

climate is unequivocal, and that warming is very likely attributable to increases in atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs) caused by human activities (anthropogenic).⁴ The release of anthropogenic GHGs and their potential contribution to global warming are inherently cumulative phenomena. The Fourth Assessment Report indicates that changes in many physical and biological systems, such as increases in global temperatures, more frequent heat waves, rising sea levels, coastal flooding, loss of wildlife habitat, spread of infectious disease, and other potential environmental impacts are linked to changes in the climate system, and that some changes could be irreversible. GHGs, which include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O), are chemical compounds in the Earth's atmosphere that trap heat. Of these gases, CO₂ is recognized by the IPCC as the primary GHG affecting climate change. Present atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ are believed to be higher than at any time in at least the last 650,000 years, primarily as a result of combustion of fossil fuels. It is also very likely that observed increases in CH₄ are partially due to fossil fuel use, according to the IPCC Report.

The energy produced by the Modified Wind Project facilities would be free of both GHG emissions and other air pollutants. The project would generate electrical power from a renewable source of energy (wind) representing an alternative to carbon-emitting fossil fuels. Accordingly, as compared with regional electrical generation mix, the project will avoid 1,215,991 tons of CO₂ per year, equivalent to the annual greenhouse gas emissions of 212,141 passenger vehicles. Nonetheless, the project would unavoidably produce some greenhouse gas emissions through activities such as project construction and transportation. These emissions would be extremely small compared to the 8,026 million tons of CO₂-equivalent greenhouse gases emitted in the U.S. in 2007,⁵ and the 54 billion tons of CO₂-equivalent anthropogenic greenhouse gases emitted globally in 2004. However, emissions from the proposed action in combination with past and future emissions from all other sources would contribute incrementally to the climate change impacts described above.

⁴ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Fourth Assessment Report, Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report, Summary for Policy Makers, released in Valencia, Spain, November 17, 2007.

⁵ Energy Information Administration Report No. DOE/EIA 0573 (2007).

Conclusion

The DOE LP has decided to offer a conditional commitment/term sheet for a loan guarantee to CSF for the Modified Wind Project, consisting of the SFN, SFC, and SFS wind farms. When and if all of the terms and conditions specified in the conditional commitment have been met, DOE and the Applicant may enter into a Loan Guarantee Agreement for the Modified Wind Project. To conform with the changes to the Wind Project Site Certificate authorized by the EFSC, the BPA will issue three separate LGIAs for the SFN, SFC, and SFS wind farms to replace the single LGIA it had previously issued for the Wind Project. As relevant to environmental concerns, these decisions are consistent with the BP EIS and BP ROD. The July 2008 ROD for the Wind Project thus is revised by this ROD to include these additional decisions concerning the Modified Wind Project.

Issued in Portland, Oregon; Issued in Washington, DC.

Dated: September 24, 2010.

Stephen J. Wright,

Administrator and Chief Executive Officer, Bonneville Power Administration.

Dated: October 12, 2010.

Jonathan M. Silver,

Executive Director, Loan Programs Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC11-537-000]

Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC-537); Comment Request; Extension

October 8, 2010.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A) (2006), (Pub. L. 104-13), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the proposed information collection described below.

DATES: Comments in consideration of the collection of information are due December 20, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be filed either electronically (eFiled) or in paper

format, and should refer to Docket No. IC11-537-000. Documents must be prepared in an acceptable filing format and in compliance with Commission submission guidelines at <http://www.ferc.gov/help/submission-guide.asp>. eFiling instructions are available at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. First time users must follow eRegister instructions at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/eregistration.asp>, to establish a user name and password before eFiling. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgement to the sender's e-mail address upon receipt of eFiled comments. Commenters making an eFiling should not make a paper filing. Commenters that are not able to file electronically must send an original of their comments to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket may do so through eSubscription at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp>. In addition, all comments and FERC issuances may be viewed, printed or downloaded remotely through FERC's eLibrary at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>, by searching on Docket No. IC11-537. For user assistance, contact FERC Online Support by e-mail at ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov, or by phone at: (866) 208-3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502-8659 for TTY.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Ellen Brown may be reached by e-mail at DataClearance@FERC.gov, telephone at (202) 502-8663, and fax at (202) 273-0873.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information collected under the requirements of FERC-537, "Gas Pipeline Certificates: Construction, Acquisition, and Abandonment" (OMB Control No. 1902-0060), is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 (NGPA), 15 U.S.C. 3301-3432, and the Natural Gas Act (NGA) (15 U.S.C. 717-717w). Under the NGA, natural gas pipeline companies must obtain Commission authorization to undertake the construction or extension of any facilities, or to acquire or operate any such facilities or extensions in accordance with Section 7(c) of the NGA. A natural gas company must also obtain Commission approval under Section 7(b) of the NGA prior to abandoning any jurisdictional facility or service. Under the NGA and the NGPA, interstate and intrastate pipelines must also obtain authorization for certain

transportation and storage services and arrangements, particularly a Part 284, Subpart G—Blanket Certificate (18 CFR 284.8).

The information collected is necessary to certificate interstate pipelines engaged in the transportation and sale of natural gas, and the construction, acquisition, and operation of facilities to be used in those activities, to authorize the abandonment of facilities and services, and to authorize certain NGPA transactions. If a certificate is granted, the natural gas company can construct, acquire, or operate facilities, plus engage in interstate transportation or sale of natural gas. Conversely, approval of an abandonment application permits the pipeline to cease service and/or discontinue the operation of such

facilities. Authorization under NGPA Section 311(a) allows the interstate or intrastate pipeline applicants to render certain transportation services.

The data required to be submitted consists of identification of the company and responsible officials, factors considered in the location of the facilities and the detailed impact on the project area for environmental considerations. Also to be submitted are the following:

- Flow diagrams showing proposed design capacity for engineering design verification and safety determination;
- Commercial and economic data presenting the basis for the proposed action; and
- Cost of the proposed facilities, plans for financing, and estimated revenues and expenses related to the

proposed facility for accounting and financial evaluation.

The Commission implements these filing requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) under 18 CFR 157.5–.11; 157.13–.20; 157.53; 157.201–.209; 157.211; 157.214–.218; 284.8; 284.11; 284.126; 284.221; 284.224.¹

Action: The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the FERC–537 reporting requirements.

Burden Statement: The following table shows the current total burden estimate. Because the nature of the various filings that are covered by FERC–537 are so varied, a table has been included as an Appendix to this Notice to give a more detailed description of the various elements of this burden estimate:

FERC data collection	No. of respondents	Average No. of responses per respondent ²	Average burden hours per response ³	Total annual burden hours
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1) × (2) × (3)
FERC–537	225	3.44	133	102,942

The total estimated annual cost burden to respondents is \$6,823,570 (102,942 hours/2,080 hours⁴ per year, times \$137,874⁵).

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information including: (1) Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information;

and (7) transmitting or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed 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 of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including 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.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

Appendix

DETAILS FOR FERC–537, “GAS PIPELINE CERTIFICATES: CONSTRUCTION, ACQUISITION, AND ABANDONMENT”

[Based on Fiscal Year 2010 information and records]

Regulation section 18 CFR	Regulation topic	Number of respondents	Number of filings or responses	Avg. hours to prepare a filing or application
157.5–.11; & 157.13–.20 ..	Interstate certificate and abandonment applications ..	75 companies	82	500
157.53	Exemptions.	(25 different)	10	100

¹ Sections 284.223 and 284.227 have been removed from this Notice since they have no reporting or records burden.

² From Appendix: No. of Filings/No. of Respondents, or 775/225 = 3.44.

³ A weighted average based on the information provided in the Appendix to this Notice.

⁴ Estimated number of hours an employee works each year.

⁵ Estimated average annual cost per employee.

DETAILS FOR FERC-537, "GAS PIPELINE CERTIFICATES: CONSTRUCTION, ACQUISITION, AND ABANDONMENT"—Continued
[Based on Fiscal Year 2010 information and records]

Regulation section 18 CFR	Regulation topic	Number of respondents	Number of filings or responses	Avg. hours to prepare a filing or application
157.201–.209; 157.211; 157.214–.218.	Blanket Certificates prior notice filings.		45	200
157.201–.209; 157.211; 157.214–.218.	Blanket Certificates—annual reports	145 companies (145 different)	336	50
284.11	NGPA Sec. 311 Construction—annual reports.			
284.8	Capacity Release—record keeping	168	168	75
284.126 (a) & (c)	Intrastate bypass, semi annual transportation & storage—reports.	50 companies (50 different)	100	30
284.221	Blanket Certificates—one time filing, inc. new tariff and rate design proposal.	20	20	100
284.224	Hinshaw Blanket Certificates—	2 (2 different)	2	75
157.5–.11; & 157.13–.20;	Non-facility certificate or abandonment applications ..	9 (3 different)	12	75
Totals	225 different	775	133 average, weighted.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project Nos. 2558–030; 2445–023; 2558–029; 2445–023; 2558–029]

Vermont Marble Power, Division of Omya Inc.; Central Vermont Public Service Corporation; Notice of Application of Transfer of Licenses, Substitution of Relicense Applicant, and Soliciting Comments and Motions To Intervene

October 12, 2010.

On August 31, 2010, Vermont Marble Power, Division of Omya Inc. (transferor) and Central Vermont Public Service Corporation (transferee) filed an application for the transfer of licenses for the Otter Creek Hydroelectric Project No. 2558, and the Center Rutland Project No. 2445, located on the Otter Creek in Addison and Rutland Counties, Vermont. On October 8, 2010, the transferor and transferee filed a joint request to substitute the transferee for the transferor as the applicant in the pending application for a new license filed by the transferor in Project No. 2558–029.

The transfer application was filed within five years of the expiration of the license for Project No. 2558, which is the subject of pending relicensing applications. In *Hydroelectric Relicensing Regulations Under the Federal Power Act* (54 FR 23,756 *FERC*

Stats. and Regs., Regs. Preambles 1986–1990 30,854 at p. 31,437), the Commission declined to forbid all license transfers during the last five years of an existing license, and instead indicated that it would scrutinize all such transfer requests to determine if the transferor's primary purpose was to give the transferee an advantage in relicensing.

Applicant Contacts: For transferor: Todd Allard, Operations Engineer Omya, Inc., Vermont Marble Power, 9987 Carver Road, Suite 300, Cincinnati, OH 45252, (513) 387–4344. Andrew D. Qua, Project Manager, Klienschmidt Associates, 75 Main Street, P.O. Box 576, Pittsfield, ME 04967, (207) 487–3328. *For transferee:* Dale A. Rocheleau, Esq., Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, 77 Grove Street, Rutland, VT 05701–3400, (802) 747–5355.

FERC Contact: Kim Carter (202) 502–6486.

Deadline for filing comments and motions to intervene: 30 days from the issuance date of this notice. Comments and motions to intervene may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under <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. If unable to be filed electronically, documents may be paper-filed. To paper-file, an original plus

seven copies should be mailed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. More information about this project can be viewed or printed on the eLibrary link of Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P–2558, P–2445) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call toll-free 1–866–208–3372.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PF10–23–000]

Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Planned Northeast Upgrade Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public Scoping Meetings

October 8, 2010.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the Northeast Upgrade Project involving construction and operation of facilities by Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company