

ACTION: Submission for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, intends to extend for three years the information collection package entitled, "Chronic Beryllium Disease Prevention Program." Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the extended information collections are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the information collections, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collections on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Comments regarding this collection must be received on or before September 25, 2006. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, please advise the OMB Desk Officer of your intention to make a submission as soon as possible. The Desk Officer may be telephoned at 202-395-4650.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to: DOE Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10102, 735 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503.

Comments should also be addressed to: Jeffrey Martus, IM-11/Germantown Building, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585-1290, or by fax at 301-903-9061 or by e-mail at jeffrey.martus@hq.doe.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Jeffrey Martus at the address listed above in **ADDRESSES**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information collection packages listed in this notice for public comment include the following:

- (1) *OMB No.*: 1910-5112.
- (2) *Package Title*: Chronic Beryllium Disease Prevention Program.
- (3) *Type of Review*: Renewal.
- (4) *Purpose*: This information is used by DOE and DOE contractor employers to manage chronic beryllium disease

prevention programs, to provide information to employees, and to permit oversight of their programs by DOE management.

(5) *Respondents*: 1,703.

(6) *Estimated Burden Hours*: 32,952.

Statutory Authority: Department of Energy Organization Act, Public Law 95-91.

Jeffrey Martus,

Records Management Division, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-14046 Filed 8-23-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket No. EA-260-B]

Application To Voluntarily Transfer Export Authority EPCOR Merchant and Capital (U.S.) Inc.

AGENCY: Office Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of Application.

SUMMARY: EPCOR Merchant and Capital (U.S.) Inc. (EMC) has applied to voluntarily transfer to EPCOR Energy Marketing (U.S.) Inc. (EEM) its authority to transmit electric energy from the United States to Canada pursuant to section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act.

DATES: Comments, protests or requests to intervene must be submitted on or before September 8, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Comments, protests or requests to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, Mail Code: OE-20, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0350 (FAX 202-586-5860).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Mintz (Program Office) 202-586-9506 or Michael Skinker (Program Attorney) 202-586-2793.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Exports of electricity from the United States to a foreign country are regulated and require authorization under section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act (FPA) (16 U.S.C. 824a(e)).

On April 8, 2002, the Department of Energy (DOE) issued Order No. EA-260 authorizing EMC to transmit electric energy from the United States to Canada as a power marketer using existing international electric transmission facilities. That two-year authorization expired on April 8, 2004. On July 8, 2004, DOE received an application from EMC to renew its authorization to transmit electric energy from the United States to Canada. On October 13, 2004,

that renewal was granted in Order No. EA-260-A and will expire on April 9, 2009.

On July 13, 2006, DOE received an application from EMC to voluntarily transfer its export authority to EEM. EEM was formed to assume the duties previously undertaken by EMC, including the exporting of electric energy to Canada. EEM is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. EEM is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of EPCOR Utilities Inc. of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. EEM is a power marketer that does not own or control any electric generation or transmission facilities nor does it have a franchised service territory in the United States.

In OE Docket No. EA-260-B, EEM proposes to export electric energy to Canada and to arrange for the delivery of those exports over the international transmission facilities currently owned by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Bonneville Power Administration, Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative, International Transmission Company, Joint Owners of the Highgate Project, Long Sault, Inc., Maine Electric Power Company, Maine Public Service Company, Minnesota Power, Inc., Minnkota Power Cooperative, New York Power Authority, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, Northern States Power, and Vermont Electric Transmission Company and Vermont Electric Transmission Co.

The construction of each of the international transmission facilities to be utilized by EEM, as more fully described in its application, has previously been authorized by a Presidential permit issued pursuant to Executive Order 10485, as amended.

The applicant has requested expedited processing of this application so that it may proceed with the proposed transfer. Accordingly, DOE has shortened the public comment period to 15 days.

Procedural Matters: Any person desiring to become a party to this proceeding or to be heard by filing comments or protests to this application should file a petition to intervene, comment or protest at the address provided above in accordance with 385.211 or 385.214 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). Fifteen copies of each petition and protest should be filed with the DOE on or before the date listed above.

Comments on the EMC application to voluntarily transfer their export authorization to EEM should be clearly

marked with Docket EA-260-B. Additional copies are to be filed directly with Lee Bui, Transaction Accounting Assistant, EPCOR Energy Marketing (U.S.) Inc., EPCOR Place, 8th Floor, 505 2nd Street, SW., Calgary, Alberta T2P 1N8, Canada and Sandra E. Rizzo, Esq., Preston Gates Ellis, & Rouvelas Meeds, LLP, 1735 New York Avenue, NW., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20006.

A final decision will be made on this application after the environmental impacts have been evaluated pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and a determination is made by the DOE that the proposed action will not adversely impact on the reliability of the U.S. electric power supply system.

Copies of this application will be made available, upon request, for public inspection and copying at the address provided above or by e-mailing Odessa Hopkins at Odessa.hopkins@hq.doe.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 17, 2006.

Anthony J. Como,

Director, Permitting and Siting Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.

[FR Doc. E6-14044 Filed 8-23-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Availability; Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Orlando Gasification Project

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of availability and public hearings.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces the availability of the document, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Orlando Gasification Project (DOE/EIS-0383), for public comment. The draft environmental impact statement (EIS) analyzes the potential environmental consequences of providing federal funding for the design, engineering, construction, and operation of facilities at Orlando Utilities Commission's (OUC's) existing Stanton Energy Center near Orlando, Florida. The project has been selected by DOE for further consideration under the Clean Coal Power Initiative (CCPI) to demonstrate advanced power generation systems using Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) technology. DOE has awarded a cooperative agreement to SCS for a project definition phase during which SCS will complete a detailed Project Management Plan, prepare environmental information and permit

applications, and perform Front-End Engineering Design activities.

The Department prepared this draft EIS in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations that implement the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), and the DOE procedures implementing NEPA (10 CFR part 1021).

DOE's proposed action (and preferred alternative) is to provide cost-shared funding to design, construct, and operate the Orlando Gasification Project. Although DOE funding would support only the Orlando Gasification Project (*i.e.*, coal gasifier, synthesis gas cleanup systems, and supporting infrastructure), the project would be integrated with a planned, privately funded, combined-cycle unit, which together would constitute the IGCC facilities. The facilities would convert coal into synthesis gas to drive a gas combustion turbine, and hot exhaust gas from the gas turbine would generate steam in a heat recovery steam generator (HRSG) to drive a steam turbine. Combined, the two turbines would generate 285 MW (megawatts) of electricity. The potential environmental impacts of this action are evaluated in this Draft EIS. DOE also analyzed the No-Action Alternative (not funding the demonstration), including a scenario reasonably expected to result as a consequence of the no-action alternative. Without DOE participation, Southern Company and/or OUC could reasonably pursue at least one option. The combined-cycle facilities could be built at the Stanton Energy Center without the gasifier, synthesis gas cleanup systems, and supporting infrastructure.

DATES: DOE invites the public to comment on the Draft EIS during the public comment period, which ends October 10, 2006. DOE will consider all comments postmarked or received during the public comment period in preparing the Final EIS, and will consider late comments to the extent practicable.

DOE will hold a public hearing on September 13, 2006, at Timber Creek High School, 1001 Avalon Park Boulevard, Orlando, Florida, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. An informational session will be held at the same location from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., preceding the public hearing on the date noted above.

ADDRESSES: Requests for information about this Draft EIS or to receive a copy of the Draft EIS should be directed to: Richard A. Hargis, Jr., NEPA Document Manager, U.S. Department of Energy,

National Energy Technology Laboratory, M/S 922-342C, P.O. Box 10940, Pittsburgh, PA 15236. Additional information about the Draft EIS may also be requested by telephone at: (412) 386-6065, or toll-free at: (888) 322-7436, x6065.

The Draft EIS will be available at <http://www.eh.doe.gov/nepa/>. Copies of the Draft EIS are also available for review at the locations listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this Notice. Written comments on the Draft EIS can be mailed to Richard A. Hargis, Jr., NEPA Document Manager, at the address noted above. Written comments may also be submitted by fax to: (412) 386-4775, or submitted electronically to: hargis@netl.doe.gov. Oral comments on the Draft EIS will be accepted only during the public hearing scheduled for the date and location provided in the **DATES** section of this Notice. Requests to speak at the public hearing can be made by calling or writing the EIS Document Manager (see **ADDRESSES**). Requests to speak that have not been submitted prior to the hearing will be accepted in the order in which they are received during the hearing. Speakers are encouraged to provide a written version of their oral comments for the record. Each speaker will be allowed five minutes to present comments unless more time is requested and available. Comments will be recorded by a court reporter and will become part of the public hearing record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on the proposed project or the draft environmental impact statement, please contact Mr. Richard A. Hargis, Jr., as directed above. For general information regarding the DOE NEPA process, please contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, Telephone: (202) 586-4600, or leave a message at: (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description of Alternatives

DOE analyzed two alternatives in the Draft EIS: The proposed action and the no-action alternative. Under the proposed action, DOE would provide cost-shared funding for construction and operation of gasification facilities at Orlando Utilities Commission's (OUC's) existing Stanton Energy Center near Orlando, Florida. The project has been selected by DOE under the Clean Coal Power Initiative (CCPI) to demonstrate advanced power generation systems