

- Coastal Zone Management Program.
- Biological Resources
  - Short- and long-term effects of right-of-way clearing and maintenance on wetlands, forests, and riparian areas.
  - Effects of habitat alteration
  - Effect of construction on tidal salt marshes, Bangs Lake oyster reefs, and on potential spawning areas of the gulf sturgeon in the lower Chickasawhay River.
  - Effect on freshwater and estuarine fisheries habitats and Gulf of Mexico commercial fisheries.
  - Project impact on threatened and endangered species such as the gopher tortoise and the redcockaded woodpecker.
- Cultural Resources
  - Effect on historic and prehistoric sites.
  - Native American concerns.
- Land Use
  - Impact on residences recreation areas.
  - Consistency with local land use plans and zoning.
  - Public lands including the DeSoto National Forest, Chickasawhay State Wildlife Management Area, Bangs Lake Coastal Reserve, and Gulf Islands National Seashore.
- Air Quality and Noise
  - Effect on local air quality and noise environment as a result of construction.
  - Effect on local air quality and noise environment as a result of operation of the compressor stations.
- Reliability and Safety
  - Assessment of hazards associated with natural gas pipelines.

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the Draft EIS which will be mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, affected landowners and other interested individuals, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A 45-day comment period will be allotted for review of the Draft EIS. We will consider all comments on the Draft EIS and revise the document, as necessary, before issuing a Final EIS. The Final EIS will include our response to each comment received and will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether to approve the project.

#### Public Participation and Scoping Meetings

You can make a difference by sending a letter addressing your specific comments or concerns about the project. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please follow the instructions below to insure that your comments are received and properly recorded:

- Address your letter to: Lois Cashell, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426;
- Reference Docket No. CP96-655-000;
- Send a *copy* of your letter to: Mr. Michael Boyle, EIS Project Manager, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Room 72-59, Washington, DC 20426; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, D.C. on or before December 2, 1996.

In addition to asking for written comments, we invite you to attend the public scoping meetings the FERC will conduct. The locations and times for these meetings are listed on the next page. Requests to hold additional public scoping meetings will be considered.

The public meetings are designed to provide you with more detailed information and another opportunity to offer your comments on the proposed project. Those wanting to speak at the meetings can call the EIS Project Manager to pre-register their names on the speaker list. Those people on the speaker list prior to the date of the meeting will be allowed to speak first. A second speaker list will be developed at each meeting. Priority will be given to people representing groups. A transcript of each meeting will be made so that your comments will be accurately recorded.

The public scoping meetings will be held at the following times and locations:

Pascagoula, Mississippi; November 13, 1996, 7:00 p.m., LaFont Inn, Highway 90 East, (602) 762-7111.

Waynesboro, Mississippi; November 14, 1996, 7:00 p.m., Waynesboro City Auditorium, 1008 Benton Street, (601) 735-3078.

#### Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EIS scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding or become an "intervenor".

Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide copies of its filings to all other parties. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 3).

The date for filing of timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by section 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived. Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late intervention. You do not need intervenor status to have your scoping comments considered.

#### Environmental Mailing List

This notice is being sent to individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project. It is also being sent to all potential right-of-way grantors. As details of the project become established, representatives of Destin may also separately contact landowners, communities, and public agencies concerning project matters, including acquisition of permits and rights-of-way.

All commentors will be retained on our mailing list. If you do not want to send comments at this time but still want to keep informed and receive copies of the Draft and Final EIS, please return the Information Request (appendix 4). If you do not send comments or return the Information Request, you will be taken off the mailing list.

Additional information on the proposed project is available from Mr. Michael Boyle, EIS Project Manager, at (202) 208-0839.

Lois D. Cashell,  
*Secretary.*

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5649-1]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Conflict of Interest

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

ACTION: Notice

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**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that EPA is planning to submit the following continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Conflict of Interest, EPA ICR No. 1550.04; OMB Control No. 2030-0023; expiration date 3/31/97. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before January 6, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Acquisition Management (3802F), 401 M Street, S.W., Washington D.C. 20460, Attention: Edward N. Chambers.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Edward N. Chambers. (202) 260-6028 / FAX: (202) 260-1203 / CHAMBERS.ED@EPAMAIL.EPA.GOV

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Affected entities:* Entities potentially affected by this action are EPA contractors.

*Title:* Conflict of Interest (OMB Control No. 2030-0023; EPA ICR No. 1550.04) expiring 3/31/97.

*Abstract:* Contractors must disclose to EPA contracting offices all actual or potential conflicts of interest, and certify to this on either a work assignment or an annual basis. The information will be used by the Agency to mitigate or neutralize all conflicts. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR Part 9 and 48 CFR Chapter 15.

The EPA would like to solicit comments:

(i) To evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) To evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) To enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) To minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic,

mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Burden Statement:* The estimated annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection is 207,450 hours. This represents an average of 1,383 hours each for an estimated 150 contractors. The total number of responses is estimated at 10,200 (68 responses per contractor × 150 contractors). The average burden per response is estimated at 20.33 hours (1,383 hours / 68 responses). The annual cost of this collection is estimated at \$9,986,705.50. This represents an average cost of \$66,131.42 each for the estimated 150 contractors. The average cost per response is estimated at \$972.52 (\$66,131.42 / 68 responses).

Burden means 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. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to adjust the existing methods to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; to train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; to search data sources; to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Dated: November 1, 1996.  
Edward J. Murphy,  
Chief, Procurement Policy Branch.  
[FR Doc. 96-28658 Filed 11-6-96; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Environmental Protection Agency**

**Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program: Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments, and Findings of No Significant Impact**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments, and Findings of No Significant Impact on

Approval of Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs for the States of Michigan and Wisconsin.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the availability of the Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments (EA's), and Findings of No Significant Impact for the states of Michigan and Wisconsin. Coastal states were required to submit their coastal nonpoint programs to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval in July 1995. The Findings documents were prepared by NOAA and EPA to provide the rationale for the agencies' decision to approve each state and territory coastal nonpoint pollution control program. Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA), 16 U.S.C. 1455b, requires states and territories with coastal zone management programs that have received approval under section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act to develop and implement coastal nonpoint pollution control programs. The EA's were prepared by NOAA, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*, to assess the environmental impacts associated with the approval of the coastal nonpoint pollution control programs submitted to NOAA and EPA by the states of Michigan and Wisconsin.

NOAA and EPA have proposed to approve, with conditions, the coastal nonpoint pollution control programs submitted by the states of Michigan and Wisconsin. The requirements of 40 CFR parts 1500-1508 (Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act) apply to the preparation of the Environmental Assessments. Specifically, 40 CFR 1506.6 requires agencies to provide public notice of the availability of environmental documents. This notice is part of NOAA's action to comply with this requirement.

Copies of the Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments, and Findings of No Significant Impact may be obtained upon request from: Joseph P. Flanagan, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, tel. (301) 713-3121, ext. 201.

**DATES:** Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments on the