The date for filing timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by § 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived. Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late intervention.

You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–5360 Filed 3–2–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Expanded Use of the Docket Prefix ''IS'' for Oil Pipeline Filings and Availability of Information

February 25, 1998.

Take notice that on March 1, 1998, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will cease using the oil pipeline docket prefix ''OT'' and instead will use an ''IS'' docket prefix.

The Commission receives tariff filings and related materials from jurisdictional oil pipeline companies pursuant to the requirements of 18 CFR Parts 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 346, and 348. Filings previously given an ''OT'' docket prefix will now be assigned an ''IS'' prefix. The ''IS'' docket prefix has been used for oil pipeline filings which were likely to require formal action. Now this prefix will also be assigned to and designate the more routine, non-controversial, oil pipeline filings. Future use of the ''OT'' docket prefix will terminate upon institution of this policy.

The format of the ''IS'' docket prefix will remain unchanged. The ''IS'' prefix will be followed by the last two digits of the fiscal year in which the filing is received at the Commission, and a number assigned in numerical sequence beginning with ''1'' at the start of each fiscal year.

Also, as part of the Commission's continuing effort to provide easier access to its information, future oil pipeline filings will be available through the Commission's Records and Information Management System.

This notice is issued for the information and aid of jurisdictional companies, the public and practitioners before the Commission as an explanation of the docketing prefix used by the Commission.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–5359 Filed 3–2–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–5973–1]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Revision—Application for Reference and Equivalent Method Determination

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Application for Reference and Equivalent Method Determination; OMB Control Number 2080–0005, expiration date May 31, 1998. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 2, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260–2740, by email at farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov, or download off the Internet at http://www.epa.gov/icr and refer to EPA ICR No. 559.06.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application for Reference and Equivalent Method Determination (OMB Control No. 2080–0005); EPA ICR No. 0559.06, expiring May 31, 1998. This is a request for a revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: State air monitoring agencies are required to use EPA-designated reference or equivalent methods in their air monitoring networks to determine compliance with the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). A manufacturer or seller of an air monitoring method (more specifically, an air monitoring sampler or analyzer that is the basis of the method) which seeks EPA designation of the method must carry out prescribed tests of the method. The test results along with other information must then be submitted to the EPA in the form of an application for a reference or equivalent method determination in accordance with 40 CFR part 53. The EPA uses this information to determine whether the particular method should be designated as either a reference or equivalent method. After designation of a method, the applicant must also maintain records of the names and mailing addresses of all ultimate purchasers of all analyzers or samplers sold as designated methods under the method designation. Following designation of a method for $PM_{2.5}$, the applicant must also maintain its manufacturing facility as a ISO 0991-registered facility and annually submit a checklist signed by an ISO-certified auditor to verify adherence to specific quality assurance requirements in the manufacture of the samplers or analyzers sold as part of a designated method. Responses to the collection of information are voluntary but are required to obtain the benefit of EPA-designation of a method or product as a reference or equivalent method (40 CFR part 53). Submission of information that is claimed by the applicant to be confidential business information may be necessary to make a reference or equivalent method determination. The confidentiality of any submitted information identified as such will be protected in full accordance with 40 CFR part 53.15 and all applicable provisions of 40 CFR part 2.

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 **Federal Register** Notice required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on 10/07/97 (62 FR 52333); no comments were received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and record keeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1,129 hours per response, although individual burdens may vary substantially from that average. 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.

Respondents/Affected Entities: For-profit businesses, State and Local Governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: Six (6) per year.

Frequency of Response: As needed, per application.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 6,772 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: $125,000.

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques, to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA–ICR No. 0559.06 and OMB Control No. 2080–0005 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OPPE Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460; and

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: February 25, 1998.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 98–5414 Filed 3–2–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–5972–9]

Electric Utility Hazardous Air Pollutant Study Final Report to Congress

AGENCY: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of Document Availability.

SUMMARY: The Final Report to Congress on the EPA's Electric Utility Hazardous Air Pollutant Study (hereafter ''Final Report'') has been completed. This Final Report was prepared by the EPA in response to section 112(n)(1)(A) of the Clean Air Act as amended in 1990 (hereafter ''the Act''), which required the EPA to submit to Congress the results of a study of emissions of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) from electric utility steam generating units (utilities) and on the hazards to public health reasonably anticipated to occur as a result of these emissions. Congress directed that the report describe alternative control strategies for HAP emissions which may warrant regulation.

DATES: The Final Report was transmitted to the Congress on February 24, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Final Report will be available from Public Docket No. A–92–55 at the following address: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center (6102), 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. The docket is located at the above address in room M–1500, Waterside Mall (ground floor), and may be inspected from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Final Report (docket entry A–92–55, I–A–____) is available for review in the docket center or copies may be mailed on request from the Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center by calling (202) 260–7548 or –7549. The FAX number for the Center is (202) 260–4000. A reasonable fee may be charged for copying docket materials. The final report will also be available on the Technology Transfer Network (TTN) (see below) and from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). The NTIS may be accessed by telephone at (800) 553–6847 or through the Internet at ''http://www.fedworld.gov/ntis/ntishome.html.''

Docket

Docket No. A–92–55, containing supporting information used in developing the Final Report, is available for public inspection and copying as noted above. The docket is an organized file of information used by the EPA in the development of this Final Report.

Technology Transfer Network

The final report is available electronically on the TTN, one of the EPA's electronic bulletin boards. The final report is accessible through the Internet at ''http://www.epa.gov/airlinks.''

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information concerning specific aspects of this study, contact Mr. William Maxwell [telephone number (919) 541–5430], Combustion Group, Emission Standards Division (MD–13), or Mr. Chuck French [telephone number (919) 541–0467], Risk and Exposure Assessment Group, Air Quality Strategies and Standards Division (MD–15), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The final report provides information regarding the emission, fate, and transport of HAPs from utilities. The primary components of the report are: (1) A description of the industry; (2) an analysis of emissions data; (3) an assessment of hazards and risks due to inhalation exposures to 67 HAPs; (4) assessments of risks due to multipathway (inhalation plus non-inhalation) exposures to four HAPs (radionuclides, mercury, arsenic, and dioxins); and (5) a discussion of alternative control strategies. The assessment for mercury in the report also includes a description of emissions, deposition estimates, control technologies, and a dispersion and fate modeling assessment which includes predicted levels of mercury in various media (including soil, water, and freshwater fish) based on modeling from four representative utility plants using hypothetical scenarios.

Based on available information and current analyses, the EPA believes that mercury from coal-fired utilities is the HAP of greatest potential concern and merits additional research and monitoring. There are uncertainties regarding the extent of risks due to mercury exposures including those from utility emissions. Further research and evaluation are needed to gain a better understanding of the risks and impacts of utility mercury emissions. In addition, further research and evaluation of potential control technologies and strategies for mercury are needed.

For a few other HAPs, there also are still some remaining potential concerns and uncertainties that may need further study. First, the screening multipathway assessments for dioxins and arsenic suggest that these two HAPs are of potential concern (primarily from coal-fired plants); however, further evaluations and review are needed to better characterize the impacts of dioxins and arsenic emissions from utilities. Second, nickel emissions from oil-fired utilities are of potential concern, but significant uncertainties still exist with regards to the nickel forms emitted from utilities and the health effects of those various forms. The impacts due to HAP emissions from gas-fired utilities are negligible based on the results of this study; therefore, the EPA feels that there is no need for further evaluation of the risks of HAP emissions from natural gas-fired utilities.