

Financial and Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 21, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address [Pat.Sherrill@ed.gov](mailto:Pat.Sherrill@ed.gov), or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Financial and Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will

this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: October 14, 1998.

**Kent H. Hannaman,**

*Leader, Information Management Group,  
Office of the Chief Financial and Chief  
Information Officer.*

#### **Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services**

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement.

*Title:* Local Educational Agency

Application Under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

*Frequency:* When modifications are deemed necessary.

*Affected Public:* State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 15,434.

Burden Hours: 30,868.

*Abstract:* Local educational agencies and eligible State agencies must have an application on file with the State educational agency in order to be eligible for funds under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The local educational agency application is required to receive a Part B subgrant.

[FR Doc. 98-28003 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### **Energy Information Administration**

#### **Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Three-Year Extension of a Currently Approved Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Energy Information Administration, DOE

**ACTION:** Agency information collection activities: Proposed three-year extension of a currently approved collection; comment request

**SUMMARY:** The Energy Information Administration (EIA) is soliciting comments on the proposed extension of Form FE-746R, "Import and Export of Natural Gas."

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before December 21, 1998. Persons anticipating difficulty submitting comments within the 60

days, should contact the person identified below as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Yvonne Caudillo, FE-34, Rm. 3E-042, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20585. Alternatively, Yvonne Caudillo may be reached at [yvonne.caudillo@hq.doe.gov](mailto:yvonne.caudillo@hq.doe.gov). [Internet e-mail], or (202) 586-6050 [FAX].

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the reporting requirements should be directed to Ms. Caudillo at the address listed above, or phone (202) 586-4587.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

- I. Background
- II. Current Actions
- III. Request for Comments

#### **I. Background**

The Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101, *et seq.*), requires the Energy Information Administration (EIA) to carry out a central, comprehensive, and unified energy data and information program. This program involves the collection, evaluation, assembly, analysis, and dissemination of data and information related to energy resource reserves, production, demand, technology, and related economic and other statistical data, or information which is relevant to the adequacy of energy resources to meet demand in the near and longer term.

The EIA, as part of its effort to comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), provides the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on collections of information. Any comments received during this process helps the EIA to prepare data requests that maximize the utility of information collected, and to assess the impact of collection activities conducted by or on behalf of the Federal Government on the public. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reviews and must approve (before the agency conducts) agency collections of information.

The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy is delegated the authority to regulate natural gas imports and exports under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act of 1938, 15 U.S.C. 717b.

In order to carry out its delegated responsibility, FE requires those persons seeking to import or export natural gas to file an application containing basic information about the scope and nature of the proposed import/export activity. FE collects, on a quarterly basis, certain information regarding import and export

transactions. The information obtained quarterly from authorization holders is used to ensure compliance with any terms and conditions of authorization. In addition, the data are used to monitor the North American natural gas trade, which in turn enables the Federal Government to: perform market and regulatory analyses; improve the capability of industry and the Government to respond to any future energy-related supply problems; and keep the general public informed of international natural gas trade.

## II. Current Actions

FE is proposing a three-year extension, without change, of the currently-approved Form FE-746R.

## III. Request for Comments

Prospective respondents and other interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed extension. The following guidelines are provided to assist in the preparation of comments.

### General Issues

A. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency? Does the information have practical utility? Practical utility is defined as the actual usefulness of information to or for an agency, taking into account its accuracy, adequacy, reliability, timeliness, and the agency's ability to process the information it collects.

B. Could the Agency enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?

### As a Potential Respondent

A. Are the instructions and definitions clear and sufficient? If not, which instructions require clarification or elaboration?

B. Can data be submitted by the due date?

C. Public reporting burden for preparing applications to be submitted to FE is estimated to range between 8 hours (for short-term authorizations of up to two years) to 24 hours for long-term authorizations (over 2 years). The public reporting burden for the quarterly reports after authorization is estimated to range from 0.25 of an hour to 8 hours per response, with an average burden of 2 hours. The estimated burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide the information.

Please comment on (1) the accuracy of the agency's estimate and (2) how the agency could minimize the burden of

collecting information, including the use of information technology.

D. The EIA estimates that respondents will incur no additional costs for reporting other than the hours required to complete the collection. What is the estimated: (1) total dollar amount annualized for capital and start-up costs; and (2) recurring annual costs of operation and maintenance, and purchase of services associated with this data collection?

E. Does any other Federal, State, or local agency collect similar data? If so, specify the agency, the data element(s), and the methods of collection.

### As a Potential User

A. Is the data useful at the levels of detail indicated on the form?

B. For what purpose(s) would the data be used? Be specific.

C. Are there alternate sources of data and are they used? If so, what are their deficiencies and/or strengths?

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of the form. They also will become a matter of public record.

**Statutory Authority:** Section 3506 (c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Issued in Washington, DC., October 15, 1998.

**Jay H. Casselberry,**

*Agency Clearance Officer, Statistics and Methods Group, Energy Information Administration.*

[FR Doc. 98-28032 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC98-561-001; FERC-561]

### Proposed Information Collection and Request for Comments

October 14, 1998.

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of submission for review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) has submitted the energy information collection listed in this notice to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under provisions of Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13). Any interested person may file

comments on the collection of information directly with OMB and should address a copy of those comments to the Commission as explained below. The Commission received public comments from one entity in response to an earlier notice issued June 23, 1998, 63 FR 35204 (June 29, 1998) and has replied to these comments in its submission to OMB.

**DATES:** Comments regarding this collection of information are best assured of having their full effect if received on or before November 19, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Address comments to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Desk Officer, 725 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20503. A copy of the comments should also be sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Attention: Mr. Michael Miller, 888 First Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 208-1415, by fax at (202) 273-0873, and by e-mail at michael.miller@ferc.fed.us.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The energy information collection submitted to OMB for review contains:

1. *Collection of Information:* FERC-561 "Annual Report of Interlocking Positions."

2. *Sponsor:* Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

3. *Control No.:* OMB No. 1902-0099. The Commission is now requesting that OMB approve a three-year extension of the current expiration date, with no substantive changes to the existing collection. There is an increase in the reporting burden due to an increase in the rate of interlock changes per year. There has been an increase in the number of public utilities changing ownership and thus an increase in the number of officers and directors changing positions. This results in an increase in the number of changes made annually to the filing. This increase reflects an adjustment to the Commission's regulatory burden for this information collection requirement. These are mandatory collection requirements.

4. *Necessity of Collection of Information:* Submission of the information is necessary to enable the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of Title II, Section 211 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, 16 U.S.C. 825d which amended Part III Section 305(c) of the Federal