
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NEWS RELEASE

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COMMISSION REPORTS ON MAJOR ADVANCES IN ELECTRONIC FILING

The Federal Energy Regulation Commission has told the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of major advances in its use of electronic filing in the past two years. The report also summarizes the Commission's plans for additional paperless transactions.

As a result of FERC's electronic filing initiatives, known as FERC Online, citizens and businesses can make electronic submissions of comments, motions, briefs, and other documents related to proceedings before the Commission.

Since November 2000, the Commission has received 22,000 documents electronically. Companies regulated by the Commission have also filed 15,000 forms and reports electronically. More than half of the documents received annually can be filed electronically.

Chairman Pat Wood, III commented: "Our goal is to end paper filings and we are well on our way. The day is approaching when our many initiatives in this area will make us an all-electronic operation."

In reporting on Commission progress to OMB, Chairman Wood noted that FERC expects to provide an electronic filing option for most high volume documents submitted to the Commission by the end of October. By early 2004, he reported, the Commission and those who do business with it will take advantage of a huge reduction in paper flow.

All orders and notices issued by the Commission are accessible from its website, www.ferc.gov, in electronic formats in its eLibrary system (FERRIS) as soon as they are released. Any public document submitted to the Commission can be obtained from FERRIS.

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The Commission's report to OMB can be found on FERC's website under What's New.

The Government Paperwork and Elimination Act requires that all federal agencies offer the option when practicable for the submission of and access to information by electronic means.

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