SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is submitting the information collection FERC–733, Demand Response/Time-Based Rate Programs and Advanced Metering, to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review of the information collection requirements. Any interested person may file comments directly with OMB and should address a copy of those comments to the Commission as explained below. The Commission issued a Notice in the Federal Register (78 FR 63172, 10/23/2013) requesting public comments. FERC received no comments on the FERC–733 and is making this notation in its submittal to OMB.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due by February 3, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Comments filed with OMB, identified by the collection number FERC–733, should be sent via email to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs: oira_submission@omb.gov. Attention: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Desk Officer. The Desk Officer may also be reached via telephone at 202–395–4718.

A copy of the comments should also be sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, identified by the Docket No. IC13–22–000, by either of the following methods:

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

SUPERIMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC13–22–000]

Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC–733); Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

ACTION: Comment request.

Title: FERC–733, Demand Response/Time-Based Rate Programs and Advanced Metering.

OMB Control No.: To be determined.

Type of Request: Approval of a new survey of demand response and time-based rate programs and tariffs, and advanced metering that replaces the FERC–731 survey.

Abstract: Section 1252(e)(3) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005,1 requires the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to prepare and publish an annual report, by appropriate region, that assesses demand response resources, including those available from all consumer classes. Specifically, EPAct 2005 Section 1252(e)(3) requires that the Commission identify and review:

(A) saturation and penetration rate of advanced meters and communications technologies, devices and systems;
(B) existing demand response programs and time-based rate programs;
(C) the annual resource contribution of demand resources;
(D) the potential for demand response as a quantifiable, reliable resource for regional planning purposes;
(E) steps taken to ensure that, in regional transmission planning and operations, demand resources are provided equitable treatment as a quantifiable, reliable resource relative to the resource obligations of any load-serving entity, transmission provider, or transmitting party; and
(F) regulatory barriers to improved customer participation in demand response, peak reduction and critical period pricing programs.

In 2006 and 2008, the Commission designed and used Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved collections FERC–727, Demand Response and Time Based Rate Programs Survey (OMB Control No. 1902–0214), and FERC–728, Advanced Metering Survey (OMB Control No. 1902–0213), to collect and convey to Congress the requested demand response and advanced metering information. In 2010 and 2012, the Commission designed and used OMB approved collection FERC–731, Demand Response/Time-Based Rate Programs and Advanced Metering (OMB Control No. 1902–0251). For 2014 and 2016 the Commission proposes to continue to utilize a voluntary survey (FERC–733) that incorporates changes to the previously approved FERC–731 to improve data quality and reduce respondent burden. The Commission proposes to (1) align its collection of Advanced Metering

Infrastructure (AMI) installations with that of the Energy Information Administration (EIA), (2) consolidate several questions, (3) eliminate some of the data collected on the FERC–731, (4) include three additional categories regarding customer’s methods of accessing data, and (5) request additional details concerning retail demand response programs that participate in wholesale programs.2

The Commission proposes to revise the structure of its question on advanced meters to comport with recent changes approved by OMB for the EIA in Form EIA–861, Schedule 6, Part D, “Advanced Metering and Customer Communication.” The Commission also proposes to eliminate certain data elements requested by the 2012 FERC–731 including: The respondents’ number of customers by customer sector in Question 3, and the request for the respondents’ long-range (4 to 6 years) plans for demand response programs in Question 5.

The Commission believes that the above changes should result in a more accurate and streamlined data collection that will reduce respondent burden.

The Commission investigated alternatives, including using data from the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and EIA, to fielding and collecting data using a FERC designed survey. However, as explained below, the data is not currently collected or cannot be obtained by the Commission in time to complete the 2014 report to Congress.

NERC, as the Electric Reliability Organization for the United States 3 as certified by the Commission, has begun to collect demand response data on dispatchable and non-dispatchable resources that it needs to conduct its reliability work. Reporting demand response information in the Demand Response Availability Data System (DADS) is mandatory for all entities who are part of NERC’s functional model. The Demand Response Data Task Force at NERC developed DADS to collect demand response program information. DADS currently collects information on dispatchable and controllable demand response resources. DADS does not currently collect and report information on several key demand response program types including economic, and time-based rate programs. Because DADS does not currently collect and report data which is specifically required by EPAct 2005, the system cannot be relied upon for FERC’s reporting purposes. EPAct 2005 specifically requires FERC to identify and review time-based rate programs.

NERC plans to require its registered entities to report information on these other demand response program types in the future, but it is unclear at this time when NERC may begin to collect these additional data or whether the new data will be available or suitable for FERC staff to use to prepare their reports to Congress.

The EIA collects aggregated information on energy efficiency and load management as well as advanced metering data in its EIA–861, “Annual Electric Power Industry Report.” The data collected in this survey does not identify specific demand response programs or time-based rate programs, but it does support the Commission’s advanced metering data needs. Unfortunately, the finalized advanced metering data for 2013 will not be available until the fourth quarter of 2014 under EIA’s proposed schedule. Therefore, the EIA data will not be available to the Commission in time to report 2013 findings in calendar year 2014.

Because these alternatives will not provide data or will not provide data in a timely manner for the 2014 report, the Commission proposes to conduct a survey (attached in the docket) with a response deadline of May 1, 2014, to gather data on efficiency and load management. The EIA collects aggregated information on energy efficiency and load management through its Annual Electric Power Industry Report. The Commission proposes to conduct a survey (attached in the docket) with a response deadline of May 1, 2014. This survey has been designed to be consistent with NERC’s data collection such that, in future years, the Commission may be able to use the NERC data when it becomes available.

FERC staff has designed a survey that will impose minimal burden on respondents by providing respondents with an easy-to-complete, fillable form that will include such user friendly features as pre-populated fields and drop-down menus, make use of the data that is becoming available from reliable sources, and provide it with the information necessary to draft and file the report that is required by Congress. The survey can be electronically filed. A paper version of the survey will be available for those who are unable to file electronically.

Access to the Proposed Materials: The survey form, instructions, and glossary are attached to this docket, but they are not being published in the Federal Register. Interested parties can see the materials electronically as part of this notice in FERC’s eLibrary (http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp) by searching Docket No. IC13–22–000.

Interested parties may also request paper or electronic copies of any of the materials by contacting FERC’s Public Reference Room by email at public.referenceroom@ferc.gov or by telephone at (202) 502–8371.

Type of Respondents: The Commission is proposing to collect the demand response and advanced metering information via a voluntary survey from the nation’s entities that serve wholesale and retail customers. The information will be used to draft and file the report that is required by Congress. Industry cooperation is important for us to obtain as accurate and up-to-date information as possible to respond to Congress, as well as to provide information to states and other market participants. We, therefore, strongly encourage all potential survey respondents to complete the survey.

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

---

2The additional details of the retail demand response programs that participate in wholesale demand response programs is necessary to identify the potential peak reductions that are solely wholesale in nature and not associated with specific demand response efforts at the retail program level.


4The attached form is for illustrative purposes only and does not include all the interactive features of the actual form.

5The 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 further explanation of what is included in the information collection burden, reference 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.
with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. Type of Application: Subsequent license.

b. Project No.: 3030–019.

c. Date filed: December 21, 2012.

d. Applicant: Antrim County.

e. Name of Project: Elk Rapids Hydroelectric Project.

f. Location: On the Elk River, in the village of Elk Rapids, the counties of Antrim, Grand Traverse, and Kalkaska, Michigan. The project does not occupy any federal lands.


g. Applicant Contact: William Stockhausen, Elk Rapids Hydroelectric Power, LLC, 218 West Dunlap Street, Northville, MI 48167 or at (248) 349–2833.

h. FERC Contact: Lee Emery, (202) 502–8379, lee.emery@ferc.gov.

j. Deadline for filing motions to intervene and protest, comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions: 60 days from the issuance date of this notice: reply comments are due 105 days from the issuance date of this notice.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions using the Commission’s eFiling system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/eFiling.asp. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/eComment.asp. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. [866] 208–3676 (toll free), or (202) 502–8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P–3030–019.

The Commission’s Rules of Practice require that intervenors filing documents with the Commission serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

k. This application has been accepted, and is ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. The Elk Rapids Project consists of: (1) Two impoundments, the 2,560-acre Skegemog Lake and the 7,730-acre Elk Lake; (2) a 121-foot-long, 52-foot-high, 26-foot-wide existing powerhouse that spans the main channel of the Elk River, with an operating head of 10.5 feet; (3) a 24-foot-high, single story superstructure; (4) a substructure that includes the intakes and turbine pits, which are about 13 feet high; (5) a 13-foot-high concrete foundation located below the substructure that incorporates the draft tubes; (6) four intake bays, each 22 feet wide with sliding head gates at the powerhouse wall; (7) two Francis turbines, each with an installed capacity of 350 kilowatts; (8) intake trash racks having a 1.75-inch clear bar spacing; (9) a 14-foot-wide overflow spillway located about 400 feet south of the powerhouse, which consists of two adjacent concrete drop structures, each with 7-foot-long stop logs to control the lake level, with each drop structure leading to a 62.5-foot-long by 4.5-foot-diameter culvert that passes under Dexter Street; (10) two turbine gates used to spill excess water through the two intake bays that do not contain turbines and generating units; (11) a 4,160-kilovolt (kV) transmission line that extends about 30 feet from the powerhouse to a 20-foot by 30-foot substation enclosure; (12) a 50-foot-long underground 12.5-kV transmission line to connect the project substation to the local utility distribution lines; and (13) other appurtenant facilities. The average annual generation is estimated to be 2,422 megawatt-hours (MWh).

m. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission’s Web site at http://www.ferc.gov using the “eLibrary” link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support. A copy is also available

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 3030–019]

Antrim County: Notice of Application Accepted for Filing, Ready for Environmental Analysis, and Soliciting Motions To Intervene and Protests, Comments, Recommendations, Terms and Conditions, and Prescriptions

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed

The total estimated cost burden to respondents for the 2014 survey is $669,613 (11,900 hours/year × $56.27/hour)7, and is ready for environmental analysis at this time.

7 This collection occurs every two years and OMB approval is typically for three years. As such, it is likely that there will be two surveys completed during the time this form is approved. When we submit this collection to OMB for approval (after the comment period) we will likely calculate the total burden over those three years.

7 This figure is based on the average salary plus benefits for a management analyst (NAICS Occupation Code 11–1111). We obtained wage and benefit information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (http://bls.gov/oes/current/naics2_22.htm and http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecers.n07.htm).