

is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-25225 Filed 10-3-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[IC03-577-000 FERC-577]

Commission Collection Activities, Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension

September 29, 2003.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of section 3506(c)(2)(a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described below.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due by December 1, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed collection of information can be

obtained from Michael Miller, Office of the Chief Information Officer, CI-1, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. Comments on the proposed collection of information may be filed either in paper format or electronically. Those parties filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing. For paper filings, the original and 14 copies of such comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426 and should refer to Docket No. IC03-577-000.

Documents filed electronically via the Internet must be prepared in WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format, or ASCII format. To file the document, access the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> and click on "Make an E-filing," and then follow the instructions for each screen. First time users will have to establish a user name and password. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgment to the sender's E-mail address upon receipt of comments.

All comments may be viewed, printed or downloaded remotely via the Internet through FERC's homepage using the eLibrary link. For user assistance contact FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact 202-502-8659.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 502-8415, by fax at (202) 273-0873 and by E-mail at michael.miller@ferc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information collected under the requirements of FERC-577, "Gas Pipeline Certificates: Environmental Impact Statement" (OMB No. 1902-0128) is a filing requirement of the environmental assessment of pipeline and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility construction projects. The filing collects information from all Natural Gas Act (NGA) jurisdictional pipeline companies as well as companies whose

Natural Gas Policy Act (NGPA) are reviewed by the Commission.

The information collected under FERC-577 is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of section 102 (2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (Pub. L. 91-190) (42 U.S.C. 4332). NEPA requires that all Federal agencies must include in every recommendation or report on proposals for legislation and other major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of human environment, a detailed statement on: the environmental impact on the proposed actions; any adverse environmental effects which cannot be avoided should the proposal be implemented; alternatives to the proposed action; the relationship between local short-term uses of man's environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long term productivity; and any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources which would be involved in the proposed action should it be implemented. The Commission uses the pipeline's data to evaluate the environmental aspects of construction proposals and may be used in the Commission staff's independent preparation of Environmental Assessments or Environmental Impact Statements. The staff examines and projects potential effects on soils, geology, water resources, land use, recreation, aesthetics, air and noise quality, vegetation, wildlife, cultural resources and pipeline and liquefied natural gas safety. The Commission implements these filing requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) under 18 CFR parts 2; 157; 284; 375 and 380.

Action: The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the current expiration date with no changes to the existing collection of data.

Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents	Annual responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total annual burden hours
(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)×(2)×(3)
76	16.57	185.2	* 233,226

* Detail may not calculate to totals because of rounding.

Estimated Burden: 233,226 total burden hours, 76 respondents, 1,259 responses annually, and 185.2 hours per response (average).

Estimated cost burden to respondents is \$13,123,5620; (i.e., 233,226 hours divided by 2,080 hours per full time employee per year multiplied by \$117,041 per year equals

\$13,123,560)(rounded off). The cost per respondent is equal to \$172,678.

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain,

or disclose or provide the information including: (1) Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AC03-76-000]

Dominion Cover Point LNG LP; Notice of Filing

September 29, 2003.

Take notice that on September 23, 2003, Dominion Cover Point LNG LP (Dominion) filed an amendment in Order 613 to update the accounting and financial reporting requirements for asset retirement obligations under its Uniform System of Accounts for natural gas pipelines as well as public utilities and licensees and oil pipelines.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing should file 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). 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. All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date, and, to the extent applicable, must be served on the applicant and on any other person designated on the official service list. This filing is available for review at the Commission or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the eLibrary (FERRIS) link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. Protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper; see 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

Comment Date: October 14, 2003.

Linda Mitry,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-25219 Filed 10-3-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. 2230-033]

City & Borough of Sitka, Alaska; Notice of Scoping Meeting, Site Visit, and Solicitation of Scoping Comments

October 1, 2003.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations allow applicants to prepare their own Environmental Assessment (EA) for hydropower projects for filing with the Commission along with the license application as part of an alternative licensing procedure (ALP). On September 10, 2003, the Commission noticed the request of City & Borough of Sitka, Alaska (Sitka) to use the ALP and set a deadline for comments of October 10, 2003. Sitka wishes to hold a scoping meeting on Wednesday, October 22, 2003. Because the Commission will need ample time to fully consider comments received from interested stakeholders on Sitka's request to use the ALP, the Commission is not likely to make a decision on Sitka's request to use the ALP prior to the scoping meeting. However, the ALP allows greater flexibility than the traditional licensing process, and the Commission believes that it is in the public interest to solicit scoping comments in this notice. The Commission has not prejudged Sitka's request to use the ALP.

Public Meeting and Site Visit

Sitka distributed a Scoping Document 1 (SD1) for the Blue Lake Hydroelectric Project on September 17, 2003, to the mailing list for this proceeding. In addition, Sitka will hold a scoping meeting for the project. The purpose of the meeting is to review the information presented in the SD1 and to initiate the identification of areas of interest that should be addressed in the licensing and any related Applicant-Prepared Environmental Assessment (APEA) processes. The meeting will be held as follows:

Blue Lake Scoping Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2003.

Place: Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive, Sitka, Alaska.

Time: 7 p.m.

This meeting is posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx> along with other related information.

Sitka will also conduct a site visit to the project on Thursday, October 23, 2003. Those wishing to attend the site