



[6450-01-P]

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

Agency Information Collection Extension

AGENCY: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: EIA is requesting a three-year extension without changes of the *Coal Markets Reporting System* as required under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The *Coal Markets Reporting System* (CMRS) consists of 5 surveys including, Form EIA-3 *Quarterly Survey of Non-Electric Sector Coal Data*, Form EIA-7A *Annual Survey of Coal Production and Preparation*, Form EIA-8A *Annual Survey of Coal Stocks and Coal Exports*, Form EIA-6 *Emergency Coal Supply Survey (Standby)*, and Form EIA-20 *Emergency Weekly Coal Monitoring Survey for Coal Burning Power Producers (Standby)*. The CMRS collects data on U.S. coal production, quality, consumption, receipts, stocks, and prices.

DATES: EIA must receive all comments on this proposed information collection no later than [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]. If you anticipate any difficulties in submitting your comments by the deadline, contact the person listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments to Sara Hoff electronically at coal2020@eia.gov or by mail to Office of Energy Production, Conversion, & Delivery, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave. SW, EI-23, Washington, DC 20585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sara Hoff, (202) 586-1242. The forms and instructions are available on EIA's website at <http://www.eia.gov/survey/changes/coal/2020/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

This information collection request contains:

- (1) *OMB Control Number:* 1905-0167;
- (2) *Information Collection Request Title:* Coal Markets Reporting System;
- (3) *Type of Request:* Three-year extension without changes;
- (4) *Purpose :* The Coal Markets Reporting System (CMRS) program collects, evaluates, assembles, analyzes, and disseminates information on coal production, sales, technology, reserves, and related economic and statistical information. This information is used to assess the adequacy of coal and other energy resources to meet near and longer term domestic demands and to promote sound policymaking, efficient markets, and public understanding of energy and its interaction with the economy and the environment.

Form EIA-3 collects quarterly data on the use of coal at U.S. manufacturing plants, coal transformation/processing plants, coke plants, and commercial and institutional users of coal. Form EIA-7A collects characteristics of coalbeds mined, recoverable reserves, production capacity, coal sales and revenue, stocks held at mines, and the disposition of the coal mined. For coal preparation, information collected includes operations, locations, production capacity, disposition, and volume of coal prepared. Form EIA-8A collects data on coal stocks by state location, exported coal by origin state, and export revenue of coal sold during the reporting year.

Form EIA-6 *Emergency Coal Supply Survey* and Form EIA-20 *Emergency Weekly Coal Monitoring Survey for Coal Burning Power Producers* are standby surveys used during periods of coal supply and transportation disruptions. In the event of a supply or transportation disruption, these two standby surveys activate and operate weekly over a ten week period. Once activated, Form EIA-6 collects weekly coal production and stocks data from U.S. coal mining companies. Data are aggregated and reported at the state level. During disruptive events, Form EIA-20 collects available coal-fired capacity, generation, consumption, and stocks from coal-fired electric power generators.

The CMRS collects coal market data and information pertaining to the quality of the coal, including heat content, ash content, sulfur content and contents of mercury and chlorides. Aggregates of this collection are used to support analysis on the effects of public policy on the coal industry, economic modeling, forecasting, coal supply and demand studies, and in guiding research and development programs. The data are included in EIA publications, such as the *Monthly Energy Review*, *Quarterly Coal Report*, *Quarterly Coal Distribution Report*, *Annual Coal Report*, and *Annual Coal Distribution Report*.

EIA also uses the data in short-term and long-term forecast models such as the Short-Term Integrated Forecasting System (STIFS) and the National Energy Modeling System (NEMS) Coal Market Module. The forecast data also appear in the *Short-Term Energy Outlook* and the *Annual Energy Outlook* publications.

(5) Estimated Number of Survey Respondents: 1,164.

- Form EIA-3 has 397 respondents;
- Form EIA-7A has 692 respondents;
- Form EIA-8A has 48 respondents;

- Form EIA-6 (standby) has 15 respondents;
- Form EIA-20 (standby) has 12 respondents.

(6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses: 2,598*

(7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours: 4,417*

(8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$346,823 (4,417 burden hours times \$78.52 per hour).* EIA estimates that there are no additional costs to respondents associated with the surveys other than the costs associated with the burden hours since the information is maintained during normal course of business.

Comments are invited on whether or not: (a) The proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of agency functions, including whether the information will have a practical utility; (b) EIA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used, is accurate; (c) EIA can improve the quality, utility, and clarity of the information it will collect; and (d) EIA can minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, such as automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Statutory Authority: 15 U.S.C. §772(b) and 42 U.S.C. §7101 et seq.

Signed in Washington, DC, on November 26, 2019.

Nanda Srinivasan,
Director,
Office of Statistical Methods & Research,
U. S. Energy Information Administration.

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