

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 revision and extension of approval to the Form EIA-902, "Annual Geothermal Heat Pump Manufacturers Survey."

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 22, 2000. If you anticipate difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person identified below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Peter Holihan, Energy Information Administration (EI-52), Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C. 20585. Alternatively, Mr. Holihan may be reached by phone at (202) 426-1147, by e-mail James.Holihan@eia.doe.gov, or by FAX (202) 426-1311.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Mr. Holihan 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. 93-275, 15 U.S.C. 761 *et seq.*) and the Department of Energy Organization Act (Pub. L. 95-91, 42 U.S.C. 7101 *et seq.*) require the Energy Information Administration (EIA) to carry out a centralized, comprehensive, and unified energy 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. 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 Form EIA-902 collects information on shipments of geothermal heat pumps. The survey tracks shipments of the following three main types of geothermal heat pumps, as classified by the Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Institute (ARI), and the much smaller shipped volume of non-ARI rated systems. A brief description of the ARI-classified system is as follows:

ARI 320—Water-Source Heat Pumps (WSHP)—These systems are installed in commercial buildings, where a central chiller or boiler supplies chilled or heated water, respectively, to heat pumps installed in series. The heat pumps reject building heat to chilled water during the cooling season and, during the heating season, take heat from boiler water.

ARI 325—Ground Water-Source Heat Pumps (GWHP)—The GWHP is an open-loop system in which ground water is drawn from an aquifer or other natural body of water into piping. At the heat pump, heat is drawn from or dumped to the water through a heat exchanger to the refrigerant in the heat pump. The heated or cooled water returns to its source.

ARI 330—Ground Source Closed-Loop Heat Pumps (GSHP)—A water or water/glycol (antifreeze) solution flows continuously through a closed loop of pipe buried underground. Ground heat is absorbed into or rejected from the solution flowing in the closed loop. At the heat pump, heat is drawn from or dumped to the closed loop solution via heat transfer through a heat exchanger, which passes heat to or removes heat from the refrigerant in the heat pump. Depending on the type of ground and land area, systems can either be installed horizontally or vertically.

Data are collected by model type, heat pump capacity, region of destination, customer type, and economic sector. Respondents are all U.S. geothermal heat pump manufacturers.

II. Current Actions

EIA will be requesting a three-year extension of Office of Management and Budget approval to continue using Form EIA-902 through 2003.

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. Is the proposed collection of information 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 and definitions clear and sufficient? If not, which instructions need clarification?

B. Can information be submitted by the due date?

C. Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average four hours per response. The estimated burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose and provide the information. Please comment on the accuracy of the estimate.

D. The agency estimates 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. What additional actions could be taken to minimize the burden of this collection of information, including the use of information technology? For example, should the agency develop additional electronic methods (e.g., forms and instruction on diskettes, touch tone data entry, forms that may be completed and submitted directly through the Internet, and data submission by fax or e-mail) for respondents to submit information?

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

As a Potential User:

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

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

C. Are there alternate sources for the information and are they useful? If so, what are their weaknesses 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 (Pub. L. No. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Issued in Washington, DC, December 15, 1999.

Jay H. Casselberry,

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

[FR Doc. 99-33049 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 11614-001]

Allison Lake Hydro; Notice of Surrender of Preliminary Permit

December 15, 1999.

Take notice that Allison Lake Hydro, permittee for the proposed Allison Lake Project, has requested that its preliminary permit be terminated. The permit was issued on November 20, 1998, and would have expired on October 31, 2001. The project would have been located on Allison Lake and Creek in Valdez County, Alaska.

The permittee filed the request on November 15, 1999, and the preliminary permit for Project No. 11614 shall remain in effect through the thirtieth day after issuance of this notice unless that day is Saturday, Sunday, or holiday as described in 18 CFR 385.2007, in which case the permit shall remain in effect through the first business day following that day. New applications involving this project site, to the extent provided for under 18 CFR part 4, may be filed on the next business day.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-32951 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EG00-13-000]

Jones Black River Services, Inc.; Notice of Withdrawal

December 15, 1999.

Take notice that on December 2, 1999, Jones Black River Services, Inc. withdrew its application for determination of exempt wholesale generator status filed in the above-captioned proceeding.

Any person desiring to be heard concerning the application for exempt wholesale generator status should file a motion to intervene or comments with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). The Commission will limit its consideration of comments to those that concern the adequacy or accuracy of the application. All such motions and comments should be filed on or before January 6, 2000, and must be served on the applicant. 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 or on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (please call (202) 208-2222 for assistance).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-32944 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 1354-005]

Pacific Gas & Electric Company; Notice of Telephone Conference

December 15, 1999.

The Commission staff, U.S. Forest Service and Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) will conduct a telephone conference at 2 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST), on December 21, 1999, to update staff on Forest Service and PG&E points of view on whether certain lands should be included within the boundary of the Crane Valley Project No. 1354 and on how such an issue might affect PG&E's application for new license in this proceeding.

Parties in the new license application proceeding wishing to take part in the conference call may do so by calling (800) 545-4387 on December 21, 1999 and informing the operator that they want to be part of the Crane Valley Project conference call and giving the operator the conference call identification number M-57609. The operator will start accepting requests to be a part of the conference call at 1:45 p.m. EST prior to the 2 p.m. EST meeting. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Charles Hall at (202) 219-2853 or send e-mail to charles.hall@ferc.fed.us.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-32947 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER99-417-001, et al.]

Virginia Power and Electric Company, et al.; Electric Rate and Corporate Regulation Filings

December 13, 1999.

Take notice that the following filings have been made with the Commission:

1. Virginia Electric and Power Company

[Docket No. ER99-417-001]

Take notice that on November 16, 1999, Virginia Electric and Power Company (Virginia Power), tendered for filing a refund report as directed by the Commission's Order of October 28, 1999 in this proceeding. Under the tendered refund report, Virginia Power demonstrated the calculation of the amounts collected in excess of the settlement rates accepted by the Commission, together with interest computed under Section 35.19a of the Commission's Regulations.

Copies of the filing were served upon the Public Service Commission of West Virginia, the Virginia State Corporation Commission and the North Carolina Utilities Commission and all parties of record.

Comment date: December 27, 1999, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

2. California Independent System Operator Corporation

[Docket No. ER99-4545-001]

Take notice that on December 7, 1999, the California Independent System Operator Corporation (ISO), tendered for