

that the original selection list would remain in effect.

The complainant requested review of the SLA's stipulated decision by a Federal arbitration panel. The panel was convened on April 17, 1998.

Arbitration Panel Decision

The issue before the arbitration panel was whether the SLA's stipulated decision to make a determination concerning the continuation of the special assignment process at the time a military base became available was inconsistent with the ALJ's determination.

The arbitration panel ruled that, at the time a military base contract became available, there may be a compelling reason that would benefit both the program and the complainant that would justify not assigning complainant to a military base food service facility.

The panel further ruled that the SLA had the authority to end an exceptional practice promulgated under the Business Enterprise Program (BEP) Manual and pursuant to the Act and implementing regulations. However, the panel found that complainant's reliance on this exception entitled him to special consideration when the next military base facility becomes available. If he applies for such an assignment and is not selected, but is determined to be qualified to successfully operate the facility, the SLA will use the authority granted to it under the special assignment provision of the BEP Manual to assign Mr. Underhill to the facility. The panel ruled that complainant need not be provided this priority if he applies for a new facility under the regular selection process.

One panel member dissented.

The views and opinions expressed by the panel do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the U.S. Department of Education.

Dated: June 9, 1999.

Curtis L. Richards,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 99-15064 Filed 6-14-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Public Hearing on the Supplement to the Draft Surplus Plutonium Disposition Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) will hold a public hearing on the

Supplement to the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft SPD EIS). The hearing will be held on June 15, 1999, in Washington, DC, and will focus on issues associated with the analysis of the specific commercial reactors that the Department proposes to use for the irradiation of mixed oxide fuel in addition to other changes to the Draft SPD EIS presented in the Supplement. The purpose of this hearing is to facilitate an exchange of information and to provide a forum for receiving public comments on the supplement. Members of the public are invited to attend.

DATES: The hearing will be held on June 15, 1999, in Washington, DC.

ADDRESSES: Questions about the hearing should be addressed to: Bert Stevenson (202-586-5368; bert.stevenson@hq.doe.gov); by mail to DOE, Office of Fissile Materials Disposition, P.O. Box 23786, Washington, DC 20026-3786; or through the program web site at www.doe-md.com. Preregistration for the hearing is available by calling 1-800-820-5134 or by fax at 1-800-820-5156. The hearing will be held at the Hotel Washington, 15th St. and Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC, (202) 638-5900.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bert Stevenson, NEPA Compliance Officer, Office of Fissile Materials Disposition, Department of Energy. (202) 586-5368.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Draft Surplus Plutonium Disposition EIS (DOE/EIS-0283-D) was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and issued in July 1998. It identified the potential environmental impacts of reasonable alternatives for the proposed siting, construction and operation of three facilities for plutonium disposition. The draft also included the potential environmental impacts of using from three to eight commercial nuclear reactors to irradiate mixed oxide fuel. The potential impacts were based on a generic reactor analysis that used actual reactor data and a range of potential site conditions. Subsequently, six specific reactors at three sites have been selected through a competitive procurement process that included an environmental review specified in DOE's NEPA Regulations (10 CFR 1021.216). The Supplement describes the potential environmental impacts of irradiating mixed oxide fuel in these specific reactors. The proposed reactors are the Catawba Nuclear Station near York, South Carolina; the McGuire Nuclear Station near Huntersville, North

Carolina; and the North Anna Power Station near Mineral, Virginia. Each of the proposed sites has two operating nuclear reactors that would be used to irradiate mixed oxide fuel assemblies.

The public hearing will provide the public the opportunity to present comments, ask questions, and discuss concerns related to plutonium disposition by the irradiation of the surplus plutonium as mixed oxide fuel in the six commercial reactors at the three sites. The Department will receive oral and written comments on the Supplement to the Draft SPD EIS. Written and oral comments will be given equal weight in preparing the final SPD EIS. Input from this hearing along with comments received by other means (phone, mail, fax, website) will be used by the Department in preparing the final SPD EIS. The public hearing will be held in the Washington Room of the Hotel Washington, 15th St. and Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC. Two sessions will be held on that date. The first session will start at 9 am and the second session will begin at 1:30 pm. Advanced registration for the hearing is requested but not required. Please call 1-800-820-5134 and leave your name and the session or sessions you plan to attend. This information will be used to determine the size and number of rooms needed for the hearing.

Issued in Washington, DC on this 4th day of June 1999, for the United States Department of Energy.

Laura S.H. Holgate,

Director, Office of Fissile Materials Disposition.

[FR Doc. 99-15125 Filed 6-14-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Energy Information Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Agency information collection activities: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Energy Information Administration (EIA) is soliciting comments on the proposed extension to the "Recordkeeping Requirements of DOE's General Allocation and Price Rules," ERA-766R.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before August 16, 1999. If you anticipate difficulty in submitting

comments within that period, contact the person identified below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Mr. John D. Bullington, Office of General Counsel, GC-90, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20585-0103. Alternatively, he may be reached by phone at (202) 586-7364, by e-mail, dan.bullington@hq.doe.gov, or by FAX at (202) 586-6191.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Mr. Bullington at the address listed above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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

I. Background

The Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (Pub. L. No. 93-275, 15 U.S.C. 761 *et seq.*) and the Department of Energy Organization (DOE) Act (Pub. L. No. 95-91, 42 U.S.C. 7101 *et seq.*), require the Energy Information Administration (EIA) to carry out a centralized, comprehensive, and unified energy data information program. This program collects, evaluates, assembles, analyzes, and disseminates information on energy resource reserves, production, demand, technology, and related economic and statistical information. This information is used to assess the adequacy of energy resources to meet near and longer term domestic demands.

The EIA, as part of its effort to comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), provides the general public and other Federal agencies with opportunities to comment on collections of energy information conducted by or in conjunction with the EIA. Any comments received help the EIA to prepare data requests that maximize the utility of the information collected, and to assess the impact of collection requirements on the public. Also, the EIA will later seek approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of the collections under Section 3507(h) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

The recordkeeping requirements are authorized by section 203(a)(1) of the Economic Stabilization Act (ESA) of 1970, as amended (Pub. L. 92-210, 85 Stat. 743) and by section 13(g) of the Federal Energy Administration Act (FEAA) of 1974, as amended (Pub. L. 93-275). DOE proposes to extend for three years the limited recordkeeping requirements presently contained in 10

CFR 210.1. The antecedent regulation was narrowed by amendment in January 1985.

The record retention requirements of 10 CFR 210.1 do not mandate the creation or retention of any new records. Instead, they require firms to preserve only historical records relating to compliance with the petroleum regulations.

The proposed extension of 10 CFR 210.1 will enable DOE to continue its efforts to complete the enforcement program with respect to prior petroleum price and allocation regulations.

II. Current Actions

This is an extension with no change of the existing requirements. The requirements are proposed to be extended for a period of three years, from December 31, 1999 to December 31, 2002.

III. Request for Comments

Prospective respondents and other interested persons are invited to comment on the actions discussed in item II. The following guidelines are provided to assist in the preparation of comments.

General Issues

A. EIA is interested in receiving comments from persons regarding whether the proposed recordkeeping requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency and 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. What enhancements can be made to the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?

As a Potential Respondent

A. Are the instructions regarding the recordkeeping requirements clear and sufficient? If not, which instructions require clarification?

B. Can information be maintained as specified in the recordkeeping requirements?

C. Public reporting burden for the recordkeeping requirements are estimated to average 4 hours per respondent. The estimated burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose and provide the information.

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

this requirement, including the use of information technology.

D. The agency estimates respondents will incur no additional costs other than the hours required to maintain the records. 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 these recordkeeping requirements?

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

Statutory Authority: Section 3506 (c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Issued in Washington, DC, June 8, 1999.

Jay H. Casselberry,

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

[FR Doc. 99-15127 Filed 6-14-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-287-034]

El Paso Natural Gas Company; Notice of Compliance Filing

June 9, 1999.

Take notice that on June 2, 1999, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso) tendered for filing two contracts between El Paso and Dynegy Marketing and Trade.

El Paso states that the contracts are being filed to comply with the Commission's order, issued May 28, 1999 at Docket Nos. RP97-287-032, that accepted tariff sheets reflecting the contracts, subject to the contracts being filed for further review.

Any person desiring to protest said filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests must be filed on or before June 16, 1999. 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 proceedings. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/>