

identifiers of EIA-886 survey respondents linked to their submitted data. For statistics based on projected data (e.g., data on alternative fueled vehicles that will be supplied in the upcoming calendar year) reported on Form EIA-886, EIA applies disclosure limitation. However, for all statistics based on historical Form EIA-886 data (e.g., data on alternative fueled vehicles supplied during the report year), EIA does not apply disclosure limitation.

When used, disclosure limitation methods are designed to minimize the possibility that individually-identifiable information reported by a survey respondent may be inferred from published statistics. By not using disclosure limitation methods, a statistic based on historical data reported on Form EIA-886 by fewer than three respondents or dominated by historical data from one or two large respondents may be used by a knowledgeable person to estimate data reported by a specific respondent.

Data collected on Form EIA-886 are used to meet EIA's mandates and energy data users' needs for credible, reliable, and timely energy information on the types of ATVs supplied, projections of the types of ATVs that will be supplied in the upcoming year, the location of ATVs in operation, and the types and amounts of ATFs consumed. Adequate evaluation of ATV/ATF issues requires detailed, comprehensive data. Data collected on Form EIA-886 are used to create statistics disseminated by EIA in various information products available on EIA's Web site at <http://www.eia.doe.gov/fuelalternate.html>.

EIA's ATV/ATF statistics provide Congress, other government agencies, businesses, trade associations, and private research and consulting organizations with information for analysis, projections, and monitoring purposes. To be most effective, EIA's ATV/ATF statistical information must be available by various breakdowns including vehicle, supplier, and user categories.

Given the relatively small number of Form EIA-886 respondents, certain statistics based primarily on data reported by a few respondents with large operations, and the need for detailed ATV/ATF statistics, the use of disclosure limitation methods would result in a large amount of detailed, historical statistics being suppressed from public dissemination. The suppressed historical statistics would then be unavailable to public and private analysts interested in ATVs and ATFs. Form EIA-886 respondents have indicated to EIA staff that projected data are sensitive and estimation of

respondent-level projections has more potential to cause competitive harm than for historical data.

II. Current Actions

The EIA is requesting comments on the disclosure limitation policy for statistical information based on alternative fueled vehicles and alternative transportation fuels survey data collected on Form EIA-886, "Annual Survey of Alternative Fueled Vehicle Suppliers and Users." EIA proposes to only apply disclosure limitation methods to statistics based on projected data reported on Form EIA-886. For statistics based on historical data reported on Form EIA-886, EIA will not apply disclosure limitation methods. EIA will continue to protect information collected under a pledge of confidentiality by not publicly releasing respondent-level survey data directly linked to names or other identifiers. This policy will result in EIA providing the maximum amount of ATV/ATF information to the public, and will facilitate public understanding of the ATF/ATV situation in the U.S. However, it also means that a knowledgeable person may be able to estimate the value of selected historical data reported by specific respondents.

III. Request for Comments

The public should comment on the actions discussed in item II. The questions below are the issues on which EIA is seeking public comments.

A. Does EIA's proposed policy to only use disclosure limitation methods for statistics based on projected data reported on Form EIA-886 maximize the utility of the ATV/ATF statistics to data users?

B. Is the possibility that a knowledgeable user might be able to estimate a respondent's contribution to a historical statistic an acceptable risk to Form EIA-886 respondents?

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be considered by EIA. The comments will also become a matter of public record.

After consideration of the comments, EIA will issue its policy regarding the use of disclosure limitation methods for alternative fueled vehicles and alternative transportation fuels statistical information based on Form EIA-886 survey data. The policy will be announced in a **Federal Register** notice issued by EIA.

Statutory Authority: Section 52 of the Federal Energy Administration Act (Pub. L. 93-275, 15 U.S.C. 790a).

Issued in Washington, DC, February 10, 2004.

Jay H. Casselberry,

Agency Clearance Officer, Statistics and Methods Group, Energy Information Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC04-512-000, FERC-512]

Commission Information Collection Activities, Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension

February 10, 2004.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

ACTION: Notice.

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: Comments on the collection of information are due by April 16, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained from Michael Miller, Office of the Executive Director, ED-30, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. Comments may be filed either in paper format or electronically. Those parties filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing. For paper filings, the original and 14 copies of such comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 and refer to Docket No. IC04-512-000.

Documents filed electronically via the Internet must be prepared in WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format, or ASCII format. To file the document, access the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> and click on "Make an E-filing" and then follow the instructions for each screen. First time users will have to establish a user name and password. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgement to the sender's E-mail address upon receipt of comments.

All comments may be viewed, printed or downloaded remotely via the Internet through FERC's homepage using the *eLibrary* link. For user assistance, contact FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or

toll free at (866) 208-3676 or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 502-8415, by fax at (202) 273-0873 and by e-mail at michael.miller@ferc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Abstract:* The information collected under the requirements of FERC-512, "Application for Preliminary Permit" (OMB No. 1902-0073) is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of sections 4(f), 5 and 7 of the Federal Power Act (FPA), 16 U.S.C. Sections 797, 798 and 800. The purpose of obtaining a preliminary permit is to

maintain priority of the application for a license for a hydropower facility while the applicant conducts surveys to prepare maps, plans, specifications and estimates; conducts engineering, economic and environmental feasibility studies; and making financial arrangements. The conditions under which the priority will be maintained are set forth in each permit. During the term of the permit, no other application for a preliminary permit or application for a license submitted by another party can be accepted. The term of the permit is three years. The information collected under the designation FERC-512 is in the form of a written application for a preliminary permit which is used by

Commission staff to determine an applicant's qualifications to hold a preliminary permit, review the proposed hydro development for feasibility and to issue a notice of the application in order to solicit public and agency comments. The Commission implements these mandatory filing requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) under 18 CFR 4.31-4.33, 4.81-4.83.

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 (1)	Annual responses per respondent (2)	Average burden hours per response (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)×(2)×(3)
50	1	73	3,650

Estimated cost burden to respondents is \$188,089 (*i.e.*, 3,650 hours divided by 2,080 hours per full time employee per year multiplied by \$107,185 per year equals \$188,089).

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, or 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 anyone 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.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-291 Filed 2-13-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC04-588-000; FERC-588]

Commission Information Collection Activities, Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension

February 10, 2004.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of section 3506(c) (2) (a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), the Federal Energy

Regulatory Commission (Commission) is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described below.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due by April 16, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained from Michael Miller, Office of the Executive Director, ED-30, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Comments may be filed either in paper format or electronically. Those parties filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing. For paper filings, the original and 14 copies of such comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 and refer to Docket No. IC04-588-000.

Documents filed electronically via the Internet must be prepared in WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format or ASCII format. To file the document, access the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> and click on "Make an E-filing," and then follow the instructions for each screen. First time users will have to establish a user name and password. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgement to the sender's e-mail address upon receipt of comments.

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