

Deborah Osborne from the DRS and Douglas Sipe from the Office of Energy Projects will facilitate the workshop.

The Workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The DRS will be available during the afternoon to answer any questions or to discuss specific areas that the participants raise. To attend, please register by email to douglas.sipe@ferc.gov or call Douglas Sipe at (202) 502-8837. For more information on the DRS, visit the FERC Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/legal/drs/drs.htm> or contact Richard Miles at (202) 502-8702 or richard.miles@ferc.gov.

Additional workshops may be held in other regions of the country if industry response to the January 9th workshop is warranted. Please contact Douglas Sipe if you have any questions or comments regard these future workshops.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-32207 Filed 12-20-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of FERC Staff Participation at MISO-PJM-SPP Reliability Seams Workshop

December 16, 2002.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hereby gives notice that on December 18, 2002, members of its staff will attend the MISO-PJM-SPP reliability seams workshop, concerning proposed solutions to address parallel path flow issues and the coordination of congestion management processes and ATC/AFC values between the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. (MISO), PJM Interconnection (PJM) and Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP) regions. The staff's attendance is part of the Commission's ongoing outreach efforts. The meeting is sponsored by MISO, PJM and SPP, and will be held on December 18, 2002, 10 a.m. at the Radisson Airport Hotel & Conference Center, 1375 North Cassady Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43219.

This meeting is open to the public. The meeting may discuss matters at issue in Docket No. RM01-12-000, Remedying Undue Discrimination Through Open Access Transmission Service and Standard Electricity Market Design, and in Docket No. EL02-65-000, *et al.*, Alliance Companies, *et al.*

For more information, contact Patrick Clarey, Office of Markets, Tariffs and

Rates, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at (202) 502-8540 or patrick.clarey@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-32206 Filed 12-20-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7426-1]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Seven-County Study of Air Quality and Birth Defects: Computer-Assisted Telephone Questionnaire for Subset of Study Population

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit the following proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Title: Seven-County Study of Air Quality and Birth Defects: Computer-Assisted Telephone Questionnaire for Subset of Study Population. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before February 21, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Public comments should be submitted to: Dr. Pauline Mendola, US EPA (MD 58A) Research Triangle Park, NC 27711.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Interested persons may obtain technical information or a copy of the ICR without charge by contacting: Dr. Pauline Mendola, (919) 966-6953; FAX: (919) 966-7584; E-mail:

mendola.pauline@epa.gov, or by mailing a request to the address above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are women who delivered a live-born or stillborn infant or who experienced a recorded fetal death in seven Texas counties in 1999 already enrolled in the record-linkage component of the Seven-County Study of Air Quality and Birth Defects.

Title: Seven-County Study of Air Quality and Birth Defects: Computer-Assisted Telephone Questionnaire for Subset of Study Population.

Abstract: Previous U.S. studies examining the relationship between air pollution and adverse reproductive outcomes have not used data beyond the Environmental Protection Agency's stationary ambient monitors to estimate exposure. The proposed computer-assisted questionnaire contains a maximum of 28 questions categorized into 6 sections: Residential History, Work History, Time Spent Outside the Home (Weekdays), Time Spent Outside the Home (Weekends), Multivitamin Use, and Tobacco Use. Study participants will be the mothers of infants born with and without birth defects in 1999 in seven Texas counties. These women will be selected from a larger records-linkage-based case-control study of air pollution and birth defects in the state.

Obtaining questionnaire information on maternal residence at conception will allow us to more precisely estimate exposure during the critical window of gestational weeks three through eight. Maternal work history, outdoor activities, and time spent outside the home will be used to refine exposure estimates for outdoor air pollution. The sections on maternal vitamin use and smoking during pregnancy will provide relevant data on potential confounders of the association between air pollution and birth defects.

The study investigators will use this data to help estimate the association between air pollution exposure and risk of selected birth defects. This will be the first study in this research area to collect this type of data, and if it proves useful, will indicate a need for such supplemental data collection in future studies.

The information will appear in the form of final EPA reports, dissertation manuscripts, and journal articles, and will also be made publicly available.

The total cost of this study is estimated to be approximately \$150,000.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and 48 CFR chapter 15.

The EPA would like to solicit comments to:

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information,

including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Burden Statement: The computer-assisted telephone questionnaire will be administered to mothers previously contacted via mail. Each interview will last approximately 10 minutes, including the time spent eliciting informed consent. A maximum of 1000 mothers will be invited to participate (10,000 total minutes or 167 total hours), we estimate that approximately 700 mothers will respond, resulting in a total time of 7000 minutes, or 117 hours. The data collection will be scheduled over approximately 3 months. There are no direct respondent costs for this data collection. Burden means 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. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Dated: December 4, 2002.

John Vandenberg,

Director, Human Studies Division, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, Office of Research and Development.

[FR Doc. 02-32262 Filed 12-20-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7426-2]

Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program; Petition for Objection to Wyoming State Operating Permit for the Buckingham Lumber Company, Buffalo, WY

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of final order on petition to object to State of Wyoming operating permit.

SUMMARY: This document announces that the EPA Administrator has issued an order in response to a petition to object to a state operating permit issued by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) for the Buckingham Lumber Company's teepee burner, located in Buffalo, Wyoming. Pursuant to section 505(b)(2) of the Clean Air Act (Act), the petitioner may seek judicial review of this petition response in the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Any petition must be filed within 60 days of the date this document appears in the **Federal Register**, pursuant to section 307(d) of the Act.

ADDRESSES: You may review copies of the final order, the petition, and other supporting information at the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8, 999 18th Street, Suite 300, Denver, Colorado 80201-2466. If you wish to examine these documents, you should make an appointment at least 24 hours before visiting day. The final order is also available electronically at each of the following two addresses: http://www.epa.gov/region7/programs/artd/air/title5/petitiondb/petitions/buckingham_decision2002.pdf, and <http://www.epa.gov/region7/programs/artd/air/title5/petitiondb/petitiondb2002.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christopher Ajayi, Environmental Engineer, Air and Radiation Section, Office of Partnerships and Regulatory Assistance, Mail Code 8P-AR, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8, 999 18th Street, Suite 300, Denver, Colorado 80202-2466, telephone (303) 312-6320, or e-mail at ajayi.christopher@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Clean Air Act (Act) affords EPA a 45-day period to review and object to, as appropriate, operating permits proposed by state permitting authorities. Section 505(b)(2) of the Act authorizes any person to petition the EPA Administrator within 60 days after the

expiration of this review period to object to state operating permits if EPA has not done so. Petitions must be based only on objections to the permit that were raised with reasonable specificity during the public comment period provided by the state, unless the petitioner demonstrates that it was impracticable to object during the comment period or that the grounds for the objection or other issue arose after this period.

The Buffalo Committee to Stop Sawmill Burning, ("Committee") submitted a petition to the Administrator on April 24, 2002, requesting that EPA object to the modified Title V operating permit issued for Buckingham Lumber Company's teepee burner in Buffalo, Wyoming. The petition objects to issuance of the proposed permit on the following grounds:

1. The permit fails to assure continuous compliance with opacity limits applicable to teepee burners under Wyoming Chapter 6, section 3(h)(i)(C)(I)(2) of the WAQSR, and 40 CFR 70.6(a)(3)(i)(B).

2. Provisions allowing emissions exceptions during "malfunction," "abnormal conditions," and "breakdown of a process, control or related operating equipment" may be inconsistent with EPA policy, and

3. Claims of "new information" about emissions at the Town of Buffalo show a need for continuous monitoring.

On November 1, 2002, the Administrator issued an order partially granting and partially denying the petition. First, the Administrator granted the petition insofar as it claimed that the Buckingham Lumber Company permit does not provide for adequate opacity monitoring. Therefore, the State of Wyoming is ordered to modify the permit to include monitoring of emissions opacity that is "sufficient to yield reliable data * * * that are representative of the source's compliance with the permit."

Second, the Administrator's order denied the petitioner's claims that permit provisions allowing emissions exceptions during "malfunction," "abnormal conditions," and "breakdown of a process, control or related operating equipment" may be inconsistent with EPA policy. These emissions exception provisions of the permit mirror those promulgated in the State of Wyoming's State Operating Plan ("SIP"); therefore, this claim in the petition is denied. However, since the permitting process under Title V of the Clean Air Act does not allow the Administrator to object to permit provisions that are part of the Wyoming