

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Western Area Power Administration****Parker-Davis Project—Rate Order No. WAPA-184**

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of rate order extending firm electric and transmission service formula rates.

SUMMARY: The Deputy Secretary of Energy extends the existing Parker-Davis Project (P-DP) formula rates and will submit them to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for confirmation and approval on a final basis. The existing formula rates were scheduled to expire on September 30, 2018, for firm electric and transmission service under Rate Schedules PD-F7, PD-FT7, PD-FCT7, and PD-NFT7. The Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) approved the use of the existing P-DP rates beyond September 30, 2018, under his authority to set rates for short-term sales. The short-term rates cover the period between October 1, 2018, and the date this rate extension goes into effect.

DATES: Firm electric and transmission service formula rates under Rates Schedules PD-F7, PD-FT7, PD-FCT7, and PD-NFT7 will become effective on the first calendar day of the month following January 17, 2019, and will remain in effect through September 30, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Ronald E. Moulton, Senior Vice President and Regional Manager, or Ms. Tina Ramsey, Rates Manager, Desert Southwest Region, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 6457, Phoenix, AZ 85005-6457, (602) 605-2525, or dswpwrmrk@wapa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secretary of Energy delegated: (1) the authority to develop power and transmission rates to WAPA's Administrator; (2) the authority to confirm, approve, and place such rates into effect on an interim basis to the Deputy Secretary of Energy; and (3) the authority to confirm, approve, and place into effect on a final basis, to remand, or to disapprove such rates to FERC.¹

Following the procedures for public participation in the development of power and transmission rates,² WAPA is extending the P-DP formula rates set forth in Rate Schedules PD-F7, PD-FT7, PD-FCT7, and PD-NFT7. These rate

schedules contain the formulas that are used to calculate the charges for firm electric and transmission service on an annual basis.

Extending these formula rates through September 30, 2023, gives WAPA and its customers time to evaluate the potential benefits of combining transmission rates on Federal transmission systems located within WAPA's Desert Southwest Region. Combining rates may lead to more efficient use of the Federal transmission systems, diversify the use of those systems, and lower rates for customers. If, after a thorough evaluation, WAPA determines that combining transmission rates is beneficial to its customers, it will follow established procedures for public participation in the development of the combined rates.

Rate Schedules PD-F7, PD-FT7, PD-FCT7, and PD-NFT7 were previously approved by FERC for a 5-year period through September 30, 2018.³ Since the rate schedules were scheduled to expire before the rate extension could be placed into effect, WAPA's Administrator approved the use of the existing P-DP rates beyond September 30, 2018, under his authority to set rates for short-term sales. The short-term rates cover the period between October 1, 2018, and the date this rate extension goes into effect or March 31, 2019, whichever occurs first.

A notice of proposed extension of formula rates was published in the **Federal Register** on July 13, 2018 (83 FR 32664).⁴ WAPA determined it was not necessary to hold a public information or public comment forum on the proposed formula rate extension, but provided a 30-day consultation and comment period to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed extension. The consultation and comment period ended on August 13, 2018, and WAPA received no comments on the proposed extension.

Following DOE's review of WAPA's proposal, I hereby approve Rate Order No. WAPA-184 on an interim basis, which extends existing Rate Schedules PD-F7, PD-FT7, PD-FCT7, and PD-NFT7 through September 30, 2023. Rate Order No. WAPA-184 will be submitted to FERC for confirmation and approval on a final basis.

³ FERC confirmed and approved Rate Order No. WAPA-162 *Order Confirming and Approving Rate Schedules on a Final Basis*, Docket No. EF14-4-000, 148 FERC ¶ 61,193 (Sept. 18, 2014).

⁴ Western Area Power Administration, Notice of Proposed Extension of Formula Rates for Parker-Davis Project Firm Electric and Transmission Service, 83 FR 32664 (July 13, 2018).

Dated: December 10, 2018.

Dan Brouillette,
Deputy Secretary of Energy.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**DEPUTY SECRETARY**

In the Matter of: Western Area Power Administration Extension of Parker-Davis Project Firm Electric and Transmission Service Formula Rates
Rate Order No. WAPA-184

ORDER CONFIRMING AND APPROVING AN EXTENSION OF PARKER-DAVIS PROJECT FIRM ELECTRIC AND TRANSMISSION SERVICE FORMULA RATES

Section 302 of the Department of Energy (DOE) Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7152) transferred to and vested in the Secretary of Energy the power marketing functions of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation under the Reclamation Act of 1902 (ch. 1093, 32 Stat. 388), as amended and supplemented by subsequent laws, particularly section 9(c) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485h(c)), and other acts that specifically apply to the project involved.

By Delegation Order No. 00-037.00B, effective November 19, 2016, the Secretary of Energy delegated (1) the authority to develop power and transmission rates to the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA); (2) the authority to confirm, approve, and place such rates into effect on an interim basis to the Deputy Secretary of Energy; and (3) the authority to confirm, approve, and place into effect on a final basis, to remand, or to disapprove such rates to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). This extension is issued under the Delegation Order and DOE rate extension procedures found at 10 CFR 903.23(a).

BACKGROUND

On September 16, 2013, the Deputy Secretary of Energy approved, on an interim basis, Parker-Davis Project Rate Schedules PD-F7, PD-FT7, PD-FCT7, and PD-NFT7 under Rate Order No. WAPA-162 for the 5-year period beginning October 1, 2013, and ending September 30, 2018. These rate schedules were confirmed, approved, and placed into effect on a final basis by FERC on September 18, 2014.¹

Following the procedures set forth in 10 CFR 903.23(a), WAPA filed a notice in the **Federal Register** on July 13, 2018, proposing to extend Rate Schedules PD-F7, PD-FCT7, PD-FT7, and PD-NFT7 under Rate Order No. WAPA-184.² WAPA provided a consultation and comment period on the proposed formula rate extension. The consultation and comment period ended on August 13, 2018,

¹ See *Order Confirming and Approving Rate Schedules on a Final Basis*, Docket No. EF14-4-000, 148 FERC ¶ 61,193 (Sept. 18, 2014).

² *Western Area Power Administration, Notice of Proposed Extension of Formula Rates for Parker-Davis Project Firm Electric and Transmission Service*, 83 Fed. Reg. 32664 (July 13, 2018).

¹ Delegation Order No. 00-037.00B, effective November 19, 2016.

² 10 CFR 903.23.

and WAPA received no comments on the proposed extension.

DISCUSSION

On September 30, 2018, the existing Rate Schedules PD-F7, PD-FCT7, PD-FT7, and PD-NFT7 were scheduled to expire. Under Delegation Order No. 00-037.00B, Section 1.5, WAPA's Administrator approved rates for short-term sales that were the same as those in existing Rate Schedules PD-F7, PD-FCT7, PD-FT7, and PD-NFT7 to cover the period between October 1, 2018, and the date the final rate extension goes into effect or March 31, 2019, whichever occurs first. The existing firm electric and transmission service formula rates provide adequate revenue to pay all annual costs, including interest expense, and to repay required investment according to the cost recovery criteria set forth in DOE Order RA 6120.2. Rate Order No. WAPA-184, which extends the existing rate schedules through September 30, 2023, ensures adequate revenue to pay all annual costs for the period covered by this Order.

[FR Doc. 2018-27340 Filed 12-17-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060-0057]

Information Collection Being Submitted for Review and Approval to the Office of Management and Budget

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or the Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection. Comments are requested concerning: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

The Commission may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid OMB control number.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted on or before January 17, 2019. 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, you should advise the contacts listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all PRA comments to Nicholas A. Fraser, OMB, via email Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov; and to Nicole Ongele, FCC, via email PRA@fcc.gov and to Nicole.Ongele@fcc.gov. Include in the comments the OMB control number as shown in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or copies of the information collection, contact Nicole Ongele at (202) 418-2991. To view a copy of this information collection request (ICR) submitted to OMB: (1) Go to the web page <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>, (2) look for the section of the web page called "Currently Under Review," (3) click on the downward-pointing arrow in the "Select Agency" box below the "Currently Under Review" heading, (4) select "Federal Communications Commission" from the list of agencies presented in the "Select Agency" box, (5) click the "Submit" button to the right of the "Select Agency" box, (6) when the list of FCC ICRs currently under review appears, look for the OMB control number of this ICR and then click on the ICR Reference Number. A copy of the FCC submission to OMB will be displayed.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or the Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection.

Comments are requested concerning: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the

quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 3060-0057.

Title: Application for Equipment Authorization.

Form Number: FCC Form 731.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 11,291 respondents; 24,851 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 8.11 hours (rounded up).

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirement and third-party disclosure requirement.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for this information collection is contained in the 47 U.S.C. 154(i), 301, 302, 303(e), 303(f) and 303(r).

Total Annual Burden: 201,450 hours.

Total Annual Costs: \$50,110,000.

Privacy Act Impact Assessment: The personally identifiable information (PII) in this information collection is covered by a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA), Equipment Authorizations Records and Files Information System. It is posted at: <https://www.fcc.gov/general/privacy-act-information#pia>.

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: Minimal exemption from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) under 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4) and FCC rules under 47 CFR 0.457(d) is granted for trade secrets which may be submitted as attachments to the application FCC Form 731. No other assurances of confidentiality are provided to respondents.

Needs and Uses: The Commission will submit this revised information collection to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) after this 60-day comment period to obtain the three-year clearance. There is an increase in respondents/burden cost estimates to reflect the increased complexity of devices subject to the Commission rules and costs associated with testing by third-party test firms and review by Telecommunications Certification Bodies. At the same time the changes in system and consolidation of different information collection projects a reduction of burden hours.

The Commission is seeking a revision of the Equipment Authorization