

maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties. A party must submit 3 copies of filings made in the proceeding with the Commission and must provide a copy to the applicant and to every other party. Only parties to the proceeding can ask for court review of Commission orders in the proceeding.

However, a person does not have to intervene in order to have comments considered. The second way to participate is by filing with the Secretary of the Commission, as soon as possible, an original and two copies of comments in support of or in opposition to this project. The Commission will consider these comments in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but the filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that persons filing comments in opposition to the project provide copies of their protests only to the party or parties directly involved in the protest.

Persons who wish to comment only on the environmental review of this project should submit an original and two copies of their comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Environmental commenters will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list and will be notified of any meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Environmental commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, the non-party commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission and will not have the right to seek court review of the Commission's final order.

As of the February 27, 2018 date of the Commission's order in Docket No. CP16-4-001, the Commission will apply its revised practice concerning out-of-time motions to intervene in any new Natural Gas Act section 3 or section 7 proceeding.<sup>1</sup> Persons desiring to become a party to a certificate proceeding are to intervene in a timely manner. If seeking to intervene out-of-time, the movant is required to show good cause why the time limitation should be waived, and should provide justification by reference to factors set forth in Rule 214(d)(1) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations.<sup>2</sup>

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments, protests

and interventions in lieu of paper using the eFiling link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 3 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

*Comment Date:* 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on October 8, 2019.

Dated: September 17, 2019.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**  
*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2019-20506 Filed 9-20-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC19-30-000]

#### Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC-920); Comment Request

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

**ACTION:** Comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is submitting its information collection FERC-920 [Electric Quarterly Reports (EQR)] 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 previously published a Notice in the **Federal Register** on July 8, 2019 requesting public comments. The Commission received no comments and is making this notation in its submittal to OMB.

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due by October 23, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments filed with OMB, identified by the OMB Control No. 1902-0255, should be sent via email to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs: [oira\\_submission@omb.gov](mailto:oira_submission@omb.gov). Attention: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Desk Officer.

A copy of the comments should also be sent to the Commission, in Docket No. IC19-30-000, by either of the following methods:

- **eFiling at Commission's Website:** <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:

**Title:** FERC-920 [Electric Quarterly Reports (EQR)].

**OMB Control No.:** 1902-0255.

**Abstract:** The Commission originally set forth the EQR filing requirements in Order No. 2001 (Docket No. RM01-8-000, issued April 25, 2002, at [http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/intermediate.asp?link\\_file=yes&doclist=2270047](http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/intermediate.asp?link_file=yes&doclist=2270047)). Order No. 2001 required public utilities to electronically file EQRs summarizing transaction information for short-term and long-term cost-based sales and market-based rate sales and the contractual terms and conditions in their agreements for all jurisdictional services.<sup>1</sup> The Commission established the EQR reporting requirements to help ensure the collection of information needed to perform its regulatory functions over transmission and sales, while making data more useful to the public and allowing public utilities to better fulfill their responsibility under FPA section 205(c) to have rates on file in a convenient form and place. As noted in Order No. 2001, the EQR data is designed to "provide greater price

<sup>1</sup> *Revised Public Utility Filing Requirements*, Order No. 2001, 67 FR 31043 (May 8, 2002), FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,127, *reh'g denied*, Order No. 2001-A, 100 FERC ¶ 61,074, *reh'g denied*, Order No. 2001-B, 100 FERC ¶ 61,342, *order directing filing*, Order No. 2001-C, 101 FERC ¶ 61,314 (2002), *order directing filing*, Order No. 2001-D, 102 FERC ¶ 61,334, *order refining filing requirements*, Order No. 2001-E, 105 FERC ¶ 61,352 (2003), *order on clarification*, Order No. 2001-F, 106 FERC ¶ 61,060 (2004), *order revising filing requirements*, Order No. 2001-G, 72 FR 56735 (Oct. 4, 2007), 120 FERC ¶ 61,270, *order on reh'g and clarification*, Order No. 2001-H, 73 FR 1876 (Jan. 10, 2008), 121 FERC ¶ 61,289 (2007), *order revising filing requirements*, Order No. 2001-I, 73 FR 65526 (Nov. 4, 2008), 125 FERC ¶ 61,103 (2008).

<sup>1</sup> *Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C.*, 162 FERC 61,167 at 50 (2018).

<sup>2</sup> 18 CFR 385.214(d)(1).

transparency, promote competition, enhance confidence in the fairness of the markets, and provide a better means to detect and discourage discriminatory practices.”

Since issuing Order No. 2001, the Commission has provided guidance and refined the reporting requirements, as necessary, to reflect changes in the Commission’s rules and regulations.<sup>2</sup> The Commission also adopted an Electric Quarterly Report Data Dictionary, which provides in one document the definitions of certain terms and values used in filing EQR data.<sup>3</sup>

To increase transparency broadly across all wholesale markets subject to the Commission’s jurisdiction, the Commission issued Order No. 768 in 2012.<sup>4</sup> Order No. 768 required market

participants that are excluded from the Commission’s jurisdiction under the Federal Power Act section 205 (non-public utilities) and have more than a *de minimis* market presence to file EQRs with the Commission. In addition, Order No. 768 revised the EQR filing requirements to build upon the Commission’s prior improvements to the reporting requirements and further enhance the goals of providing greater price transparency, promoting competition, instilling confidence in the fairness of the markets, and providing a better means to detect and discourage anti-competitive, discriminatory, and manipulative practices.

EQR information allows the public to assess supply and demand fundamentals and to price interstate wholesale market transactions. This, in

turn, results in greater market confidence, lower transaction costs, and ultimately supports competitive markets. In addition, the data filed in the EQR strengthens the Commission’s ability to exercise its wholesale electric rate and electric power transmission oversight and enforcement responsibilities in accordance with the Federal Power Act. Without this information, the Commission would lack some of the data it needs to examine and approve or modify electric rates.

*Type of Respondent:* Public utilities, and non-public utilities with more than a *de minimis* market presence.

*Estimate of Annual Burden:*<sup>5</sup> The Commission estimates the annual public reporting burden for the information collection as:

**FERC-920: ELECTRIC QUARTERLY REPORTS (EQR)**

Number of respondents	Annual number of responses per respondent	Total number of responses	Average burden hrs. & cost per response	Total annual burden hours & total annual cost
(1)	(2)	(1) * (2) = (3)	(4)	(3) * (4) = (5)
2,595	4	10,380	18.1 hrs.; \$1,448 .....	187,878 hrs.; \$15,030,240

Dated: September 18, 2019.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**  
*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2019-20515 Filed 9-20-19; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

**Records Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice**

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(b), of the receipt of prohibited and exempt off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive a prohibited or exempt off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested proceeding, to deliver to the Secretary of the Commission, a copy of the communication, if written, or a

summary of the substance of any oral communication.

Prohibited communications are included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not a part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any responses thereto should become a part of the decisional record, the prohibited off-the-record communication will not be considered by the Commission in reaching its decision. Parties to a proceeding may seek the opportunity to respond to any facts or contentions made in a prohibited off-the-record communication, and may request that the Commission place the prohibited communication and responses thereto in the decisional record. The Commission will grant such a request only when it determines that fairness so requires. Any person identified below as having made a prohibited off-the-record communication shall serve the document on all parties listed on the official service list for the applicable proceeding in accordance with Rule 2010, 18 CFR 385.2010.

Exempt off-the-record communications are included in the decisional record of the proceeding, unless the communication was with a cooperating agency as described by 40 CFR 1501.6, made under 18 CFR 385.2201(e)(1)(v).

The following is a list of off-the-record communications recently received by the Secretary of the Commission. The communications listed are grouped by docket numbers in ascending order. These filings are available for electronic review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission’s website 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, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@)

<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., *Revised Public Utility Filing Requirements for Electric Quarterly Reports*, 124 FERC ¶ 61,244 (2008) (providing guidance on the filing of information on transmission capacity reassignments in EQRs); *Notice of Electric Quarterly Reports Technical Conference*, 73 FR 2477 (Jan. 15, 2008) (announcing a technical conference to discuss changes associated with the EQR Data Dictionary).

<sup>3</sup> Order No. 2001-G, 120 FERC ¶ 61,270 (2007).

<sup>4</sup> Order No. 768, 77 FR 61896 (Oct. 11, 2012), FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,336 (2012).

<sup>5</sup> “Burden” is 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, refer to Title 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.

The cost is based on FERC’s 2019 average FTE (full-time equivalent) cost (wages plus benefits) of \$80.00/hour. The Commission staff believes the FERC FTE cost for wages plus benefits is representative of the corresponding cost for the industry respondents.