

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Notice of FY 2019 BETO-Wide Request for Information (RFI)**

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Request for information (RFI).

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) invites public comment on its Request for Information (RFI) number regarding FY 2019 Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) research priorities, as part of its annual planning process. The purpose of this RFI is to solicit feedback from industry, academia, research laboratories, government agencies, and other stakeholders to help ensure research areas are relevant, timely, appropriate for federal government funding, and aligned with Administration priorities.

**DATES:** Responses to the RFI must be received by September 6, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties are to submit comments electronically to [EERE\\_Bioenergy@ee.doe.gov](mailto:EERE_Bioenergy@ee.doe.gov). Include FY 2019 BETO-Wide RFI in the subject of the title. Responses must be attached to an email. It is recommended that attachments with file sizes exceeding 25MB be compressed (*i.e.*, zipped) to ensure message delivery. Responses must be provided as a Microsoft Word (.docx) attachment to the email, and no more than 6 pages in length, 12 point font, 1 inch margins. Only electronic responses will be accepted. The complete RFI document is located at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Questions may be addressed to: John Cabaniss, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, 202-287-5531, [EERE\\_Bioenergy@ee.doe.gov](mailto:EERE_Bioenergy@ee.doe.gov).

Further instruction can be found in the RFI document posted on EERE Exchange.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** BETO is seeking information on the following 4 topic areas:

**Topic 1: Leveraging First Generation Bioethanol Production Facilities**

BETO is seeking information related to the development and integration of technologies that could increase the production of cellulosic fuels, cellulosic sugars, and chemicals from corn fiber. BETO, in coordination with DOE's Office of Fossil Energy (FE) is also seeking information about technologies to convert or activate gaseous carbon dioxide emitted from fermentation of

corn-starch feedstocks, as well as other gaseous emissions from other biorefinery processes, into fuels and co-products.

**Topic 2: Systems To Handle Commingled Food Waste Streams**

BETO is soliciting feedback to help understand the quantity, quality, and sources of generation of food waste in America, as well as options for converting that waste into value-added fuels, chemicals, and power.

**Topic 3: Bridging Industry & Government To Publish Existing High-Impact Data**

BETO is seeking information regarding potential efforts to collect, and potentially pay for, existing high-quality bioenergy datasets that are underused or economically stranded in order to publish on established public databases and potentially bolster the growing bioeconomy with industrially relevant data across the supply chain.

**Topic 4: Algal Biomass Feedstock Quality and Conversion Interface for Biofuels and Bioproducts**

BETO is seeking information on issues related to the interface between cultivation and conversion R&D to develop biofuels and bioproducts from algal biomass.

The RFI is available at: <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>.

**Confidential Business Information**

Pursuant to 10 CFR 1004.11, any person submitting information that he or she believes to be confidential and exempt by law from public disclosure should submit via email two well marked copies: One copy of the document marked "confidential" including all the information believed to be confidential, and one copy of the document marked "non-confidential" with the information believed to be confidential deleted. DOE will make its own determination about the confidential status of the information and treat it according to its determination.

Factors of interest to DOE when evaluating requests to treat submitted information as confidential include: (1) A description of the items; (2) whether and why such items are customarily treated as confidential within the industry; (3) whether the information is generally known by or available from other sources; (4) whether the information has previously been made available to others without obligation concerning its confidentiality; (5) an explanation of the competitive injury to the submitting person that would result

from public disclosure; (6) when such information might lose its confidential character due to the passage of time; and (7) why disclosure of the information would be contrary to the public interest.

Signed in Washington, DC, on August 6, 2019.

**Jonathan Male,**

*Director, Bioenergy Technologies Office.*

[FR Doc. 2019-17317 Filed 8-12-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. IC19-34-000]

**Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC-725J) 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 (PRA), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collection, FERC-725J (Definition of the Bulk Electric System) which will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for a review of the information collection requirements.

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due October 15, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments (identified by Docket No. IC19-34-000) 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), telephone at (202) 502-8663, and fax at (202) 273-0873.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* FERC-725J (Definition of the Bulk Electric System).

*OMB Control No.:* 1902-0259.

*Type of Request:* Three-year extension of the FERC-725J with no changes to the current reporting requirements.

*Abstract:* On December 20, 2012, the Commission issued Order No. 773, a Final Rule approving NERC's modifications to the definition of bulk

electric system and the Rules of Procedure exception process to be effective July 1, 2013. On April 18, 2013, in Order No. 773-A, the Commission largely affirmed its findings in Order No. 773. In Order Nos. 773 and 773-A, the Commission directed NERC to modify the definition of bulk electric system in two respects: (1) Modify the local network exclusion (exclusion E3) to remove the 100 kV minimum operating voltage to allow systems that include one or more looped configurations connected below 100 kV

to be eligible for the local network exclusion; and (2) modify the exclusions to ensure that generator interconnection facilities at or above 100 kV connected to bulk electric system generators identified in inclusion I2 are not excluded from the bulk electric system.<sup>1</sup>

*Type of Respondents:* Generator owners, distribution providers, other NERC-registered entities.

*Estimate of Annual Burden.*<sup>2</sup> The Commission estimates the annual public reporting burden and cost<sup>3</sup> for the information collection as:

**FERC-725J (DEFINITION OF THE BULK ELECTRIC SYSTEM)**

	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 (\$)	Cost per respondent (\$)
	(1)	(2)	(1) * (2) = (3)	(4)	(3) * (4) = (5)	(5) ÷ (1)
Generator Owners, Distribution Providers, and Transmission Owners (Exception Request).	20	1	20	94 hrs.; \$7,708 .....	1,880 hrs.; \$154,160 .....	\$7,708
All Registered Entities (Implementation Plans and Compliance).	186	1	186	350 hrs.; \$28,700 ..	65,100 hrs.; \$5,338,200	28,700
Local Distribution Determinations.	1	1	1	92 hrs.; \$7,544 .....	92 hrs.; \$7,544 .....	7,544
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>67,072 hrs.; \$5,499,904</b>	<b>.....</b>

*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 estimates 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: August 7, 2019.  
**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
*Secretary.*  
 [FR Doc. 2019-17250 Filed 8-12-19; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-HQ-ES-2019-N033;  
 FXES11130100000C4-190-FF02ENEH00]

**Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 28 Draft Recovery Plan Revisions for 53 Species in the Southeast, Mountain-Prairie, and Pacific Southwest Regions of the United States**

*Correction*

In notice document 2019-16749, beginning on page 38284 in the issue of August 6, 2019, make the following correction:

Bureau of Labor Statistics for the Utilities sector (available at [http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/naics2\\_22.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/naics2_22.htm)) and updated March 2019 for benefits information (at <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecec.nr0.htm>). The hourly estimates for salary plus benefits are:

- Legal (code 23-0000), \$142.86
- File Clerks (code 43-4071), \$34.50
- Electrical Engineer (code 17-2071), \$68.17

The average hourly burden cost for this collection is \$81.84 [(\$142.86 + \$34.50 + \$68.17) / 3 = \$81.84] and is rounded to \$82.00 an hour.

<sup>1</sup> *Revisions to Electric Reliability Organization Definition of Bulk Electric System and Rules of Procedure*, Order No. 773, 141 FERC 61,236 (2012); *order on reh'g*, Order No. 773-A, 143 FERC 61,053 (2013); *order on reh'g and clarification*, 144 FERC 61,174 (2013); *aff'd sub nom., People of the State of New York and the Pub. Serv. Comm'n of New York v. FERC*, No. 13-2316 (2d. Cir. 2015). On June 13, 2013, the Commission granted NERC's request for extension of time and extended the effective date for the revised definition of bulk electric system and the Rules of Procedure exception process to July 1, 2014. *Revisions to Electric Reliability Organization Definition of Bulk Electric System and Rules of Procedure*, 143 FERC 61,231,

at P 13 (2013). On March 20, 2014, the Commission approved NERC's revisions to the definition of bulk electric system and determined the revisions either adequately address the Commission's Order Nos. 773 and 773-A directives or provide an equally effective and efficient approach. See *order approving revised definition*, 146 FERC ¶ 61,199 (2014).

<sup>2</sup> 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. See 5 CFR 1320 for additional information on the definition of information collection burden.

<sup>3</sup> The estimated hourly cost (salary plus benefits) is based on the figures for May 2018 posted by the