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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. IC12-12-000]

COMMISSION INFORMATION COLLECTION ACTIVITIES (FERC-576);
COMMENT REQUEST; EXTENSION

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 USC 3506(c)(2)(A), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collection FERC-576, Report of Service Interruptions.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due [insert date that is 60 days after publication in the Federal Register].

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments (identified by Docket No. IC12-12-000) 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 e-mail at 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: Ellen Brown may be reached by e-mail at DataClearance@FERC.gov, telephone at (202) 502-8663, and fax at (202) 273-0873.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: FERC-576, Report of Service Interruptions

*OMB Control No.:*1902-0004

Type of Request: Three-year extension of the FERC-576 information collection requirements with no changes to the current reporting requirements.

Abstract: A natural gas company must obtain Commission authorization to engage in the transportation, sale, or exchange of natural gas in interstate commerce under the Natural Gas Act (NGA)¹. The NGA also empowers the Commission to oversee continuity of service in the transportation of natural gas in interstate commerce. The information collected under FERC-576 notifies the Commission of: 1)damage to jurisdictional natural gas facilities as a result of a hurricane, earthquake, or other natural disaster, or terrorist activity, 2)serious interruptions to service, and 3)damage to jurisdictional natural gas facilities due to natural disaster or terrorist activity, that creates the potential for serious delivery problems on the pipeline's own system or the pipeline grid.

¹ Public Law 75 688; 15 USC 717 & 717w

Filings (in accordance with the provisions of section 4(d) of the NGA)² must contain information necessary to advise the Commission when a change in service has occurred. Section 7(d) of the NGA³ authorizes the Commission to issue a temporary certificate in cases of emergency to assure maintenance of adequate service or to serve particular customers, without notice or hearing.

Respondents to the FERC-576 may submit the initial reports by e-mail to pipelineoutage@ferc.gov. 18 CFR 260.9(b) requires that a report of service interruption or damage to natural gas facilities state: (1)The location of the service interruption or damage to natural gas pipeline or storage facilities; (2)The nature of any damage to pipeline or storage facilities; (3)Specific identification of the facilities damaged; (4)The time the service interruption or damage to the facilities occurred; (5)The customers affected by the service interruption or damage to the facilities; (6)Emergency actions taken to maintain service; and (7)Company contact and telephone number. The Commission may contact other pipelines to determine available supply, and if necessary, authorize transportation or construction of facilities to alleviate the problem in response to these reports.

A report required by 18 CFR 260.9(a)(1)(i) of damage to natural gas facilities resulting in loss of pipeline throughput or storage deliverability shall be reported to the Director of the Commission's Division of Pipeline Certificates at the earliest feasible time when pipeline throughput or storage deliverability has been restored.

² (15 USC 717c)

³ (15 USC 717f)

In any instance in which an incident or damage report involving jurisdictional natural gas facilities is required by Department of Transportation (DOT) reporting requirements under the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968, a copy of such report shall be submitted to the Director of the Commission's Division of Pipeline Certificates, within 30 days of the reportable incident⁴.

If the Commission failed to collect these data, it would lose the ability to monitor and evaluate transactions, operations, and reliability of interstate pipelines and perform its regulatory functions.

Type of Respondents: Pipeline and storage company operators

*Estimate of Annual Burden*⁵: The Commission estimates the total Public Reporting Burden for this information collection as:

TOTAL					100
F					
	Number of Respondents (A)	Number of Responses Per Respondent (B)	Total Number of Responses (A)x(B)=(C)	Average Burden Hours per Response (D)	Estimated Total Annual Burden (C)x(D)
Submittal of original email	40	2	80	1	80
Submittal of damage reports	40	1	40	.25	10
Submittal of DOT incident report	40	1	40	.25	10

⁴ 18 CFR 260.9(d)

⁵ Burden is defined 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.

The total estimated annual cost burden to respondents is \$6,901 [100 hours ÷ 2080 hours⁶ per year = 0.04808 * \$143,540/year⁷ = \$6,900.96]

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: May 8, 2012

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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⁶ 2080 hours = 40 hours/week * 52 weeks (1 year)

⁷ Average annual salary per employee in 2012.