that any will be during the next three years. Thus, Tier 3 is not addressed in this ICR. An agency may not conduct or