

FERC-731, OMB Control No. 1902-0251 (Expiration 3/31/2013)

Request to OMB for Approval of Non-Substantive Change

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) requests Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of non-substantive changes to the FERC-731, Demand Response/Time-Based Rate Programs and Advanced Metering (survey for the voluntary reporting of demand response and advanced metering information), as described below.

Data collected with FERC-731 is used meet the Commission's obligation under the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAcT 2005) to prepare pertinent data and publish an annual report on the penetration of advanced metering and demand response programs in the electric power industry in the United States. The specific requirements are enumerated in EPAcT 2005 section 1252(e)(3)¹.

It has been and will continue to be the Commission's practice to issue the survey in alternate years. Prior to 2010, Commission staff used web-based survey instruments. Beginning in 2010, staff developed and used the FERC-731. Based on feedback from survey participants and staff experience during the first use of FERC-731, in preparation for issuance in 2012 FERC will revise the FERC-731:

- To adjust dates in the instructions to reflect issuance of the survey in 2012
- To clarify directions on the survey form
- To clarify column headings and formatting
- To improve the readability of drop-down menus
- To ease saving the file and to reduce the file size
- To insert a different toll-free phone number for customer assistance

Except as described above, no changes will be made to any data elements. The revisions are expected to ease users' completion of the form and handling of the file, however FERC is not revising the burden estimate for FERC-731. A version of the approved FERC-731 annotated with the proposed changes is included as a supplementary document in this submission to OMB.

¹ Energy Policy Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-58, § 1252(e)(3), 119 Stat. 594 (2005).