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# FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### COMMISSION RECEIVES 1,000th PAPERLESS ELECTRONIC FILING

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission recently received the 1,000th electronic submission since the start of its electronic filing initiative. The 1,000 e-submissions represent a reduction of nearly 15,000 paper copies that would have been required for filing in the traditional manner.

Chairman Curt L. Hébert, Jr. commented: "I am delighted at the progress to date and cannot stress enough the importance of continuing to move ahead with e-filing. During this challenging period with increased interest and involvement in Commission activities, we need to take full advantage of today's technology. Our goal is an end to paper filings."

The Commission began accepting comments on filings and protests via the Internet on November 1, 2000, as an alternative to traditional paper filing. On March 12, the Commission expanded the program to include motions to intervene and rulemaking comments. The Government Paperwork Elimination Act requires that all Federal agencies offer the option, where practicable, for the submission of information by electronic means by October 2003. Other types of submissions will be added in the future, but the program is currently limited to comments, protests, and motions to intervene. Persons using the system do not have to file paper copies.

Since the start of the program, the Commission has received e-submissions from 40 agencies in 23 states and the District of Columbia, five Federal agencies, 60 law firms, 40 organizations and associations, 50 companies, numerous individuals, and one submission from the Shanghai Electric Power Company in China. During the last two week period, electronic submissions accounted for 25% of the filing types eligible to be

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filed electronically. E-Filings are available in the Commission's Records Information Management System (RIMS) much faster - often within an hour - than paper filings, which must be scanned into RIMS. In addition, E-Filings are text searchable, whereas scanned paper filings are read-only.

The E-Filing system is accessible on the Commission's web site at the e-Filing link on the the Commission's web site at [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov). Users must establish a user name and password, which they can do on-line, in order to use the system. The file submitted can be in either WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format (PDF), Rich Text Format (RTF), or ASCII text format.

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