

the terms of SCE&G's Open Access Transmission Tariff.

SCE&G requests an effective date of one day subsequent to the filing of the service agreements. Accordingly, SCE&G requests waiver of the Commission's notice requirements. Copies of this filing were served upon NEMC, PP & L, WES, DES, and MPS, and the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

Comment date: May 20, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

14. The Washington Water Power Co.

[Docket No. ER97-2664-000]

Take notice that on April 23, 1997, The Washington Water Power Company (WWP) tendered for filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission executed Service Agreements for Non-Firm Point-To-Point Transmission Service under WWP's Open Access Transmission Tariff—FERC Electric Tariff, Original Volume No. 8. WWP requests the Service Agreements be accepted for filing effective April 1, 1997.

Comment date: May 20, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

Standard Paragraph

E. Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest 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 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date. 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. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-12437 Filed 5-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5825-2]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Clean Water Needs Survey Related to Abandoned Mines and Other NonPoint Source (NPS)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that EPA is planning to submit the following continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Continuation of OMB Number 2040-0050 ICR, EPA ICR Number 0318.06 and OMB Control Number 2040-0050, current expiration date September 30, 1997. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before July 14, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Jacqueline Rose, Office of Wastewater Management, Mail Code 4204, US Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SE., Washington, DC 20460. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the ICR without charge by writing to the preceding address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jacqueline Rose /telephone number (202) 260-3063/Facsimile Number (202)260-0116 /E-mail: ROSE.JACQUELINE@EPAMAIL.EPA. GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are States and Territories, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico (a maximum of 56).

Title: CLEAN WATER NEEDS SURVEY Related to Abandoned Mines and Other NonPoint Source (NPS) (OMB Control No. 2040-0050; EPA ICR No.0318.06), expiring 9/30/97.

Abstract: A survey is planned for 1998 which will not be a full Clean Water Needs Survey. It will require a substantially reduced effort and will focus on developing data on needs from runoff from abandoned mines and NonPoint Source (s) on which we have not had information on in the past. The Clean Water Needs Survey is required by sections 205(a) and 516 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Historically it is a biennial inventory of publicly-owned wastewater treatment works (POTWs) in the United States as well as an estimate

of how many POTWs and other SRF eligible projects are needed to be built. The survey is a joint effort of the States, EPA Headquarters (Office of Wastewater Management (OWM)) and EPA Regions. The survey records cost and technical data associated with all POTWs, existing and proposed, in the United States. The States provide this information to EPA. EPA achieves national consistency in the final results through the application of uniform guidelines and validation techniques. The collected data support cost estimates which are used by Congress in developing allotment formulas. The data are collected over a two year period to give EPA sufficient time to complete review and verification and to prepare the final report. The States and Regions also review the collected data during this time. Note: an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR Part 9 and 48 CFR Chapter 15.

The EPA would like to solicit comments to:

(i) evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) evaluate 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;

(iii) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through 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.

Burden Statement: The annual burden estimate for State respondents is estimated to be substantially reduced from the 1996 Survey estimate of 13,888 hours and \$333,312. The estimated amount of \$3,000 per respondent (100 hours x \$30.00/hour), with 56 respondents, equates to \$168,000. The main objectives of the 1998 data collection effort will be to develop data on runoff from abandoned mines and NonPoint Source(s). To minimize the reporting burden, the Surveys have been computerized since 1988 and EPA will continue to use the computerized data base approach. Frequency is determined

by the Congress under the Clean Water Act. No confidential information is used, nor is sensitive information protected from release under the Public Information Act used. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Dated: May 9, 1997.

Paul Baltay,

Acting Director, Municipal Support Division.

[FR Doc. 97-12479 Filed 5-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5824-9]

Schedule of Stakeholders/Regulatory Partners Meetings on the National Performance Measures Strategy for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As part of its National Performance Measures Strategy, EPA has completed two public meetings and held briefings with relevant House and Senate staff. The two public meetings were held in Washington, D.C. on February 3, 1997, and in San Francisco, California on March 17, 1997. At these meetings, a wide variety of stakeholders and regulatory partners offered their ideas, and suggestions about measuring the performance of EPA's enforcement and compliance assurance program. In addition to comments EPA received at these presentations, EPA also received suggestions from various stakeholders through independent submissions. This stakeholder input has helped EPA identify broad principles to guide development and implementation of enhanced performance measures, as well as identify specific performance measures for further consideration. As

part of the next phase of the strategy, EPA will hold a series of public meetings with its regulatory partners and the stakeholder groups to further discuss and examine suggested enforcement and compliance performance measures. These meetings will be held through July. A final capstone conference is planned for September. A proposed schedule of these meetings is provided in this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James McDonald, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, 401 M Street, SW (2201A), Washington, DC 20460; telephone (202) 564-4043, fax (202) 501-0701 or via the INTERNET at McDonald.James@EPAMAIL.EPA.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

For many years, EPA has counted annual enforcement outputs (e.g., inspections conducted, number of civil and criminal cases, penalties assessed) as the predominant measure of performance for the enforcement and compliance assurance program. While these outputs will continue to be used as an important measure of environmental enforcement, EPA seeks additional measures to assess the status and trends of regulatory compliance, as well as environmental improvements resulting from enforcement and compliance assurance activities. This need was recognized during EPA's enforcement reorganization in 1993, and a commitment was made during that process to develop additional measures. In addition, the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) offer an opportunity to review and improve performance measures.

For almost three years, the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) has been taking steps to improve its performance measures for enforcement and compliance assurance activities. During that time, OECA: (1) Convened a Measures of Success Work Group comprised of EPA and Regional officials, (2) developed and implemented a Case Conclusion Data Sheet (CCDS) to gather new types of information about completed cases, (3) developed and implemented a reporting measure for compliance assistance activities, and (4) realigned single-media databases to enable reporting of enforcement data by industry sector.

Through these steps, OECA has made progress in developing an enhanced set of performance measures. Specifically,

OECA is now able to supplement traditional enforcement output measures with other measures, including: (1) Actions taken by violators to return to compliance, (2) quantitative environmental impact and qualitative environmental benefit of those actions, (3) types, amounts, and impact of compliance assistance activities, and (4) industry-specific compliance rates. These elements were fully operational together for the first time in FY 96, and the results of these efforts are being compiled in a national accomplishments report. However, with the initiation of the Strategy, OECA recognizes further improvements can, and should, be made with regard to reporting the state of national compliance and trends of environmental enforcement and compliance. The series of public stakeholder meetings and the ideas OECA has collected from them is an attempt to further enhance and refine the measures OECA uses.

II. The National Performance Measures Strategy

The purpose of the National Performance Measures Strategy is to develop and implement an enhanced set of performance measures for the enforcement and compliance assurance program. The Strategy includes: (1) Soliciting new ideas from regulatory partners and stakeholders for more meaningful and sophisticated measures of program performance, (2) developing a common understanding with regulatory partners and stakeholders about a set of national measures and the short and long-term steps necessary to implement them, and (3) carrying out an implementation plan to put the new set of measures into practice.

EPA is interested in hearing and considering ideas from regulatory partners and a wide range of stakeholders regarding the state of compliance and additional ways to measure the performance of EPA's enforcement and compliance assurance program. EPA accepts the idea that its current approach of counting annual enforcement outputs needs to be supplemented by other approaches that measure improvements in environmental quality and the state of compliance. As such, the Agency wants to focus the outreach effort on identifying and implementing new approaches rather than on the limitations of its current approach.

In the February and March public meetings, stakeholders and regulatory partners were asked to focus on the following issues of special interest to EPA: