

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. RD18-4-000]

COMMISSION INFORMATION COLLECTION ACTIVITIES (FERC-725G2¹);
COMMENT REQUEST; REVISION

(July 20, 2018)

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, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is submitting its information collection, FERC-725G2 (Reliability Standards for the Bulk Power System: PRC Reliability Standards) 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 issued a Notice in the *Federal Register* on May 16, 2018, requesting public comments. The Commission received no comments on the FERC-725G2 and is making this notation in its submittal to OMB.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due [**Insert date 30 days after date of publication in the Federal Register**].

¹ Commission staff is using the FERC-725G2 is a temporary “place holder” information collection for this 30-day notice. FERC-725G information collection (OMB Control No. 1902-0252) is pending review at OMB in an unrelated item and only one item per OMB Control No. can be pending OMB review at a time. In order to submit this timely, to OMB, we are using a temporary place holder.

ADDRESSES: Comments filed with OMB, identified by the OMB Control No.: 1902-0281, should be sent via email to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs:

oir_submission@omb.gov. Attention: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Desk Officer. The Desk Officer may also be reached via telephone at 202-395-8528.

A copy of the comments should also be sent to the Commission, in Docket No. RD18-4-000, 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 CONTACT: 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-725G2, Reliability Standards for the Bulk Power System: PRC Reliability Standards

OMB Control No.: 1902-0281

Type of Request: Revision of FERC-725G2 information collection requirements as discussed in Docket No. RD18-4.

Abstract: The information collected by the FERC-725G2 is required to implement the statutory provisions of section 215 of the Federal Power Act (FPA) (16 U.S.C. 824o). Section 215 of the FPA buttresses the Commission's efforts to strengthen the reliability of the interstate grid.

On March 16, 2018, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC, the Commission-approved ERO) submitted for Commission approval proposed Reliability Standard PRC-025-2. Reliability Standard PRC-025-2 addresses setting load-responsive protective relays associated with generation facilities at a level to prevent unnecessary tripping of generators during a system disturbance for conditions that do not pose a risk of damage to the associated equipment. Reliability Standard PRC-025-2 also improves upon the retired Reliability Standard PRC-025-1² by addressing certain relay setting application issues and by clarifying certain terminology and references. NERC requested that the Commission approve the Reliability Standard and find that the approved standard is just, reasonable, not unduly discriminatory or preferential, and in the public interest. NERC also requested that the Commission approve: (i) the associated Implementation Plan; (ii) the associated Violation Risk Factors (VRFs) and Violation

² <http://www.nerc.net/standardsreports/standardssummary.aspx>

Severity Levels (VSLs), which remain unchanged from Reliability Standard PRC-025-1; and (iii) the retirement of currently-effective Reliability Standard PRC-025-1.

Reliability Standard PRC-025-2 became effective on 7/1/2018, the first day of the first calendar quarter after the effective date of the applicable governmental authority's order approving the standard. NERC's Implementation Plan approved phased-in compliance dates after the effective date of Reliability Standard PRC-025-2.³ .

On May 2, 2018, pursuant to the relevant authority delegated to the Director, Office of Electric Reliability under 18 C.F.R. § 385.713 (2017) Reliability Standard PRC-025-2 and the retirement of Reliability Standard PRC-025-1 was approved.

Type of Respondents: Generator Owner (GO), Transmission Owner (TO), and Distribution Provider (DP).

*Estimate of Annual Burden*⁴: Details follow on the changes in Docket No. RD18-4-000 to Reliability Standard FERC-725G2.

Net Effect to Burden for FERC-725G2: Due to the retirement of Reliability Standard PRC-025-1 and implementation of Reliability Standard PRC-025-2, the number of respondents is reduced by 25, and the number of annual burden hours is reduced by 550 hours. (The net changes are due to a change in the number of affected entities on the NERC Registry.) The burden per respondent for Reliability Standard PRC-025-2

³ See NERC's Implementation Plan at https://www.nerc.com/pa/Stand/Project%20201604%20Modifications%20to%20PRC0251%20DL/Project_2016_04_Implementation_Plan_Clean_01092018.pdf.

⁴ 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, refer to 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.

remains 22 hours (total for both one-time and ongoing burden, similar to the now-retired Reliability Standard PRC-025-1).

FERC-725G2, Mandatory Reliability Standard PRC-025-2, in Docket No. RD18-4-000						
Entity	No. of Respondents⁵ (1)	Annual No. of Responses per Respondent (2)	Annual No. of Responses (1)*(2)=(3)	Average Burden Hrs. & Cost Per Response⁶ (\$) (4)	Total Annual Burden Hours & Total Annual Cost (\$) (3)*(4)=(5)	Cost per Respondent (\$) (5)÷(1)=(6)
(One-time) Review & documentation of relay settings to ensure compliance	994 GO/TO/DP	1	994	20 hrs.; \$1,298.20	19,880 hours; \$1,290,410.80	\$1,298.20
(On-going) Record Retention (of compliance records for	994 GO/TO/ DP	1	994	2 hrs.; \$62.32	1,988 hours; \$61,946.08	\$62.32

⁵ According to the NERC compliance registry as of March 9, 2018, NERC has registered 415 distribution providers (DP), 985 generator owners (GO) and 336 transmission owners (TO). However, under NERC's compliance registration program, entities may be registered for multiple functions, so these numbers incorporate some double counting. The number of unique entities responding will be approximately 994 entities registered as a transmission owner, a distribution provider, or a generator owner that is also a transmission owner and/or a distribution owner. This estimate assumes all of the unique entities apply load-responsive protective relays.

⁶ The hourly cost (for salary plus benefits) uses the figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2017, for two positions involved in the reporting and recordkeeping requirements. These figures include salary (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/naics2_22.htm) and benefits (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecec.nr0.htm>) and are: Engineer: \$64.91/hour, and File Clerk: \$31.16/hour. Hourly cost for the engineer are used for the one-time costs, and hourly cost for the file clerk are used for the ongoing record retention.

R1 and M1, for 3 years or until mitigation complete)						
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FERC-725G, Mandatory Reliability Standard PRC-025-1, Retirement in Docket No. RD18-4-000						
Entity	No. of Respondents (1)	Annual No. of Responses per Respondent (2)	Annual No. of Responses (1)*(2)=(3)	Average Burden Hrs. & Cost⁷ Per Response (\$ (4)	Total Annual Burden Hours & Total Annual Cost (\$ (3)*(4)=(5)	Cost per Respondent⁸ (\$) (5)÷(1)=(6)
(One-time) Review & documentation of relay settings to ensure compliance, (reduction)	1,019 GO/DP/TO	1	1,019	20 hrs.; \$1,192.40 (reduction)	20,380 hours; \$1,215,055.60 (reduction)	\$1,192.40 (reduction)
(On-going) Record Retention (of compliance)	1,019 GO/DP/TO	1	1,019	2 hrs.; \$57.90 (reduction)	2,038 hours; \$59,000.10 (reduction)	\$57.90 (reduction)

⁷ GO = Generator Owner, DP = Distribution Provider, TO = Transmission Owner, each of which applies load-responsive protective relays at the terminals of the Elements listed in the proposed standard at section 3.2(Facilities).

⁸ The estimated hourly costs (salary plus benefits) are based on Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) information May 2014, (at http://bls.gov/oes/current/naics3_221000.htm#17-0000) for an electrical engineer (\$59.62/hour for review and documentation), and for a file clerk (\$28.95/hour for record retention). Those figures (and the number of respondents) were used when the standard was approved and added to the OMB inventory. Hourly cost for the engineer are used for the one-time costs, and hourly cost for the file clerk are used for the ongoing record retention.

records for R1 and M1, for 3 years or until mitigation complete) (reduction)						
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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.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.