

Total Burden Hours: 11,778.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

June 19, 2009.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to 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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Housing Service

Title: Form RD 410-8, Application Reference Letter (A Request for Credit Reference).

OMB Control Number: 0575-0091.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Housing Service (RHS), under Section 502 of Title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, provides financial assistance to construct, improve, alter, repair, replace, or rehabilitate dwellings, which will provide modest, decent, safe, and sanitary housing to eligible individuals in rural areas. Form RD 410-8, *Applicant Reference Letter*, provides credit information and is used by RHS to obtain information about an applicant's credit history that might not appear on a credit report.

Need And Use of the Information: Using form RD-410-8, RHS will collect information to supplement or verify other debts when a credit report is limited and unavailable to determine the applicant's eligibility and creditworthiness for RHS loans and grants. It can be used to document an ability to handle credit effectively for applicants who have not used sources of credit that appear on a credit report. The form provides RHS with relevant information about the applicant's creditworthiness and is used to make better creditworthiness decisions.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 11,279.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 3,383.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E9-14848 Filed 6-23-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of an environmental assessment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (Basin), of Bismarck, North Dakota. The proposal includes the construction and operation of a wind turbine generation facility referred to as the Prairie Winds-ND1 Project consisting of a 77-turbine, 115 megawatt (MW) facility at a site near Minot, North Dakota.

DATES: Written comments on this Notice must be received on or before July 24, 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To obtain copies of the EA or for further information, contact Dennis E. Rankin, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, RUS, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, or e-mail: dennis.rankin@wdc.usda.gov; or Kevin L. Solie, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., 1717 East Interstate Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58503-0564, telephone: (701) 355-5495, or e-mail: ksolie@bepc.com. A copy of the EA may be viewed on line at the Agency's Web site: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm> and at the following locations:

Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 2244, Washington, DC 20250.

Basin Electric Power Cooperative, 1717 East Interstate Ave., Bismarck, ND 58503-0564.

Questions and comments should be sent to Mr. Rankin at the address provided.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Basin Electric proposes to construct a new 115 MW wind generation facility in north-central North Dakota. The project will include seventy-seven (77) 1.5 MW wind turbine generators.

Tetra Tech, an environmental consultant, prepared an EA for RUS that describes the project and assesses the proposed project's environmental impacts. RUS has conducted an independent evaluation of the EA and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No significant impacts are expected as a result of the construction of the project.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by 7 CFR Part 1794, Environmental Policies and Procedures.

Dated: June 17, 2009.

Richard Fristik,

Acting Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff.

[FR Doc. E9-14773 Filed 6-23-09; 8:45 am]

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