

and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: August 28, 2012.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC12-17-000]

Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC-714); Comment Request; Extension

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 USC 3506(c)(2)(A), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collection, Annual Electric Balancing Authority Area and Planning Area Report.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due November 5, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments (identified by Docket No. [IC12-17-000]) by either of the following methods:

- *eFiling at Commission's Web Site:* <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>.

- *Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier:* Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

Instructions: All submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at: <http://www.ferc.gov/help/submission-guide.asp>. For user assistance contact FERC Online Support by email at ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov, or by phone at: (866) 208-3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502-8659 for TTY.

Docket: Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issuances in this docket may do so at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/docs-filing.asp>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Ellen Brown may be reached by email at DataClearance@FERC.gov, telephone at (202) 502-8663, and fax at (202) 273-0873.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: FERC-714: Annual Electric Balancing Authority Area and Planning Area Report.

OMB Control No.: 1902-0140.

Type of Request: Three-year extension of the FERC-714 information collection requirements with no changes to the current reporting requirements.

Abstract: The Federal Power Act authorizes the Commission to collect information from electric utility balancing authorities and planning areas in the United States. 18 CFR 141.51 mandates the data collection.

The Commission uses the collected data to analyze power system operations along with its regulatory functions. These analyses estimate the effect of changes in power system operations resulting from the installation of a new generating unit or plant, transmission facilities, energy transfers between systems, and/or new points of interconnections. Also, these analyses serve to correlate rates and charges, assess reliability and other operating attributes in regulatory proceedings, monitor market trends and behaviors, and determine the competitive impacts of proposed mergers, acquisitions, and dispositions.

Type of Respondents: Electric utilities operating balancing authority areas and planning areas with annual peak demand over 200 MW.

Estimate of Annual Burden¹: The Commission estimates the total Public Reporting Burden for this information collection as:

FERC-714 (IC12-17-000)—ANNUAL ELECTRIC BALANCING AUTHORITY AREA AND PLANNING AREA REPORT

| Number of respondents (A) | Number of responses per respondent (B) | Total number of responses (A) × (B) = (C) | Average burden hours per response (D) | Estimated total annual burden (C) × (D) |
|---------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| 219 | 1 | 219 | 87 | 19,053 |

The total estimated annual cost burden to respondents is \$1,314,839.32 [19,053 hours ÷ 2080 hours/year² = 9.16009 * \$143,540/year³ = \$1,314,839.32]

Comments: Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the 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 and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility

¹ The Commission defines burden as the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. For

and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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further explanation of what is included in the information collection burden, reference 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 14447-000]

L.S. Starrett Company; Notice of Application Tendered for Filing With the Commission and Soliciting Additional Study Requests

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

a. *Type of Application:* Exemption from Licensing.

² 2080 hours = 52 weeks * 40 hours per week (i.e. 1 year of full-time employment).

³ Average salary plus benefits per full-time equivalent employee.