

(i) You must be able to have the results of the audit system available at all times for examination by the staffs of the Commission and of your appropriate regulatory agency (if the Commission is not your appropriate regulatory agency); and

(ii) The audit results must be preserved for the time required for the audited records.

(4) If you use electronic storage media to store your records you must either:

(i) Maintain, keep current, and provide promptly upon request by the staffs of the Commission and of your appropriate regulatory agency (if the Commission is not your appropriate regulatory agency) all information necessary to access records and indexes stored on electronic storage media; or

(ii) If you use another party to maintain your records, place in escrow and keep current a copy of the physical and logical format of the electronic storage media, the field format of all different information types written on the electronic storage media and source code, and the appropriate documentation and information necessary to access records and indexes.

(5) Before you begin to use electronic storage media to preserve some or all of your records under this section, there must be at least one party other than you who has access to your electronic storage media system and has the ability to download information from your system and that party must file with the Commission and with your appropriate regulatory agency (if the Commission is not your appropriate regulatory agency) the following undertakings with respect to such records:

The undersigned hereby undertakes to furnish promptly to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), the transfer agent's appropriate regulatory agency ("ARA") (if its ARA is not the Commission), and their designees or representatives, upon reasonable request, such information as is deemed necessary by the Commission's, ARA's, or designee's staff to download information kept on the registered transfer agent's electronic storage media to any medium acceptable pursuant to Rule 17Ad-7 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Furthermore, the undersigned hereby undertakes to take reasonable steps to provide access to information contained on the registered transfer agent's electronic storage media, including, as appropriate, arrangements for the downloading of any record required to be maintained and preserved by the registered transfer agent pursuant to Rules 17Ad-6 and 17Ad-7 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in a format acceptable to the Commission's staff and the ARA's staff or their designees. Such arrangements will provide specifically that in the event of the registered transfer agent's failure to download the record into a

readable format and, after reasonable notice to the registered transfer agent, upon being provided with the appropriate electronic storage medium, the undersigned will undertake to download the record into a readable format as the Commission's staff and the ARA's staff or their designees may request.

(6) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(i) The term *micrographic media* means microfilm or microfiche or any similar medium; and

(ii) The term *electronic storage media* means any digital storage medium or system that meets the conditions in this paragraph.

* * * * *

By the Commission.

Dated: May 25, 1999.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-13865 Filed 6-1-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

18 CFR Part 385

[Docket No. PL98-1-001]

Public Access to Information and Electronic Filing; Technical Conference

May 26, 1999.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of technical conference on electronic filing.

SUMMARY: The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) notifies interested persons that the Commission Staff will conduct a technical conference for the purpose of discussing: the phasing plan and schedule for implementing electronic filings; the proposed policies and procedures for electronic filings; the changes to the Commission's regulations that will be required to accommodate electronic filing; a prototype for submitting certain electronic filings to the Commission; the profile of capabilities that the Commission plans to pilot by October 1, 1999; and other electronic filing-related issues of concern to those in attendance.

DATES: The conference will be held on Thursday, June 24, 1999, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The technical conference will be held in the Commission Meeting Room at the Federal Energy Regulatory

Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brooks Carter, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Room 42-29, Washington, D.C. 20426, (202) 501-8145, FAX: (202) 208-2425, E-Mail: brooks.carter@ferc.fed.us

Wilbur Miller, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Room 91-17, Washington, D.C. 20426, (202) 208-0953

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 the Public Reference Room at 888 First Street, N.E., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426.

The Commission Issuance Posting System (CIPS) provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission. CIPS can be accessed via Internet through FERC's Home Page (<http://www.fed.us>) using the CIPS link or the Energy Information Online icon. The full text of this document will be available on CIPS in ASCII and WordPerfect 6.1 format. User assistance is available at 202-208-2474 or by E-mail to CipsMaster@ferc.fed.us.

This document is also available through the Commission's Records and Information Management System (RIMS), an electronic storage and retrieval system of documents submitted to and issued by the Commission after November 16, 1981. Documents from November 1995 to the present can be viewed and printed. RIMS is available in the Public Reference Room or remotely via Internet through FERC's Homepage using the RIMS link or the Energy Information Online icon. User assistance is available at 202-208-2222, or by E-mail to RimsMaster@ferc.fed.us.

Finally, the complete text on diskette in WordPerfect format may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, RVJ International, Inc. RVJ International, Inc., is located in the Public Reference Room at 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20436.

Technical Conference

Take notice that the Commission Staff (Staff) will convene a technical conference to discuss issues related to the Commission's Electronic Filing Initiative (EFI). The conference will be held on Thursday, June 24, 1999, and will commence at 9:30 a.m. in the

Commission Meeting Room of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. The conference is open to all interested persons.

Staff is convening the conference to discuss: the phasing plan and schedule for implementing electronic filings; the proposed policies and procedures for electronic filing; the changes to the Commission's regulations that will be required to accommodate electronic filing; a prototype for submitting certain electronic filings to the Commission; the profile of capabilities that the Commission plans to pilot by October 1, 1999; and other electronic filing-related issues of concern to those in attendance.

The main conference discussion topics are attached to this notice. To facilitate discussion, Staff will post proposed electronic filing policies and procedures, and information on the other topics to be discussed, on the Commission's website (www.ferc.fed.us) in advance of the conference. Staff will publish a subsequent notice when the information is available. These proposals are based in part on comments received in response to a request for comments issued in Docket No. PL98-1-000 on May 13, 1998.¹

We urge persons planning to attend the conference to review the materials in advance and be prepared to discuss them at the conference.

In order that we can develop a mailing list and contact persons interested in prototype testing, please contact Brooks Carter via e-mail (brooks.carter@ferc.fed.us), FAX (202-208-2425) or telephone (202-501-8145) and provide: your name, title, company, mailing address, the industry or industries you work with (natural gas, oil, electric, or hydropower), voice and FAX numbers, and your Internet e-mail address if you have one.

Although this is an informal technical conference, a court reporter will transcribe the proceedings and make a transcript available for interested parties.

The Capitol Connection offers all Open and special FERC meetings *live* over the Internet as well as via telephone and satellite. For a reasonable fee, you can receive these meetings in your office, at home or anywhere in the world. To find out more about The Capitol Connection's live Internet,

¹ The comments are available on the Commission's website through the Records and Information Management System (RIMS) link. A summary of the comments and additional materials from conference on electronic filing held on October 22, 1998, are also available on the Commission's website via the "Rulemaking Comments" link on the main page.

phone bridge or satellite coverage, contact David Reininger or Julia Morelli at (703) 993-3100 or visit Capitol Connection's website at (www.capitolconnection.gmu.edu). The Capitol Connection also offers FERC Open Meetings through its Washington, D.C. area television service.

In addition, National Narrowcast Network's Hearing-On-The-Line service covers all FERC meetings live by telephone so that interested persons can listen at their desks, from their homes, or from any phone, without special equipment. Billing is based on time on-line. Call 202-966-2211.

Anyone interested in purchasing videotapes of the meeting should call VISCOM at (703-715-7999).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

Topics for Discussions at Electronic Filing Technical Conference June 24, 1999

Current Process for Electronic Filing Rulemaking Comments via e-mail

- Filing and processing issues
- Posting of comments

Description of "FERC Doorway": Discussion

- Conceptual Diagram
- Proposed Phases for Electronic Filing Implementation
- Profile of Interventions, Comments, and Protests to be Included in the October, 1999 pilot (Phase I)
- Y2K Docket Number format

Proposed Policies and Procedures (by Function)

Submit Function:

1. Filing Formats
2. Use of Interactive Forms for simple motions
3. Signature, User ID/Password, Certificate of Service
4. Citation rules to ensure consistent citation to submitted documents
5. Joint and Several Motions to Intervene
6. File retraction or correction

Receive Function:

1. Date/Time of Receipt and Filing Date
2. Session and File Control numbers
3. Docketing and Docket No. Validation
4. Acknowledgment of Receipt
5. System availability/delays

Inspect Function:

1. Virus scan
2. Check for completeness and file integrity

Return Function (if filing is not accepted):

1. Notification with reason (e.g., virus,

corruption)

2. Resubmission procedures /Impact on Filing Date

Document Management Function:

1. File Conversion Issues
2. Load Databases (Service List, Docket Sheet, RIMS Index, Daily Filings List, CIPS)

Prototype: Screens for Phase 1 Filings (Motions to Intervene, Comments, and Protests)

[FR Doc. 99-13898 Filed 6-1-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[RI-39-6989b; A-1-FRL-6346-4]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Rhode Island; Amendments to Air Pollution Control Regulation Number 9

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision submitted by the State of Rhode Island. This revision amends Rhode Island's Air Pollution Control Regulation No. 9, "Air Pollution Control Permits" which govern pre-construction permitting for new and modified sources of air pollution. In the Final Rules section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving the State's SIP revision as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial revision and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no relevant adverse comments are received in response to this proposed rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this proposed rule. If EPA receives relevant adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this proposal. Any parties interested in commenting on this proposal should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 2, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Susan Studlien, Deputy Director, Office of Ecosystem Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,