

Coordination Act consultation procedures. Other environmental review and consultation requirements for the proposed project include the need for the applicant to obtain water quality certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. In addition, because the proposed project may affect federally listed species, the USACE will consult with the Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in accordance with Section 7 of the Federal Endangered Species Act. The NMFS will be consulted regarding the effects of this proposed project on Essential Fish Habitat per the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The USACE will also be consulting with the State Historic Preservation Officer under 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act concerning properties listed, or potentially eligible for listing.

The USACE will serve as the lead Federal agency in the preparation of the EIS. Other federal and/or state agencies may participate as cooperating and/or commenting agencies throughout the EIS process.

The USACE will use a "third party contractor" to prepare all or part of the EIS or to obtain required information (40 CFR 1500-1508). "Third party contract" refers to the preparation of the EIS by a contractor paid by the applicant but who is selected and supervised directly by the district engineer. Contractor election by the USACE for a Regulatory Program EIS will be as follows: The USACE will select from the applicant's list the first contractor that is fully acceptable to the USACE, using the applicant's order of preference; this selection is finalized by the applicant's selection of the same contractor. The procedures outlined in 40 CFR 1500-1508 and CEQ's forty questions must be followed. Furthermore, the USACE is responsible for final acceptance of the draft and final EIS.

7. Availability. The Draft EIS (DEIS) is expected to be available for public comment and review no sooner than the spring of 2016. At that time, a 45-day public review period will be provided for individuals and agencies to review and comment on the DEIS. All interested parties are encouraged to respond to this notice and provide a current address if they wish to be notified of the DEIS circulation.

**Brenda S. Bowen,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RD14-11-000]

#### Proposed Agency Information Collection

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

**ACTION:** Comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is submitting the information collection in Docket No. RD14-11-000 to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review of the information collection requirements. Any interested person may file comments directly with OMB and should address a copy of those comments to the Commission as explained below. The Commission issued a Notice in the **Federal Register** (79 FR 46781, 8/11/2014) requesting public comments. FERC received no comments in response to that notice and has made this notation in its submission to OMB.

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due by December 1, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments filed with OMB, regarding FERC-725A (OMB Control Number 1902-0244) and FERC-725X (OMB Control Number TBD), should be sent via email to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs: [oir\\_submission@omb.gov](mailto:oir_submission@omb.gov). Attention: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Desk Officer. The Desk Officer may also be reached via telephone at 202-395-4718.

A copy of the comments should also be sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, identified by the Docket No. RD14-11-000, 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), by telephone at (202) 502-8663, and by fax at (202) 273-0873.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proposed information collection changes in Docket No. RD14-11-000 relate to the proposed Reliability Standards VAR-001-4 (Voltage and Reactive Control) and VAR-002-3 (Generator Operation for Maintaining Network Voltage Schedules), developed by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), and submitted to the Commission for approval. The Commission received NERC's petition to approve the proposed Reliability Standards on June 9, 2014.

NERC summarizes the VAR group of standards as follows:

The Voltage and Reactive ("VAR") group of Reliability Standards, which consists of two continent-wide Reliability Standards, VAR-001-3 and VAR-002-2b, is designed to maintain voltage stability on the Bulk-Power System, protect transmission, generation, distribution, and customer equipment, and support the reliable operation of the Bulk-Power System.<sup>1</sup>

In its petition, NERC also summarizes the proposed Reliability Standards' applicability and requirements:

In general, proposed Reliability Standard VAR-001-4 sets forth the requirements applicable to Transmission Operators for scheduling, monitoring, and controlling Reactive Power resources in the Real-time Operations, Same-day Operations, and Operational Planning time horizons to regulate voltage and Reactive Power flows for the reliable operation of the Bulk-Power System. Proposed Reliability Standard VAR-002-3 sets forth the requirements applicable to Generator Operators and Generator Owners for providing the necessary reactive support and voltage control necessary to maintain reliable operations. Generators are the largest and most reliable Reactive Power resource and play an integral role in maintaining voltage stability on the Bulk-Power System. Collectively, the proposed Reliability Standards are designed to prevent voltage instability and voltage collapse on the Bulk-Power System.<sup>2</sup>

Finally, NERC also states that the proposed Reliability Standards improve reliability, clarify requirement language and eliminate redundant or unnecessary requirements.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> NERC Petition at 3.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 4.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 15.

*Burden Statement:* Commission staff analyzed the proposed and currently enforced standards and has concluded that while information collection requirements have been deleted, added, and/or changed, the overall paperwork burden and applicable respondent universe remains unchanged. To improve accounting of the burden, the Commission recognizes that in the transition from VAR-001-3 to VAR-001-4 (requirement R1) there is a decrease in documentation related to policies and procedures. However, the transmission operators are now required to have documentation related to system

voltage and reactive power schedules as well as documentation related to coordination with adjacent transmission operators and applicable reliability coordinators. The Commission estimates that this transition leads to a decrease of 160 hours as well as an increase of 160 hours, for a net change of zero. The Commission seeks comment on whether this estimate is accurate.

For the transition from VAR-002-2b to VAR-002-3, the Commission estimates that changes in requirement R1 lead to an increase of 80 hours for recordkeeping and changes in requirement R2 lead to an increase in 120 hours for documentation. However,

the Commission estimates a decrease of the same magnitude (200 hours) related to the changes in requirements R3 and R4. The remaining information collection requirements in the two standards remain essentially unchanged.

Based on the above estimates, the Commission intends to submit a total reduction of 204,240 hours from FERC-725A and a total increase of 204,240 hours into FERC-725X, a new collection FERC is using to account for burden related to VAR reliability standards. The following table summarizes the burden changes:

Changes	Number of respondents <sup>4</sup>	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total annual burden hours	Total annual cost <sup>5</sup>
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)×(2)×(3)	
VAR-001-4 Requirement R1 Increase (FERC-725X) .....	184 (TOP)	1	160	29,440	\$1,766,400
VAR-001-4 Requirement R1 Decrease (FERC-725A) .....	184 (TOP)	1	-160	-29,440	-1,766,400
VAR-002-3 Requirement R1 Increase (FERC-725X) .....	874 (GOP)	1	80	69,920	4,195,200
VAR-002-3 Requirement R2 Increase (FERC-725X) .....	874 (GOP)	1	120	104,880	6,292,800
VAR-002-3 Requirements R3 and R4 Decrease (FERC-725A) .....	874 (GOP)	1	-200	-174,800	-10,488,000
Total .....				0	0

Dated: October 23, 2014.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2014-25901 Filed 10-30-14; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Project No. 6957-002]

**City of Portland Water Bureau; Notice of Application Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests**

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

- a. *Types of Application:* Surrender of Exemption.
- b. *Project No.:* 6957-002.
- c. *Date Filed:* October 3, 2014.
- d. *Applicant:* City of Portland Water Bureau.
- e. *Name of Project:* Mt. Tabor Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* Mt. Tabor Reservoir, in the City of Portland and Multnomah County, Oregon.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791a-825r.

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Frank Galida, Portland Hydroelectric Project Manager, Portland Water Bureau, 1120 SW. Fifth Avenue, Room 530, Portland, OR 97204, (503) 823-1517.

i. *FERC Contact:* Ms. Rebecca Martin, (202) 502-6012, [Rebecca.martin@ferc.gov](mailto:Rebecca.martin@ferc.gov).

j. *Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, and protests, is November 23, 2014.* All documents may be filed electronically via the Internet. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. If unable to be filed electronically, documents may be paper-filed. To paper-file, an original and seven copies should be mailed to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. 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.

Please include the project number (P-6957-002) on any comments, motions, or recommendations filed.

k. *Description of Request:* The applicant proposes to surrender the exemption for the Mt. Tabor Project. The licensee proposes to remove the turbine, generator, and governor. The underground electrical connection to the local power utility would be disconnected. No ground disturbing activities are proposed.

l. *Locations of the Application:* A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 502-8371. This filing may also be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, call 1-866-208-3676 or

<sup>4</sup> TOP = Transmission Operator, GOP = Generator Operator.

<sup>5</sup> The estimate for cost per hour (rounded to the nearest dollar) is derived as follows:

• \$61/hour, the average salary plus benefits (representing 30.1% of the total compensation) per engineer (from Bureau of Labor Statistics at

[http://bls.gov/oes/current/naics3\\_221000.htm](http://bls.gov/oes/current/naics3_221000.htm). and <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecec.nr0.htm>.