

the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, 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.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section below.

#### *Currently Identified Environmental Issues*

We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Reef. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

—A directionally drilled crossing of the Rio Grande.

—Potential impact on the jaguarundi, ocelot, and mountain plover which are Federally listed threatened and endangered species.

—Loss of several acres of pecan orchard.

#### *Public Participation*

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, 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 an original and two copies of your letter to: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas 1, PJ-11.1;
- Reference Docket No. CP02-74-000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before April 15, 2002.

Comments, protests, and interventions may be filed electronically

via the Internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link and link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments you will need to create an account which can be created by clicking on "Login to File" and then "New User Account".

#### *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 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 1).<sup>3</sup> 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.

Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the

<sup>3</sup>The appendix referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available on the Commission's website at the "RIMS" link or from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. For instructions on connecting to RIMS refer to the last page of this notice. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**  
*Deputy Secretary.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

**[Docket No. RM98-1-000]**

#### **Regulations Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice**

March 15, 2002.

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(h), of the receipt of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive an exempt or a prohibited off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested on-the-record proceeding, to deliver a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance of any oral communication, to the Secretary.

Prohibited communications will be included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any responses thereto should become part of the decisional record, the prohibited off-the-record communication will not be considered by the Commission in reaching its decision. Parties to a proceeding may seek the opportunity to respond to any facts or contentions made in a prohibited off-the-record communication, and may request that the Commission place the prohibited communication and responses thereto in the decisional record. The Commission will grant such requests only when it determines that fairness so requires. Any person identified below as having made a prohibited off-the-record communication should serve the document on all parties listed on the official service list for the applicable proceeding in accordance with Rule 2010, 18 CFR 385.2010.

Exempt off-the-record communications will be included in the decisional record of the proceeding, unless the communication was with a cooperating agency as described by 40 CFR 1501.6, made under 18 CFR 385.2201(e)(1)(v).

The following is a list of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications received in the Office of the Secretary within the preceding 14 days. Copies of this filing are on file

with the Commission and are available for public inspection. The documents may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket#" and follow the

instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Exempt

| Docket No.   | Date filed | Presenter or requester         |
|--|------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Project Nos. 2061-000, 2777-000 and 1975-000 .....                    | 03-12-02   | Bill Baker.                    |
| 2. CP01-409-000 .....  | 03-12-02   | Alice Weekley.                 |
| 3. Project Nos. 1975-000, 2061-000, 2777-000 2778-000 and 2065-000 ..... | 03-12-02   | Stan McDonald.                 |
| 4. Project Nos. 10461-002 and 10462-002 .....                            | 03-12-02   | Tom Skutnik and Jerry Sabatis. |
| 5. Project No. 2778-000 .....  | 03-12-02   | Bill Baker.                    |

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**  
 Deputy Secretary.  
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6726/FAX: (732) 321-6724/or electronically at [burchette.sella@epa.gov](mailto:burchette.sella@epa.gov).

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.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-7161-1]

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Up for Renewal: EPA Worker Protection Standard for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, EPA ICR #1426.06, OMB Control #2050-0105, Expiration 7/31/2002**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sella M. Burchette, (732) 321-6726/ FAX: (732) 321-6724/or electronically at [burchette.sella@epa.gov](mailto:burchette.sella@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**  
*Affected entities:* Entities potentially affected by this action are those State and local employees engaged in hazardous waste operations and emergency response in the 27 States that do not have Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) approved State plans.

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.

**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 continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): EPA Worker Protection Standard for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, EPA ICR #1426.06, OMB Control #2050-0105, Expiration 7/31/2002. 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, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (5305G), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460.

Remit comments to Sella M. Burchette, US EPA/ERTC, 2890 Woodbridge Avenue, Building 18, MS101, Edison, NJ 08837-3679.

To obtain a copy at no charge, please contact Sella Burchette at (732) 321-

*Title:* EPA Worker Protection Standard for Hazardous Waste Operation and Emergency Response, OMB Control #2050-0105, EPA ICR #1426.06, Expiration 7/31/02. This is a request for renewal of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* Section 126(f) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) requires EPA to set worker protection standards for State and local employees engaged in hazardous waste operations and emergency response in the 27 States that do not have Occupational Safety and Health Administration approved State plans. The EPA coverage, required to be identical to the OSHA standards, extends to three categories of employees: those engaged in clean-ups at uncontrolled hazardous waste sites, including corrective actions at Treatment, Storage and Disposal (TSD) facilities regulated under the Resource Conservation and recovery Act (RCRA); employees working at routine hazardous waste operations at RCRA TSD facilities, and employees involved in emergency response operations without regard to location. This ICR renews to existing mandatory record keeping collection of ongoing activities including monitoring of any potential employee exposure at uncontrolled hazardous waste site, maintaining records of employee training, refresher training, medical exams and reviewing emergency response plans. An agency may not

*Burden Statement:* The annual recordkeeping burden for this collection is estimated to average 10.46 hours per site or event. The estimated number of respondents is approximated at 100 RCRA TSD facilities or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites: 23,900 State and local police departments, fire departments or hazardous materials teams. The estimated total burden hours on respondents: 255,427. The frequency of collection: continuous maintenance of records. Burden means to total time, effort, and financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing