

SW., Atlanta, GA 30310, Phone: 404-756-6700, Fax: 404-752-1847.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Leonard Dawson, Deputy Counselor, White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, 1990 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20202; telephone: (202) 502-7889.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities is established under Executive Order 13256, dated February 12, 2002, and Executive Order 13316 of September 17, 2003. The Board is established (a) to report to the President annually on the results of the participation of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) in Federal programs, including recommendations on how to increase the private sector role, including the role of private foundations, in strengthening these institutions, with particular emphasis on enhancing institutional planning and development, strengthening fiscal stability and financial management, and improving institutional infrastructure, including the use of technology, to ensure the long-term viability and enhancement of these institutions; (b) to advise the President and the Secretary of Education (Secretary) on the needs of HBCUs in the areas of infrastructure, academic programs, and faculty and institutional development; (c) to advise the Secretary in the preparation of an annual Federal plan for assistance to HBCUs in increasing their capacity to participate in Federal programs; (d) to provide the President with an annual progress report on enhancing the capacity of HBCUs to serve their students; and (e) to develop, in consultation with the Department of Education and other Federal agencies, a private sector strategy to assist HBCUs.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss plans for submission of the Board's 2002-2003 Annual Report; to receive an update on the Ayers desegregation case and its implications for HBCUs; and to plan activities to be held during National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week.

Individuals who will need accommodations for a disability in order to attend the meeting (*e.g.*, interpreting services, assistive listening devices, or material in alternative format) should notify ReShone Moore at (202) 502-7893 no later than Thursday, April 22, 2004. We will attempt to meet requests for accommodations after this date, but, cannot guarantee their availability. The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

An opportunity for public comment is available on Thursday, April 29, 2004, between 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Those members of the public interested in submitting written comments may do so at the address indicated above by Thursday, April 22, 2004.

Records are kept of all Board proceedings and are available for public inspection at the Office of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006, during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dated: March 18, 2004.

**Rod Paige,**

*Secretary of Education, U.S. Department of Education.*

[FR Doc. 04-7212 Filed 3-30-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-M**

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Energy Information Administration

#### American Statistical Association Committee on Energy Statistics

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the American Statistical Association Committee on Energy Statistics, a utilized Federal Advisory Committee. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Thursday, April 22, 2004, 8:30 a.m.-4:50 p.m., Friday, April 23, 2004, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** U.S. Department of Energy, Room 8E-089, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. William I. Weinig, EI-70, Committee Liaison, Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585, Telephone: (202) 287-1709. Alternately, Mr. Weinig may be contacted by email at [william.weinig@eia.doe.gov](mailto:william.weinig@eia.doe.gov) or by FAX at (202) 287-1705.

*Purpose of the Committee:* To advise the Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration (EIA), on EIA technical statistical issues and to enable the EIA to benefit from the Committee's experience concerning other energy-related statistical matters.

## Tentative Agenda

*Thursday, April 22, 2004*

- A. Opening Remarks by the ASA Committee Chair, the EIA Administrator and the Director, Statistics and Methods Group, EIA, Room 8E-089
- B. Major Topics (Room 8E-089 unless otherwise noted)
  1. Short-Term Energy Forecasting:
    - a. Natural Gas Prices and Industrial Sector Responses: An Experimental Module for the Short-Term Integrated Forecasting System
    - b. Issues in Short-Term Energy Modeling: Adding Regional Components to EIA's Short-Term Energy Model
  2. Reducing Bias and Variability in Texas Natural Gas Production Estimates (Room 5E-069)
  3. EIA's Frames: How Do We Know if They Are Sufficient? (Room 5E-069)
  4. Public Questions and Comments
  5. Electricity Transmission
    - a. Electricity 2005
    - b. Electricity Transmission Data Needs Focus Group Results
    - c. Transmission Data for Public Policy
  6. Estimating Weekly Other Oils Stock
  7. EIA Survey Testing Methods (Room 5E-069)
  8. Natural Gas Production Monthly Survey
  9. Public Questions and Comments

*Friday, April 23, 2004*

- C. Major Topics
  1. Improving EIA's Web site: Creating a Vision for the Future
  2. Revising Data Together Across EIA: Issues and Opportunities
  3. Survey Quality Assessments at EIA (5E-069)
  4. Measuring and Quantifying the Quality of EIA Analysis: A Revised Approach
  5. Public Questions and Comments
- D. Closing Remarks by the ASA Committee Chair

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public. The Chair of the Committee is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Written statements may be filed with the committee either before or after the meeting. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. William I. Weinig, EIA Committee Liaison, at the address or telephone number listed above.

A Meeting Summary and Transcript will subsequently be available through Mr. Weinig who may be contacted at (202) 287-1709 or by email at [william.weinig@eia.doe.gov](mailto:william.weinig@eia.doe.gov).

Issued at Washington, DC on March 24, 2004.

Rachel M. Samuel,

Deputy Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-7204 Filed 3-30-04; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. IC04-538-000; FERC-538]

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

March 24, 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 May 28, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained from and written comments may be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Attn: 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. IC04-538-000.

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](mailto: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](mailto:michael.miller@ferc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The information collected under the requirements of FERC Form No. -538 "Gas Pipeline Certificates: Initial Service (OMB No. 1902-0061) is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of sections 7(a), 10(a), and 16 of the Natural Gas Act

(NGA) (Pub. L. 75-688) (15 U.S.C. 717-717w). The reporting requirements contained in this collection of information are used by the Commission to determine whether a distributor applicant can economically construct and manage its facilities. Requests are made to the Commission by individuals or entities to have the Commission, by order, direct a natural gas pipeline to extend or improve its transportation facilities, and sell gas to an individual, entity or municipality for the specific purpose indicated in the order, and to extend the pipeline's transportation facilities to communities immediately adjacent to the municipality's facilities or to territories served by the natural gas company. In addition, the Commission reviews the supply data to determine if the pipeline company can provide the service without curtailing certain of its existing customers. The flow data and market data are also used to evaluate existing and future customer requirements on the system to find if sufficient capacity will be available. Likewise, the cost of facilities and the rate data are used to evaluate the financial impact of the cost of the project to both the pipeline company and its customers. The Commission implements these filing requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) under 18 CFR part 156.

*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 annually (1)	Number of responses per respondent (2)	Average burden hours per response (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)x(2)x(3)
1	1	240	240

The estimated total cost to respondents is \$12,368 (240 hours divided by 2,080 hours per employee per year times \$107,185 per year average salary (including overhead) per employee = \$12,368 (rounded off)).

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