

federally-owned inventions, if, among other things, the agency finds that the public will be served by the granting of the license. The statute requires that no exclusive license may be granted unless public notice of the intent to grant the license has been provided, and the agency has considered all comments received in response to that public notice, before the end of the comment period.

Soil Water Monitoring Systems, LLC of Kennewick, WA has applied for an exclusive license to practice the inventions embodied in U.S. Patent No. 6,752,007 and has plans for commercialization of the inventions.

The exclusive license will be subject to a license and other rights retained by the U.S. Government, and other terms and conditions to be negotiated. DOE intends to negotiate to grant the license, unless, within 15 days of this notice, the Assistant General Counsel for Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property, Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, receives in writing any of the following, together with supporting documents:

(i) A statement from any person setting forth reason why it would not be in the best interests of the United States to grant the proposed license; or

(ii) An application for a nonexclusive license to the invention in which applicant states that if already has brought the invention to practical application or is likely to bring the invention to practical application expeditiously.

The Department will review all timely written responses to this notice, and will proceed with negotiating the license if, after consideration of written responses to this notice, a finding is made that the license is in the public interest.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 9, 2014.

**John T. Lucas,**

*Assistant General Counsel for Technology, Transfer and Intellectual Property.*

[FR Doc. 2014-08802 Filed 4-16-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC14-11-000]

#### Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC-516a); Comment Request; Extension

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collection, [FERC-516A, "Small Generator Interconnection Agreements" (OMB No. 1902-2003)].

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due June 16, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments (identified by Docket No. IC14-11-000) by either of the following methods:

- eFiling at Commission's Web site: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>.
- Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

**Instructions:** All submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at: <http://www.ferc.gov/help/submission-guide.asp>. For user assistance contact FERC Online Support by email at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or by phone at: (866) 208-3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502-8659 for TTY.

**Docket:** Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issuances in this docket may do so at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/docs-filing.asp>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Ellen Brown may be reached by email at [DataClearance@FERC.gov](mailto:DataClearance@FERC.gov), telephone at (202) 502-8663, and fax at (202) 273-0873.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Title:** FERC-516A, Standardization of Small Generator Interconnection Agreements and Procedures.

**OMB Control No.:** 1902-0203.

**Type of Request:** Three-year extension of the information collection requirements for FERC-516A with no changes to the current reporting requirements.

**Abstract:** Under Sections 205 and 206 of the Federal Power Act (FPA) <sup>1</sup> the Commission is charged with ensuring just and reasonable electric transmission rates and charges as well as ensuring that jurisdictional providers do not subject any person to any undue prejudice or disadvantage.

The lack of consistent and readily accessible terms and conditions for connecting resources to the grid led to

a large number of disputes between jurisdictional transmission providers and small generators <sup>2</sup> in the late 1990s and early 2000s. In response, the Commission directed transmission providers to include Commission-approved, standard, pro-forma interconnection procedures (small generator interconnection procedures or SGIP) and a single uniformly applicable interconnection agreement (small generator interconnection agreement or SGIA) in their open-access transmission tariffs (OATTs). The requirement to create and file these documents was instituted August 2005 by Commission Order No. 2006 <sup>3</sup> and is codified in 18 CFR 35.28(f). This requirement set and maintained a standard in OATTs for consistent consideration and processing of interconnection requests by transmission providers.

Since the issuance of Order No. 2006, many aspects of the energy industry have changed including the growth of small generator interconnection requests <sup>4</sup> and the growth in solar photovoltaic (PV) installations. These changes have been driven, in part, by state renewable energy goals and policies. For example, approximately 3,300 MW of grid-connected PV capacity were installed in the U.S. in 2012 <sup>5</sup> compared to 79 MW in 2005, the year Order No. 2006 was issued.<sup>6</sup>

In February 2012, pursuant to Sections 205 and 206 of the FPA and Rule 207 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures,<sup>7</sup> and noting that the Commission encouraged stakeholders to submit proposed revisions to the regulations set forth in Order No. 2006,<sup>8</sup> the Solar Energy

<sup>2</sup> "Small generators" are generating facilities having a capacity of no more than 20 megawatts (MW).

<sup>3</sup> Standardization of Small Generation Interconnection Agreements and Procedures, Order No. 2006, 70 FR 34189 (May 12, 2005), FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶31,180 (2005).

<sup>4</sup> See, e.g., *Cal. Indep. Sys. Operator Corp.*, 133 FERC ¶ 61,223, at P 3 (2010) (stating that an increasing volume of small generator interconnection Requests had created inefficiencies); *Pacific Gas & Elec. Co.*, 135 FERC ¶ 61,094, at P 4 (2011) (stating that increased small generator interconnection Requests resulted in a backlog of 170 requests over three years); *PJM Interconnection, LLC*, 139 FERC ¶ 61,079, at P 12 (2012) (stating that smaller projects comprised 66 percent of recent queue volume).

<sup>5</sup> Sherwood, Larry, U.S. Solar Market Trends 2012 at 4, available at <http://www.irecusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Solar-Report-Final-July-2013-1.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Solar Market Insight Report, 2012 Year in Review, Executive Summary Table 2.1, available at <http://www.seia.org/research-resources/us-solar-market-insight-2012-year-in-review>.

<sup>7</sup> 18 CFR 385.207 (2012).

<sup>8</sup> SEIA Petition at 4 (citing Order No. 2006, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,180 at P 118).

<sup>1</sup> 16 U.S.C. 824d and 824e.

Industries Association (SEIA) filed a Petition to Initiate Rulemaking (Petition). The Petition requested the Commission revise the *pro forma* SGIA and SGIP set forth in Order No. 2006. SEIA asserted that the *pro forma* SGIP and SGIA as applied to small solar generation were no longer just and reasonable, had become unduly discriminatory, and presented unreasonable barriers to market entry.<sup>9</sup> SEIA noted that its Petition would apply exclusively to solar electric generation due to its unique characteristics.<sup>10</sup>

In 2012 the Commission issued a Notice of Petition for Rulemaking in Docket No. RM12–10–000 and began a public process to explore SEIA’s Petition through the Commission’s formal notice and comment process as well as technical conferences.

In November 2013, the Commission issued Order No. 792 to amend the *pro forma* Small Generator Interconnection Procedures and *pro forma* Small Generator Interconnection Agreement.

Order No. 792: (1) Incorporates provisions that provide an Interconnection Customer with the option of requesting from the Transmission Provider a pre-application report providing existing information about system conditions at a possible Point of Interconnection; (2) revised the 2 megawatt (MW) threshold for participation in the Fast Track Process included in section 2 of the *pro forma* SGIP; (3) revised the customer options meeting and the supplemental review following failure of the Fast Track screens so that the supplemental review is performed at the discretion of the Interconnection Customer and includes minimum load and other screens to determine if a Small Generating Facility may be interconnected safely and reliably; (4) revised the *pro forma* SGIP Facilities Study Agreement to allow the Interconnection Customer the opportunity to provide written comments to the Transmission Provider

on the upgrades required for interconnection; (5) revised the *pro forma* SGIP and the *pro forma* SGIA to specifically include energy storage devices; and (6) clarified certain sections of the *pro forma* SGIP and the *pro forma* SGIA.

With these modifications, the Commission concluded that the package of reforms adopted in Order No. 792 will reduce the time and cost to process small generator interconnection requests for Interconnection Customers and Transmission Providers, maintain reliability, increase energy supply, and remove barriers to the development of new energy resources.

*Type of Respondents:* Jurisdictional transmission service providers.

*Estimate of Annual Burden:*<sup>11</sup> Based on filings received in 2013 and the increased burden from Order No. 792, the Commission estimates the total Public Reporting Burden for this information collection as:

FERC–516A (STANDARDIZATION OF SMALL GENERATOR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENTS AND PROCEDURES)

Requirements <sup>12</sup>	Number of respondents annually (1)	Annual number of responses per respondent (2)	Total number of responses (1) * (2) = (3)	Average burden & cost per response <sup>13</sup> (4)	Total annual burden hours & total annual cost (3) × (4) = (5)	Cost per respondent (\$) (5) ÷ (1)
Maintenance of Documents—Transmission Providers .....	46	1	46	\$72.73	\$3,345.58	\$72.73
Filing of Agreements—Transmission Providers .....	95	1	95	\$1,818.25	\$172,733.75	\$1,818.25
Pre-Application Report—Interconnection Customers <sup>14</sup> .....	800	1	800	\$72.73	\$58,184	\$72.73
Pre-Application Report—Transmission Providers .....	142	5.63	800	\$181.83	\$145,460	\$1,024.37
Supplemental Review—Interconnection Customers .....	500	1	500	\$35.37	\$18,182.50	\$36.37
Supplemental Review—Transmission Providers .....	142	3.52	500	\$1,454.60	\$727,300	\$5,121.83
Review of Required Upgrades—Interconnection Customers .....	250	1	250	\$72.73	\$18,182.50	\$72.73
Review of Required Upgrades—Transmission Providers .....	142	1.76	250	\$145.46	\$36,365	\$256.09
<b>Totals .....</b>			<b>3,241</b>		<b>\$1,179,753.33</b>	

<sup>9</sup> SEIA Petition at 12.

<sup>10</sup> *Id.* at 4 (explaining that solar generation occurs only during daylight hours when peak load typically occurs, and solar photovoltaic technology utilizes inverters with built-in functions that protect the safety and reliability of the electric system).

<sup>11</sup> The Commission defines burden as 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. For

further explanation of what is included in the information collection burden, reference 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.

<sup>12</sup> All of the requirements for transmission providers is mandatory. All of the requirements for interconnection customers is voluntary.

<sup>13</sup> The estimates for cost per response are derived using the following formula: Average Burden Hours per Response \* \$71.42 per Hour = Average Cost per Response. This figure is the average of the salary

plus benefits for an attorney, consultant (engineer), engineer, and administrative staff. The wages are derived from the Bureau of Labor and Statistics at [http://bls.gov/oes/current/naics3\\_221000.htm](http://bls.gov/oes/current/naics3_221000.htm) and the benefits figure from <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecec.nr0.htm>.

<sup>14</sup> We assume each request for a pre-application report corresponds with one Interconnection Customer.

*Comments:* Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: April 11, 2014.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2014-08754 Filed 4-16-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 14604-000]

#### Green Energy Storage Corp; Notice of Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Competing Applications

On March 18, 2014, Green Energy Storage Corp filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), proposing to study the feasibility of the Ajo Pumped Storage Project to be located off stream near the city of Ajo, Arizona. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The proposed 150-megawatt closed loop pumped storage project would use the 1,200 feet of available head between a new upper reservoir and an existing open pit mine. The project consists of the following: (1) A new 35-foot-high upper dam with a total crest length of 6,000 feet, impounding an upper reservoir with a maximum storage of 1,300 acre-feet; (2) an existing open pit mine lower reservoir, with a maximum storage of 1,500 acre-feet; (3) a penstock connecting the two reservoirs consisting of a 200-foot-long, 12-foot-diameter steel pipe and a 1,150-foot-long, 12-foot-

diameter vertical shaft; (4) two 75-megawatt pump/turbines; (5) a 2,200-foot-long, 14-foot-diameter draft tube, extending from the turbines to the lower reservoir; (6) a new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line extending about 36 miles from the project's substation to an existing 115-kV transmission line owned by Arizona Public Service; and (7) appurtenant facilities. The estimated average energy production of the project would be 400 gigawatt hours.

*Applicant Contact:* Charles Gresham, Green Energy Storage Company, 14747 N 87th Ln., Peoria, AZ 85381, Telephone (602) 478-9161

*FERC Contact:* Jim Fargo; phone: (202) 502-6095.

*Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications:* 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Competing applications and notices of intent must meet the requirements of 18 CFR 4.36.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-14604-000.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P-14604) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Dated: April 10, 2014.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2014-08667 Filed 4-16-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP14-4-001]

#### Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; Notice of Application

Take notice that on April 7, 2014, Texas Eastern Transmission, (Texas Eastern), having its principal place of business at 5400 Westheimer Court, Houston, Texas, 77056, filed an application in Docket No. CP14-4-001 pursuant to Section 7(b) and Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct its Emerald Longwall Mine Project. On October 10, 2013, Texas Eastern filed an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (Docket No. CP14-4-000), and had received an Order Issuing Certificate and Approving Abandonment on January 29, 2014. The January 29 Order authorized the excavation, elevation, replacement and abandonment of certain pipeline and appurtenant facilities due to the anticipated longwall mining activities of Panel D1 of Emerald Coal Resources, LP's (Emerald) coal mine in Greene County, Pennsylvania.

Emerald has since informed Texas Eastern that, in addition to Panel D1, mining activities are now anticipated at Emerald's Panel D2 and are expected to impact Texas Eastern beginning the first quarter of 2015. The Texas Eastern facilities to be impacted by potential ground subsidence resulting from longwall mining activities at Panel D2 are sections of the same pipelines, immediately east of Lines 1, 2, 10, 15 and 25, that were described in the January 29 Order related to Panel D1. Texas Eastern proposes to excavate, elevate, replace, and/or abandon by removal certain sections of five different pipelines and appurtenant facilities located in Greene County, Pennsylvania, all as more fully set forth in the application, which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or call toll-free, (866) 208-3676 or TYY, (202) 502-8659.

Any questions regarding this application should be directed to Lisa A. Connolly, General Manager, Rates