

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC17-5-000]

Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC-588), 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, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the information collection FERC-588 (Emergency Natural Gas Transportation, Sale and Exchange Transactions) and will be submitting FERC-588 to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review of the information collection requirements.

DATES: Comments in consideration of the collection of information are due May 22, 2017.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Docket No. IC17-5-000 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 CONTACT: 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-588, Emergency Natural Gas Transportation, Sale and Exchange Transactions.

OMB Control No.: 1902-0144.

Type of Request: Three-year extension of the FERC-588 information collection requirements with no changes to the reporting requirements.

Abstract: The FERC-588 is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of sections 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) (Pub. L. 75-688) (15 U.S.C. 717-717w) and provisions of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 (NGPA), 15 U.S.C. 3301-3432. Under the NGA, a natural gas company must obtain Commission approval to engage in the transportation, sale or exchange of natural gas in interstate commerce. However, section 7(c) exempts from certificate requirements "temporary acts or operations for which the issuance of a certificate will not be required in the public interest." The

NGPA also provides for non-certificated interstate transactions involving intrastate pipelines and local distribution companies.

A temporary operation, or emergency, is defined as any situation in which an actual or expected shortage of gas supply would require an interstate pipeline company, intrastate pipeline, or local distribution company, or Hinshaw pipeline to curtail deliveries of gas or provide less than the projected level of service to the customer. The natural gas companies which provide the temporary assistance to the companies which are having the "emergency" must file the necessary information described in Part 284, Subpart I of the Commission's Regulations with the Commission, so that it may determine if their assisting transaction/operation qualifies for exemption. The assisting company may or may not be under the Commission's jurisdiction and if their assisting actions qualify for the exemption, they will not become subject to the Commission's jurisdiction for such actions.

A report within forty-eight hours of the commencement of the transportation, sale or exchange, a request to extend the sixty-day term of the emergency transportation, if needed, and a termination report are required. The data required to be filed for the forty-eight hour report is specified by 18 CFR 284.270.

Type of Respondents: Natural Gas Pipelines.

*Estimate of Annual Burden:*¹ The Commission estimates the Public Reporting Burden for this information collection as:

FERC-588—EMERGENCY NATURAL GAS TRANSPORTATION, SALE AND EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

	Number of respondents	Annual number of responses per respondent	Total number of responses	Average burden & cost per response ²	Total annual burden hours & total annual Cost	Cost per respondent (\$)
	(1)	(2)	(1) * (2) = (3)	(4)	(3) * (4) = (5)	(5) ÷ (1)
Natural Gas Pipelines	10	3	30	10 hrs.; \$765.00	300 hrs \$22,950.00	2295.00

² The estimates for cost per response are derived using the 2017 FERC average salary plus benefits of \$158,754/year (or \$76.50/hour). Commission staff finds that the work done for this information collection is typically done by wage categories similar to those at FERC.

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 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.

Dated: March 17, 2017.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017-05782 Filed 3-22-17; 8:45 am]

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¹ Burden is defined 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.