

Supporting Statement for
**FERC-732, Electric Rate Schedule and Tariffs: Long-Term Firm
Transmission Rights in Organized Electricity Markets**

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) requests that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review and approve **FERC-732, (Electric Rate Schedule and Tariffs: Long-Term Firm Transmission Rights in Organized Electricity Markets)**, for a three-year period. FERC-732 (OMB Control No. 1902-0245) is an existing Commission data collection, as stated by 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 42.

**1. CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MAKE THE COLLECTION OF
INFORMATION NECESSARY**

The Commission requires all Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs), Independent Service Operators (ISOs), independent transmission providers, or other independent transmission organizations to make available long-term firm transmission rights to load-serving entities (LSEs). The Commission implemented this policy with Order No. 681, Order No. 681-A and Order No. 681-B, following direction provided by Congress in Energy Policy Act (EPA) 2005, Title VII Section 1233 (b).

To ensure that long-term firm transmission rights are made available in organized markets, the Commission requires that RTOs, ISOs, independent transmission providers, or other independent transmission organizations submit tariff sheets and rate schedules that make available long-term firm transmission rights, or alternatively, an explanation of how their current tariff and rate schedule provide for long-term firm transmission rights.¹ These long-term firm transmission rights made available to transmission customers must satisfy each of the guidelines for long-term firm transmission rights set forth in 18 CFR 42.1(d) in order to comply with Commission requirements.

All existing RTOs and ISOs were required to submit the applicable tariff sheets and rate schedules and have done so. However, FERC-732 requirements in 18 CFR 42.1(d) continue to apply to any transmission organization approved by the Commission after January 29, 2007. Therefore, a small burden for this reporting requirement remains to ensure FERC is compliant with related Congressional requirements in EPA2005.

¹ 18 CFR 42.1

2. HOW, BY WHOM AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE IS THE INFORMATION TO BE USED AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT COLLECTING THE INFORMATION

The Commission will use the tariff sheets and rate schedules submitted by transmission organizations in accordance with this requirement to ensure that the transmission organizations make available long-term firm transmission rights in a way that is compliant with FERC procedures to implement Congressional EPA 2005. Failure to collect this information would prevent the Commission from complying with Congressional mandates related to long-term firm transmission rights in transmission organizations.

3. DESCRIBE ANY CONSIDERATION OF THE USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN AND THE TECHNICAL OR LEGAL OBSTACLES TO REDUCING BURDEN

All of the information that is reported to the Commission in this collection may be submitted electronically, through the Commission's eFiling system (as described at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>).

In 2008, the Commission issued Order No. 714,² which revised its regulations to require that all tariffs, tariff revisions, and rate change applications for public utilities, natural gas pipelines, oil pipelines and power administrations, be filed electronically starting in April 2010. The eTariff filing process and system reflect standards FERC developed in conjunction with the North American Energy Standards Board. Therefore, entities that file tariff-related FERC-732 data possess the ability to embed the information within the XML schema of the eTariff system. Providing FERC-732 filers with the eTariff system for submitting tariff-related information has reduced the Commission's physical storage needs and has reduced document processing time. The eTariff system has also made tracking documents easier and reduced the costs regulated entities who file FERC-732 data incur in mailing and courier fees. Furthermore, the eTariff system allows FERC-732 tariffs to be accessed, downloaded, and printed by multiple parties at the same time. Moreover, eTariff automatically sends filers an email indicating their filing has arrived at FERC and whether or not the Commission accepted the filing.

4. DESCRIBE EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION AND SHOW SPECIFICALLY WHY ANY SIMILAR INFORMATION ALREADY AVAILABLE CANNOT BE USED OR MODIFIED FOR USE FOR THE PURPOSE(S) DESCRIBED IN INSTRUCTION NO. 2.

² Electronic Tariff Filings, Order No. 714, 73 FR 57,515–57,538, (October 3, 2008).

Filing requirements are periodically reviewed as OMB review dates arise, or as the Commission may deem necessary in carrying out its responsibilities, in order to eliminate duplication and ensure that filing burden is minimized. The Commission believes there are no similar sources of information available that can be used or modified for these reporting purposes.

5. METHODS USED TO MINIMIZE BURDEN IN COLLECTION OF INFORMATION INVOLVING SMALL ENTITIES

The Commission attempts to impose the least burden possible upon respondents in any requirements for data and any requisite filings made. With specific regard to the FERC-732, it is unlikely that any small entities will respond to this information collection. Transmission organizations are not typically small entities.

6. CONSEQUENCE TO FEDERAL PROGRAM IF COLLECTION WERE CONDUCTED LESS FREQUENTLY

The requirement for transmission organizations to submit tariff sheets and rate schedules that comply with the EPA 2005 requirements for making available long-term firm transmission rights is a one-time filing requirement. Collecting the information less frequently would mean not collecting the information at all. If the information were not collected, the Commission would be unable to monitor the availability of long-term firm transmission rights in wholesale electric markets.

7. EXPLAIN ANY SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES RELATING TO THE INFORMATION

There are no special circumstances related to this collection.

8. DESCRIBE EFFORTS TO CONSULT OUTSIDE THE AGENCY: SUMMARIZE PUBLIC COMMENTS AND THE AGENCY'S RESPONSE TO THESE COMMENTS

In accordance with OMB requirements,³ the Commission published a 60-day notice⁴ to the public regarding this information collection on 11/15/2021. The 30-day notice published on January 26, 2022. Within the public notice, the Commission noted that it would be requesting a three-year extension of the public reporting burden with no change to the existing requirements concerning the collection of data. No comments were received on the 60-day notice.

³ 5 CFR 1320.8(d)

⁴ 86 FR 63010 (60-day notice) ; 87 FR 4011 (30-day notice)

9. EXPLAIN ANY PAYMENT OR GIFTS TO RESPONDENTS

There are no payments or gifts to FERC-732 respondents.

10. DESCRIBE ANY ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY PROVIDED TO RESPONDENTS

The Commission generally does not consider the information collected in FERC-732 filings to be confidential. However, the filer may request privileged treatment of a filing that may contain information harmful to the competitive posture of the applicant if released to the general public.⁵

11. PROVIDE ADDITIONAL JUSTIFICATION FOR ANY QUESTIONS OF A SENSITIVE NATURE, SUCH AS SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AND ATTITUDES, RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, AND OTHER MATTERS THAT ARE COMMONLY CONSIDERED PRIVATE

The Commission does not consider any of the questions within the FERC-732 of a sensitive nature that would be considered private.

12. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

The Commission estimates the public reporting burden for this information collection as:

FERC-732, Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs: Long-Term Firm Transmission Rights in Organized Electricity Markets					
	Number of Respondents (1)	Annual Number of Responses per Respondent (2)	Total Number of Responses (1)*(2)=(3)	Total Annual Burden Hours & Total Annual Cost (\$)(3)*(4)=(5)	Cost per Respondent (\$)(5)÷(1)

⁵ 18 CFR 388.112

Public utility with one or more organized electricity markets	1	1	1 ⁶	1,180 hrs.; \$102,660	\$102,660
---	---	---	----------------	--------------------------	-----------

13. ESTIMATE OF TOTAL ANNUAL COST OF BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS

There are no non-labor costs. All costs are related to burden hours and are addressed in Questions #12 and #15.

14. ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

		Number of Employees (FTEs)	Estimated Annual Federal Cost
PRA ⁷ Administration Cost ⁸		-	\$8,279
Data Processing and Analysis		0.2	\$36,140.6
FERC Total			\$44,419.6

The Commission bases its estimate of the “Analysis and Processing of filings” cost to the Federal Government on salaries and benefits for professional and clerical support. This estimated cost represents staff analysis, decision making, and review of any actual filings made in response to the information collection.

15. REASONS FOR CHANGES IN BURDEN INCLUDING THE NEED FOR ANY INCREASE

⁶ The “1” Tariff filing is a placeholder for future fillers.

⁷ Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

⁸ The PRA Administration Cost is \$8,279. The cost estimate is based upon FERC’s FY2021 average annual salary plus benefits per FTE (full-time equivalent) of \$180,703 and includes preparing supporting statements, notices, and other activities associated with Paperwork Reduction Act compliance.

The estimated burden for this information collection remains a one-time filing requirement for transmission organizations, the burden associated with this data collections will result only if a new transmission organization enters FERC jurisdiction. One response for one new transmission organization is being used as a placeholder for a possible application from such a new transmission organization with an organized electricity market.

The following table shows the total burden of the collection of information. The format, labels, and definitions of the table follow the ROCIS submission system’s “Information Collection Request Summary of Burden” for the metadata.

FERC-732	Total Request	Previously Approved	Change due to Adjustment in Estimate	Change Due to Agency Discretion
Annual Number of Responses	1	1	0	0
Annual Time Burden (Hr.)	1,180	1,180	0	0
Annual Cost Burden (\$)	0	0	0	0

The reporting requirements within FERC-732 did not change. Thus, there is no substantive change in burden from the last date of submittal.

16. TIME SCHEDULE FOR PUBLICATION OF DATA

There are no tabulating, statistical, tabulating analysis, or publication plans for the collection of information. The data are used for regulatory purposes only.

17. DISPLAY OF EXPIRATION DATE

The expiration date is displayed in a table posted on ferc.gov at <https://www.ferc.gov/information-collections>.

18. EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

There are no exceptions.