

Number of Respondents: 1,398.
Responses per Respondent: 835.
Average Burden per Response: 41 minutes.

Frequency: Monthly.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Paperwork Reduction Act submission is a currently approved collection. These data are also critical to the enforcement of the "Harbor Maintenance Tax" authorized under Section 1402 of Pub. L. 99-662.

Gregory D. Showalter,
 Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.
 [FR Doc. 96-24549 Filed 9-24-96; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Director of Information Systems for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers (DISC4), U.S. Army.

ACTION: Notice.

In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Department of the Army announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by November 25, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center, ATTN: CEWRC-NDC-C (Pierre S. Andrus), P.O. Box 61280, New Orleans, Louisiana 70161-1280

Consideration will be given to all comments received within 60 days of the date of publication of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments,

please write to the above address, or call Department of the Army Reports clearance officer at (703) 614-0454.

Title: Record of Arrivals and Departures of Vessels at Marine Terminals, ENG FORM 3926, OMB Control Number 0710-0005.

Needs and Uses: The Corps of Engineers uses ENG Form 3926 in conjunction with ENG Forms 3925, 3925B, and 3925P as the basic source of input to conduct the Waterborne Commerce Statistics data collection program. The annual publications, "Waterborne Commerce of the United States, Parts 1-5" are the result of the program.

Affected Public: Business or Other for-Profit.

Annual Burden Hours: 2,500.

Number of Respondents: 450.

Responses per Respondent: 12.

Average Burden per Response: 5 minutes.

Frequency: Monthly.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Paperwork Reduction Act submission is a currently approved collection. If this data collection program being conducted voluntarily on ENG Form 3926 or an authorized automated equivalent were discontinued, then the accuracy of the statistics collected on ENG Forms 3925, 3925B, and 3925P would be negatively impacted.

Gregory D. Showalter,
 Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.
 [FR Doc. 96-24550 Filed 9-24-96; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

Corps of Engineers; Department of the Army

To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Willamette River Basin Review Feasibility Study

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

SUMMARY: The alternatives to be evaluated in this feasibility study and EIS address the modification of operation and storage allocation of the Corps' 13-reservoir Willamette Basin, Oregon, system to better serve current and anticipated future water resource needs. A proposed action will be identified in the Final EIS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Address questions about the alternatives and EIS to: Lynne Hamilton, telephone (503) 326-6169, Portland District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Resources Branch, P.O.

Box 2946, Portland, Oregon, 97208-2946.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Willamette River Basin lies in northwestern Oregon. The Willamette Basin is the largest river basin wholly within Oregon and supports most of the State's population, larger cities, and many major industries. It also contains some of Oregon's most productive agricultural lands and supports nationally and regionally significant fish, wildlife, and plant species. There are a number of streams in the basin designated as State scenic waterways and Federal wild and scenic rivers. Water-related recreational opportunities in the basin are numerous.

The basin is bounded on the east by the Cascade mountain range, on the south by the Calapooya mountains, and on the west by the Coast range. The basin has a drainage area of over 29,000 square kilometers (11,200 square miles) at its confluence with the Columbia River. At Salem, the capital of Oregon, near the middle of the basin, the drainage area is about 18,900 square kilometers (7,300 square miles). The mainstem Willamette River forms at the confluence of the Coast Fork and Middle Fork Willamette rivers near the cities of Eugene and Springfield. The river flows northward for a total of about 317 kilometers (197 miles). Major cities on the Willamette River downstream of Eugene-Springfield include Corvallis, Albany, Salem, and Portland. Major eastside tributaries include the Middle Fork Willamette, McKenzie, Santiam, and Clackamas rivers. Major westside tributaries include the Coast Fork Willamette, Long Tom, Marys, Luckiamute, Yamhill, and Tualatin rivers.

The purposes of the Corps' Willamette projects include flood damage reduction, power generation, navigation, irrigation, recreation, domestic water supply, fish and wildlife conservation, and pollution abatement. Of the 13 Corps reservoirs in the Willamette River Basin, 11 are multiple-purpose, and 2 are re-regulating reservoirs for hydropower.

Six of the Corps' multipurpose projects in the Willamette Basin generate hydropower and have exclusive reservoir storage for this purpose. Releases from the power projects are used to generate electrical energy for local and regional consumption. Energy generated by the Corps' projects is marketed by Bonneville Power Administration to help meet local and regional energy demand within the Federal Columbia River Power System.

Water uses, needs, and public expectations have changed dramatically since the reservoir system was originally authorized in 1938. A full range of beneficial uses needs to be considered for the reservoir system. Because the Willamette Valley is heavily populated and one of fastest growing regions in the State, the demands placed on Corps reservoirs for municipal and industrial water supplies as well as irrigation needs are expected to increase in the future.

The water quality strategy for the Willamette River is currently based on release of stored water for low flow augmentation. Water quality permits based on the existing minimum flows provide no allowance for new waste loads in the future and presume that increased growth and development would be achieved within existing permit limits. Also, recreation has become a major economic and social use at many of the reservoirs and is dependent upon maintaining high conservation pool levels.

In recent years, the regional awareness for rebuilding fish and wildlife populations in the Willamette Basin has steadily increased. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has adopted a Wild Fish Management Policy to protect the genetic resources of Oregon's wild fish and has adopted management strategies by subbasin based on increasing natural production. Natural production is accepted as the key to restoration and recovery of the declines in native fish stocks as an effort to prevent more listings of fish species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In the Willamette Basin, steelhead and spring chinook salmon are native anadromous fish listed by the ODFW as sensitive species; recently, these species were petitioned for listing under the ESA. As of July 1996, the National Marine Fisheries Service proposed some steelhead stocks for listing; stocks originating above Willamette Falls were not included. Other sensitive fish species in the basin include the Oregon chub and bull trout. Oregon chub was listed as Federally endangered in November 1993, and bull trout is a candidate species for listing under the ESA. Because of their regional and national significance, these fish species are given high priority with respect to current and future management activities in the Willamette Basin.

Five alternative scenarios reflecting changed system conditions from the base (without project or No Action) condition will be developed by varying the emphasis of the beneficial uses of the system. Beneficial uses to emphasize

in addition to the purposes of flood protection, navigation, irrigation, and power include aquatic habitat and fish life-cycle needs, water quality, reservoir and downstream recreation, municipal and industrial water supply, and possibly other uses. The alternative of no action, i.e., continuing to operate the system as presently done, will also be considered. This includes development of a scenario reflecting the greatest net National Economic Development benefits (NED plan). The alternative scenarios will be analyzed in the feasibility study to determine physical, economic, environmental, cultural, and other possible benefits and effects from the base condition.

The EIS scoping process will commence in October 1996 with the issuance of a scoping letter. Federal, State and local agencies, Indian tribes, and interested organizations and individuals will be asked to comment on the significant issues relating to the potential effects of the alternatives. Potentially significant issues to be addressed in the EIS include: Effects on populations and habitat of anadromous and resident fish, especially threatened, endangered, or sensitive species; Effects on wetlands and flood plains; Effects on power production, recreation, irrigation, water quality.

Other environmental review and consultation requirements to be addressed in the EIS include:

- (1) Clean Water Act of 1977, as amended
- (2) Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
- (3) Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended
- (4) Cultural Resources Acts
- (5) Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management
- (6) Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands

A series of scoping meetings/public workshops are planned for February–March 1997 at various locations in the basin. Other public workshops will be held periodically throughout the study. Times and locations of these public workshops will be announced via the media. The DEIS is scheduled to be published and distributed for public review and comment in October 1999.

Dated: September 13, 1996.
Howard B. Jones,
Chief, Planning and Engineering Division.
[FR Doc. 96–24551 Filed 9–24–96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3710-AR-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. GT96–93–000]

Equitrans L.P.; Notice of Refund Report

September 19, 1996.

Take notice that on August 6, 1996, Equitrans, L.P. (Equitrans) tendered for filing with the Commission a refund report in compliance with the Commission's February 22, 1995 Order Approving Refund Methodology for 1994 Overcollections in Docket No. RP95–124–000.

Equitrans states that on June 28, 1996, it received \$226,304 refund from the Gas Research Institute (GRI), representing an overcollection of the 1995 GRI Tier 1 funding target level set for Equitrans by GRI. On July 18, 1996, in compliance with the Commission's Order, Equitrans states that it sent the GRI refund, pro rata, to its eligible firm shippers based on amounts paid through GRI surcharges during 1995.

Equitrans states that copies of its refund report have been served on all affected parties and interested state commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.211 and 385.214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. All such motions or protests must be filed on or before September 26, 1996. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–24499 Filed 9–24–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. RP96–291–002]

Mid Louisiana Gas Company; Notice of Amendment to Compliance Filing

September 19, 1996.

Take notice that on September 16, 1996, Mid Louisiana Gas Company (MIDLA) tendered for filing certain schedules to amend its compliance