DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

Docket Numbers: ER20–2708–000.
Applicants: Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Blackberry Substation Upgrade Cost and Usage Agreement (Part 2 of 2) to be effective 10/1/2020.

Filed Date: 8/20/20.
Accession Number: 20200820–5094.
Comments Due: 5 p.m. ET 9/10/20.

The filings are accessible in the Commission’s eLibrary system (https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idms/search/fercgensearch.asp) by querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene or protest in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission’s Regulations (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/eFiling/filing-req.pdf. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr., Deputy Secretary.

BILING CODE 6717–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FR Doc. 2020–18746 Filed 8–25–20; 8:45 am]

BILING CODE 6717–01–P

E85 Flexible Fuel Vehicle Weighting Factor (F-Factor) for Model Years 2021 and Later Vehicles

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requesting comment on data sources and analytical approaches on which to base an EPA determination of an updated weighting factor (F-factor) for E85 flexible fuel vehicles for model years 2021 and later. The F-factor for a given vehicle model year is used to weight the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of a flexible fuel vehicle operating on E85 with the GHG emissions of the vehicle operating on conventional gasoline, when calculating the compliance value for that model year. The F-factor is also used in the Corporate Average Fuel Economy program for weighting the measured fuel economy of flexible fuel vehicles when operating on E85.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 26, 2020.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2020–0104, by any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov/ (our preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
• Email: a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov. Include Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2020–0104 in the subject line of the message.
• Fax: (202) 566–9744 Include Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2020–0104 on the cover of the fax.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher Lieske, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Assessment and Standards Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2000 Traverwood Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48105. Telephone: (734) 214–4584. Fax: (734) 214–4816. Email address: lieske.christopher@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
I. Public Participation

EPA will keep the record open until October 26, 2020. All information will be available for inspection at the EPA Air Docket No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2020–0104. Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2020–0104, at https://www.regulations.gov (our preferred method), or the other methods identified in the ADDRESSES section. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from the docket. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit to EPA’s docket at https://www.regulations.gov any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (i.e. on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets.

The EPA is temporarily suspending its Docket Center and Reading Room for public visitors, with limited exceptions, to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID–19. Our Docket Center staff will continue to provide remote customer service via email, phone, and webform. We encourage the public to submit comments via https://www.regulations.gov/ as there may be a delay in processing mail and faxes. Hand deliveries or couriers will be received by scheduled appointment only. For further information and updates on EPA Docket Center services, please visit us online at https://www.epa.gov/dockets.

The EPA continues to carefully and continuously monitor information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), local area health departments, and our Federal partners so that we can respond rapidly as conditions change regarding COVID–19.

II. Background

Under EPA’s greenhouse gas (GHG) program for passenger automobiles and light trucks, starting with the 2016 model year, the regulations describe how to determine the GHG value for flexible fuel vehicles (FFVs) that run either on gasoline or on E85 (a fuel mixture of 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline). A weighting factor, referred to as the F-factor, is used to weight the gasoline and E85 emissions values of the tested vehicle model together to determine the combined value to be used for the vehicle model in the fleet average calculations. The default approach is to use a F-factor of zero such that the CO\textsubscript{2} emissions value of the vehicle is that measured when the vehicle is operated solely on gasoline.\textsuperscript{2} The alternate approach is to combine the gasoline and E85 CO\textsubscript{2} values together in a way that accounts for real-world use of E85 by using an alternative F-factor established by EPA.\textsuperscript{3} Note also that EPA regulations for heavy-duty chassis-certified vehicles (in the “2b/3” categories) point to the light-duty F-factor regulations for heavy-duty vehicles to use an F factor determined for light-duty trucks under those regulations.\textsuperscript{4}

EPA’s regulations establish two different approaches that may be used to determine the value of the F-factor. Manufacturers may request that EPA determine and publish by guidance an appropriate value for the E85 F-factor, based on EPA’s assessment of the real-world use of E85, to be used fleetwide. Alternatively, a manufacturer may submit data demonstrating the actual real-world use of E85 by its vehicles. EPA would determine whether the data is adequate and what an appropriate F-factor should be for the manufacturer. Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) regulations specify that starting with MY 2020, an F-factor, once established by EPA, will also be used in CAFE to weight FFV fuel economy on conventional gasoline test fuel and E85 in determining the FFV’s model type fuel economy.\textsuperscript{5}

After receiving a request in mid-2012 that EPA establish an F-factor, EPA released a draft letter to auto manufacturers and published a notice in the Federal Register requesting comment on a draft F-factor determination in March of 2013.\textsuperscript{6} Based on EPA’s analysis following the comment period, and considering the public comments received by the Agency, EPA issued a final determination via a letter to auto manufacturers on November 12, 2014.\textsuperscript{7} The letter prescribed an F factor of 0.14 applicable to 2016–2018 model year vehicles. In August 2019, EPA extended the use of the 0.14 F-factor to MY 2019.\textsuperscript{8} EPA did not conduct a new analysis at that time due to the analytical complexities involved in determining a forward-looking estimate of real-world fuel use and the need to provide manufacturers with near-term certainty for MY 2010.

III. F-Factor for Model Years 2020 and Later

EPA received a request from auto manufacturers to establish an F-factor for model year 2020 and later.\textsuperscript{9} The last time EPA conducted a technical analysis to support the F-factor was in 2014, when we established the original F-factor for MY 2016–2018 vehicles. In the 2014 analysis, EPA based the F-factor primarily on data and projections from the Energy Information Administration’s (EIA’s) 2014 Annual Energy Outlook. As noted in the letter to manufacturers extending the use of the 0.14 F-factor to MY 2019, EPA intended to develop a forward-looking analysis for MY 2020 and later based on EPA’s “assessment of real-world use of the alternative fuel.”\textsuperscript{10} EPA’s intention had been to update the methodology used to set the original 2016–2018 F-factor as the basis for a new F-factor for 2020 and beyond using the latest information. However, there are at least two key factors that EPA believes must be considered further. First, in EIA’s Annual Energy Outlook 2020 (AEO2020),\textsuperscript{11} EIA updated and significantly changed the way it projects E85 usage which is an important input to the method we used previously. Second, the COVID–19 pandemic has significantly changed the current market conditions for fuel usage, and it is
uncertain how future market conditions will be affected.

Stakeholders have suggested that AEO2020 may not properly reflect the amount of E85 consumed in future years by FFVs.12 There are indeed significant changes in AEO2020 in both methodology and results compared to previous versions of AEO as discussed in EPA’s technical memorandum to the docket.13 In addition, AEO2020 was released in January 2020, preceding the COVID–19 pandemic, and therefore may not reflect changes to the market due to the pandemic that could impact the F-factor. Therefore, at this time EPA believes that AEO2020 warrants further evaluation prior to it serving as the basis for the F-factor for MY 2020 and later.

Given the potential impact that both of these factors have on the F-factor, and recognizing the need to provide certainty to the automakers for purposes of their planning for MY 2020, EPA has extended the use of the existing F-factor of 0.14 to model year 2020.14 This provides the time necessary to request comment and consider further an appropriate methodology and related inputs as we move toward MY 2021 and beyond.

The 0.14 F-factor will remain in place beyond MY2020 until such time as EPA adopts a revised F-factor based on new data and updated methodology.15 While it is EPA’s intention to update the F-factor for MY’s 2021 and later, in the event that EPA is unable to resolve the uncertainties described above in a timely manner, this approach provides an F-factor of 0.14 for model years beyond MY2020 as well. In that way, in the absence of a future EPA action, we are providing a level of certainty to manufacturers that there will be no gap in the F-Factor. The 0.14 F-factor will be available for use in compliance calculations for MY 2021 and later, unless and until it is changed by EPA through a new determination.

In order to better inform our approach to assessing an updated F-factor for MY2021 and later, EPA requests comment on the various data sources, analytical approaches, and potential alternatives to our draft methodology for assessing the F-factor for MY2021 and later. Specifically, EPA has prepared a technical memorandum to the docket for this action.16 This technical memorandum includes an overview of the AEO2020 renewable fuel and E85 projections, our current methodology and the value of F that resulted from our analysis using AEO2020, historical E85 usage, related data such as FFV volumes, other data sources, and further consideration of the issues. This technical memorandum also discusses technical information EPA has received on these topics from the automotive industry and the ethanol industry, and describes the associated alternative F-Factor values commensurate with the technical information we have assessed. The materials provided by the industry stakeholders are also available for review in the docket.17

EPA requests comment on the appropriate sources of data for establishing an updated F-factor for MY2021 and later vehicles, including the forecasting of E85 consumption and the use of AEO in general (e.g., AEO2021 when updated next year). EPA requests comment on data sources and analytical methods to account for future changes in E85 infrastructure and impact on E85 use. EPA also requests comment on the possibility and potential merits of EPA developing its own E85 forecasting methodology, including comments on an alternative F-factor methodology which relies upon historical trends for predicting future F-factor values. Finally, EPA requests comments on the calculation methodology described in EPA’s technical memorandum. EPA has consulted with the Department of Transportation on the development of the F-factor draft technical assessment, as the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) regulations point to EPA’s F-factor methodology which relies upon historical trends for predicting future F-factor values.

Interested parties should submit comments according to the guidelines described in this notice. EPA plans to consider the comments we receive, as well as additional available data, including AEO2021 when it is released, in determining an updated F-factor applicable for MY2021 and later.

Sarah Dunham,
Director, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Office of Air and Radiation. [FR Doc. 2020–18714 Filed 8–25–20; 8:45 am]

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY


Difenacoum; Product Cancellation Order for Certain Pesticide Registrations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces EPA’s order for the cancellations to terminate uses, voluntarily requested by the registrant and accepted by the Agency, of the products listed in Table 1 and Table 2 of Unit II, pursuant to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). This cancellation order follows a June 14, 2018 Federal Register Notice of Receipt of Requests from the registrant listed in Table 3 of Unit II to voluntarily cancel these product registrations. In the June 14, 2018 notice, EPA indicated that it would issue an order implementing the cancellations and amendments to terminate uses, unless the Agency received substantive comments within the 30-day comment period that would merit its further review of these requests, or unless the registrant withdrew their requests. The Agency received no comments on the notice. Further, the registrant did not withdraw their requests. Accordingly, EPA hereby issues in this notice a cancellation order granting the requested cancellations. Any distribution, sale, or use of the products subject to this cancellation order is permitted only in accordance with the terms of this order, including any existing stocks provisions.

DATES: The cancellations are effective August 26, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Steven Snyderman, Pesticide Re-evaluation Division (7502P), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001; telephone number: (703) 347–0249; email address: snyderman.steven@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: