

considered during the preparation of the EA.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, elected officials, affected landowners, regional public interest groups, Indian tribes, local newspapers and libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

Currently Identified Environmental Issues

The EA will discuss impacts that would occur as a result of construction and operation of the proposed project. We have already identified a number of issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Petal. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- **Geology and Soils**
 - Impacts on about 2 miles of prime farmland soils.
 - Crossing about 1 mile of erosion prone soils.
- **Water Resources and Wetlands**
 - Crossing one perennial stream.
 - Crossing four wetlands.
- **Biological Resources**
 - Impacts on about 47 acres of forest or woodlands.
 - Impacts on the Gopher Tortoise, a federally listed threatened species.
- **Cultural Resources**
 - Impacts on prehistoric and historic sites.
 - Native American concerns.
- **Land Use**
 - Impacts on crop production.
 - Impacts on residential areas.
 - Visual effect of the aboveground facilities on surrounding areas.
- **Air and Noise Quality**
 - Impacts on local air quality and noise environment as a result of the operation of a new compressor station.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentator, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal,

alternatives to the proposal (including alternative locations or routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your letter to: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Environmental Review and Compliance Branch, PR-11.1;
- Reference Docket No. CP00-59-001; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before April 14, 2000.

[If you do not want to send comment at this time but still want to remain on our mailing list, please return the Information Request (appendix 3). If you do not return the Information Request, you will be removed from the environmental mailing list.]

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an "intervenor." Intervenor play a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors play a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide 14 copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 2). Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC website (www.ferc.fed.us) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the

instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notice, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and following the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Draft License Surrender Application and Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment (PDEA) and Request for Preliminary Terms and Conditions

March 8, 2000.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. *Type of Application:* Surrender of License.

b. *Project No.:* 477.

c. *Applicant:* Portland General Electric.

d. *Name of Project:* Bull Run Project.

e. *Location:* On the Sandy, Little Sandy, and Bull run Rivers, in Clackamas County, Oregon. Of 606 acres of land within the project boundary, about 55 acres is managed by Bureau of Land Management and 18 acres is managed by U.S. Forest Service.

f. *Applicant Contact:* Julie Keil, Portland General Electric Company, 121 SW Salmon Street, 3WTC-BRHL, Portland, OR 97204, (503) 464-8864.

g. *FERC Contact:* Jim Hastreiter, (503) 944-6760, james.hastreiter@ferc.fed.us.

h. Portland General Electric mailed a copy of the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment and draft application to interested parties on March 3, 2000. The Commission received a copy of the PDEA and draft application on March 6, 2000.

i. With this notice we are soliciting preliminary terms, conditions, and recommendations on the PDEA and draft license application. All comments on the PDEA and draft license application should be sent to the address above in item (f) with one copy

filed with the Commission at the following address: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, David P. Boergers, Secretary, 888 First St. NE, Washington, DC 20426. All comments must include the project name and number, and bear the heading "Preliminary Comments," "Preliminary Recommendations," "Preliminary Terms and Conditions," or "Preliminary Prescriptions." Any party interested in commenting must do so before May 5, 2000.

j. Locations of the application: A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, N.E., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-0371. The application may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rimes.htm>. (Call (202) 208-2222 for assistance).

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-6180 Filed 3-13-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6548-3]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Evaluation of PrintSTEP

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit the following proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Evaluation of PrintSTEP, EPA ICR Number: 1941.01.

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 May 15, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons may obtain a copy of the draft ICR by request from the Office of Compliance, by contacting Amy Porter at the contact information provided below. Details of the PrintSTEP evaluation is available on the Internet at http://www.epa.gov/ooaujeag/sectors/pdf/pgm_eval.pdf

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Porter, 2221A, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC, 20460. Phone: (202) 564-2431, Fax: (202) 564-0027, E-mail: porter.amy@epa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Affected entities:* Entities potentially affected by this action are those which volunteer to participate in the PrintSTEP pilots including State officials in Missouri, New Hampshire, and Minnesota and printers in those 3 states who participate in the pilots or the evaluation control groups, and members of the communities where participating printers are located.

Title: Proposed Information Collection Request for the Evaluation of PrintSTEP.

Abstract: Information will be collected for evaluation of the PrintSTEP pilot program. The evaluation aims to systematically identify the impacts the program has had on three types of stakeholders: printers, community residents, and the state government agencies administering the program. Specifically, the evaluation will determine the extent to which the 7 goals of the pilot program are met. The goals are: enhanced environmental protection; increased use of pollution prevention practices; simplified regulatory process for printers; improved efficiency of administration for state governments; enhanced public involvement; participants' realize benefits and are motivated to participate in PrintSTEP; and, cost effectiveness for all stakeholders.

This broad set of expected outcomes will require a range of distinct data collection and analysis activities. Data will be gathered from printer's program applications, from telephone interviews, from in-person interviews and possibly from focus groups. Data will be collected before implementation, a short time after program implementation, and at the end of the pilot. Responses to the collection of information are voluntary. Names of persons providing information will be not recorded. More information is available in the final draft of the Evaluation Strategy which can be accessed at http://www.epa.gov/ooaujeag/sectors/pdf/pgm_eval.pdf

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 numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and 48 CFR Chapter 15.

The EPA would like to solicit comments to:

(i) evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) evaluate 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;

(iii) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through 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.

Burden Statement

Estimated Recordkeeping and Reporting Hour Burden on Respondents

The PrintSTEP evaluation includes a telephone interview with three types of respondents: (1) Printers who are voluntarily participating in the PrintSTEP program; (2) a comparison group of printers who are not participating in PrintSTEP; and (3) community members who have participated in the public involvement component of PrintSTEP. For both types of printers, written data will be collected on their costs associated with PrintSTEP and/or regulatory activities. For the comparison group of printers, additional written data will be collected on environmental releases. The written information requested is expected to take one hour for the printers participating in PrintSTEP and 2.75 hours for the comparison group printers. Comparison group printers will be asked to submit information on their environmental releases which the pilot participants provide in their PrintSTEP applications. It is anticipated that a total of 320 printers will be interviewed three times during the course of the evaluation and that they will be either an environmental professional, or a manager. It is expected that one interview will be conducted with each of 50 community members.

The telephone portion of the survey for printers is expected to take 15 minutes to complete. The telephone interview with community members is expected to take 15 minutes. The estimates of respondent burden are shown in the table below.