

22, 2023, which indicates that in the United States there are 98 registered balancing authorities, 8 registered

reserve sharing group (RSG) and 1 frequency response sharing group (FRSG).<sup>7</sup>

Estimates for the average annual burden and cost<sup>8</sup> follow.

FERC-725R

Function	Number & type of respondents (1)	Number of annual responses per respondent (2)	Total number of annual responses (1) × (2) = (3)	Average burden hours & cost (\$) per response (4)	Total annual burden hours & total annual cost (\$) (3) × (4) = (5)
BAL-001-2:					
BA Reporting Requirements .....	98	1	98	8 hrs.; \$618.32 ...	784 hrs.; \$60,595.36.
BA Recordkeeping Requirements .....	98	1	98	4 hrs.; \$224.56 ...	392 hrs.; \$22,006.88.
BAL-002-3:					
BA & RSG Reporting Requirements .....	106	1	106	8 hrs.; \$618.32 ...	848 hrs.; \$65,541.92.
BA & RSG Recordkeeping Requirements .....	106	1	106	4 hrs.; \$224.56 ...	424 hrs.; \$23,803.36.
BAL-003-2:					
BA & FRSG Reporting Requirements .....	99	28	2,772	8 hrs.; \$618.32 ...	22,176 hrs.; \$1,713,983.04.
BA & FRSG Recordkeeping Requirements .....	99	1	99	2 hrs.; \$112.28 ...	198 hrs.; \$11,115.72.
BAL-005-1:					
BA Reporting Requirements .....	98	1	98	1 hr.; \$77.29 .....	98 hrs.; \$7,574.42.
BA Recordkeeping Requirements .....	98	1	98	1 hr.; \$56.14 .....	98 hrs.; \$5,501.72.
Sub-Total for Reporting Requirements .....					23,906 hrs.; \$1,847,694.74.
Sub-Total for Recordkeeping Requirements .....					1,112 hrs.; \$62,427.68.
Total for FERC-725R .....					25,018 hrs.; \$1,910,122.42.

*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.

Dated: January 12, 2024.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024-01038 Filed 1-18-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Western Area Power Administration**

**Agency Information Collection Extension**

**AGENCY:** Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

**ACTION:** Submission for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy (DOE) has submitted an information collection request to the OMB for extension under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection requests a 3-year extension of Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) Applicant Profile Data (APD), OMB Control Number 1910-5136. The proposed collection is necessary for the proper performance of WAPA's functions. WAPA markets a limited amount of Federal hydropower. Due to the high demand for WAPA's power, WAPA needs the ability to collect information under the information collection request in order to evaluate who may receive an allocation of Federal power pursuant to specific marketing plans. This APD public process only determines the information WAPA will collect in its information collection request. The actual allocation of Federal power will be conducted through a separate marketing plan process outside the scope of this APD process.

**DATES:** Comments regarding this collection must be received on or before February 20, 2024. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments but

find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, please advise the OMB Desk Officer of your intention to make a submission as soon as possible. The Desk Officer may be telephoned at (202) 395-4718.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Please contact Mr. Christopher Magee, Records and Information Management Program Manager, Western Area Power Administration, PO Box 281213, Lakewood, CO 80228, telephone (720) 962-7139, or email [cmagee@wapa.gov](mailto:cmagee@wapa.gov). The proposed APD form is available on WAPA's website at <https://www.wapa.gov/power-marketing/applicant-profile-data/>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This information collection request contains: (1) *OMB No.:* 1910-5136; (2) *Information Collection Request Title:* Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Applicant Profile Data; (3) *Type of Review:* Renewal; (4) *Purpose:* WAPA is collecting—and will continue

<sup>7</sup>NERC Compliance Registry (September 22, 2023), available at [https://www.nerc.com/pa/comp/Registration%20and%20Certification%20DL/NERC\\_Compliance\\_Registry\\_Matrix\\_Excel.xlsx](https://www.nerc.com/pa/comp/Registration%20and%20Certification%20DL/NERC_Compliance_Registry_Matrix_Excel.xlsx).

<sup>8</sup>The hourly cost estimates are based on wage data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics for May 2022 (at [https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/naics2\\_22.htm](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/naics2_22.htm)) and benefits data for Dec. 2022 (issued March 2023, at <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecec.nr0.htm>). The hourly costs (for wages and

benefits) for reporting are: Electrical Engineer (Occupation code 17-2071), \$77.29. The hourly costs (for wages and benefits) for evidence retention are: Information and Record Clerk (Occupation code 43-4199), \$56.14.

to collect—the data under its APD to properly perform its function of marketing a limited amount of Federal hydropower. The information WAPA collects is voluntary. Due to the high demand for WAPA's power and limited amount of available power, WAPA will use the information collected in the APD—and has used the information collected under the current OMB-approved control number—pursuant to its marketing plans, to determine an applicant's eligibility for an allocation of Federal power. As a result, the information WAPA collects under its APD is both necessary and useful.

WAPA notes the Paperwork Reduction Act is the process whereby WAPA obtains approval from OMB to collect information from the public. It is a legal requirement WAPA must comply with before requesting an interested party submit an application for power. The Paperwork Reduction Act process is not the process in which interested parties apply for a new allocation of Federal power. The allocation of power from WAPA is outside the scope of this process and is completed in a separate marketing plan process by each WAPA region, when required; (5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents*: 33; (6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses*: 33; (7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours*: 248; and (8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden*: \$36,944.

*Statutory Authority*: The Reclamation Act of 1902 established the Federal reclamation program. See Ch. 1093, 32 Stat. 388 (1902), as amended and supplemented. The basic principle of the Reclamation Act of 1902 was that the United States, through the Secretary of the Interior, would build and operate irrigation works from the proceeds of public land sales in sixteen arid Western states (a seventeenth, Texas, was added in 1906). The Reclamation Project Act of 1939 expanded the purposes of the reclamation program and specified certain terms for contracts that the Secretary of the Interior enters into to furnish water and power. See Ch. 418, 53 Stat. 1187 (1939), as amended and supplemented. Section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944, as amended, is read *in pari materia* with the Reclamation Laws with respect to WAPA. See Ch. 665, 58 Stat. 887, as amended and supplemented. In 1977, section 302 of the Department of Energy Organization Act transferred the power marketing functions of the Department of the Interior to the Secretary of Energy, acting by and through a separate Administrator for WAPA. See 42 U.S.C. 7152 (a)(1)(D). Under this authority, WAPA markets Federal hydropower.

### Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on January 12, 2024, by Tracey LeBeau Administrator, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document, with the original signature and date, is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on January 16, 2024.

**Treena V. Garrett,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.*

[FR Doc. 2024-01013 Filed 1-18-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Western Area Power Administration

#### Central Arizona Project, Colorado River Storage Project, Loveland Area Projects, Pacific Northwest-Pacific Southwest Intertie Project, and Parker-Davis Project—Rate Order No. WAPA-215

**AGENCY**: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

**ACTION**: Notice of proposed extension of the formula rates for use under WestConnect Regional Non-Firm Transmission Service.

**SUMMARY**: The Colorado River Storage Project Management Center (CRSP MC), Desert Southwest Region (DSW), and Rocky Mountain Region (RM) of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) propose extending the existing formula rates under Rate Schedule WC-8, without any changes, for on-peak and off-peak non-firm transmission service provided under the WestConnect Point-to-Point Regional Transmission Service Participation Agreement (WestConnect PA) through September 30, 2026. The existing formula rates expire on May 31, 2024.

**DATES**: A consultation and comment period will begin January 19, 2024 and end February 2, 2024. Written comments will be accepted any time during the consultation and comment period.

**ADDRESSES**: Written comments and requests to be informed of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) actions concerning the proposed extension to be submitted by WAPA to FERC for approval should be sent to: Barton V. Barnhart, Regional Manager, Rocky Mountain Region, Western Area Power Administration, 5555 East Crossroads Boulevard, Loveland, CO 80538-8986, or email: [laptransadj@wapa.gov](mailto:laptransadj@wapa.gov). Information about the proposed formula rate extension and written comments will be posted to WAPA's website at: [www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/dsw/power-marketing/westconnect](http://www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/dsw/power-marketing/westconnect).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**: Tamala D. Gheller, CRSP Rates Manager, (970) 702-8826 or email: [gheller@wapa.gov](mailto:gheller@wapa.gov); Tina Ramsey, DSW Rates Manager, (602) 605-2525 or email: [dswpwrmrk@wapa.gov](mailto:dswpwrmrk@wapa.gov); or Sheila D. Cook, RM Rates Manager, (970) 685-9562 or email: [laptransadj@wapa.gov](mailto:laptransadj@wapa.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

WestConnect consists of a group of electric utilities which provide hourly, non-firm transmission service in the Western Interconnection to eliminate pancaking of transmission charges, which is the practice of charging a transmission customer separately for the use of each utility's transmission system. The WestConnect membership, including WAPA and investor-owned and consumer-owned utilities, encompasses an interconnected electrical grid stretching from western Nebraska to southern California and from Wyoming to the United States-Mexico border.

On December 15, 2014, FERC confirmed and approved Rate Schedule WC-8, under Rate Order No. WAPA-163, effective June 1, 2014, through May 31, 2019.<sup>1</sup> On June 20, 2019, FERC confirmed and approved the extension of Rate Schedule WC-8, under Rate Order No. WAPA-187, effective June 1, 2019, through May 31, 2024.<sup>2</sup>

In accordance with 10 CFR 903.23(a),<sup>3</sup> CRSP MC, DSW, and RM are proposing to extend the existing formula rates under Rate Schedule WC-8 for the period of June 1, 2024, through September 30, 2026. The existing formula rates are viewable on WAPA's website at: [www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/dsw/power-marketing/westconnect](http://www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/dsw/power-marketing/westconnect). The existing formula rates

<sup>1</sup> *Order Confirming and Approving Rate Schedule on a Final Basis*, FERC Docket No. EF14-8-000, 149 FERC ¶ 62,196 (2014).

<sup>2</sup> *Order Confirming and Approving Rate Schedule on a Final Basis*, FERC Docket No. EF14-8-001, 167 FERC ¶ 62,188 (2019).

<sup>3</sup> 50 FR 37835 (Sept. 18, 1985) and 84 FR 5347 (Feb. 21, 2019).