FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION



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NEWS RELEASE

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QUARTERLY ELECTRONIC REPORT PROPOSED TO STREAMLINE PUBLIC UTILITY FILINGS

A quarterly electronic report that would increase the accessibility and usefulness of key electric power data was proposed today by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The proposed Index of Customers would contain summary information on contract terms and conditions in service and transaction information for power sales during the most recent calendar quarter. The new electronic requirement would make the information standard, complete and easier to access.

Commented Chairman Curt L. Hébert, Jr.: "Today's proposal is designed to streamline our procedures and reduce unnecessary paperwork while improving and standardizing the electric transmission data that the Commission receives and enhancing public access to that data."

The report proposed today would replace the filings of short- or long-term service agreements for market-based sales of electric energy and service agreements, services covered by standard forms of service agreements and point-to-point transmission service. Power marketers would no longer file quarterly transaction reports. The proposal would reduce the burden on public utilities while allowing the Commission to make better use of limited resources. The proposal would also improve public access to pertinent information on public utility rates and services.

The electric utility industry has undergone dramatic changes in recent years yet the filing and review of contracts are still done individually, the Commission said. There has been a significant increase in the number of regulated entities and the services they

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provide since the Commission issued Order Nos. 888 and 889 and electric power markets have expanded their services to respond to customer needs. The Commission noted that service agreements represent 2,500 work load filings a year—a 2 ½ fold increase.

Each public utility would file electronically and post and archive on its website an Index of Customers that contains the contractual terms and conditions of its service agreements for all jurisdictional services--market-based power sales, cost-based power sales and transmission service—as well as transaction information for its short-term and long-term market- and cost-based power sales during the most recent calendar quarter.

The proposed rule also calls for utilities to develop standard forms of service agreements.

Comments are due within 60 days after the notice's publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>. Comments may also address any related matters or alternative proposals. Commenters are encouraged to file electronically. This may be done through the Commission's Internet site at <u>www.ferc.gov</u> and clicking on "e-filing." Paper copies may be sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

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