

Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-4603 Filed 2-24-97; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. CP96-610-000]

**Granite State Gas Transmission, Inc.;
Notice of Public Meetings on the
Alternative Sites Supplement to the
Draft Environmental Impact Statement
for the Granite State LNG Project**

February 19, 1997.

The Office of Pipeline Regulation environmental staff will conduct public meetings on the Alternative Sites Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Supplement). This Supplement focuses solely on an expanded alternative siting analysis for the liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities proposed in Wells, Maine by Granite State Gas Transmission, Inc.

Public meetings to receive comments on the Supplement will be held at the following times and locations:

March 10, 1997, 6:00 p.m.—Wells-
Ogunquit High School Auditorium
March 11, 1997, 6:00 p.m.—South
Berwick Town Hall

Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend and present oral comments on the alternative sites described in the Supplement. Anyone who would like to speak may sign up on a speakers list at the meetings. Transcripts will be made of each of the meetings. For further information, call Paul McKee in the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088.

Warren C. Edmunds,
Acting Director, Office of Pipeline Regulation.

[FR Doc. 97-4544 Filed 2-24-97; 8:45 am]

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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY**

[FRL-5694-1]

**Agency Information Collection:
Proposed and Continuing Collection;
Comment Request; Combined Sewer
Overflow Information Collection
Activities Being Proposed and
Continued (OMB Control Number
2040-0170)**

AGENCY: Environmental Protection
Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that EPA plans to submit the following continued Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Combined Sewer Overflow Information Collection Activities (OMB Control Number 2040-0170, EPA ICR number 1680.02, current expiration date 4/30/97). Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the amended information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 28, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Wastewater Management (Mail Code 4203), 401 M Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the ICR amendment and supporting analysis without charge by contacting the individual listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy Dwyer, EPA Office of Wastewater Management (Mail Code 4203), 401 M Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. Telephone: (202) 260-6064. Fax: (202) 260-1460.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities affected by this action are municipalities with combined sewer systems, which are covered by EPA's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Policy.

Title: ICR for the Combined Sewer Overflow Control Policy (OMB Control Number 2040-0170; EPA ICR Number 1680.02) expiring on April 30, 1997.

Abstract: EPA is proposing to continue its ICR for the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Policy that was approved in April 1994 and to amend that ICR to include the burden associated with third-party notification provisions under the Policy. That amendment was proposed in the Federal Register on January 31, 1996 (61 FR 3396) and was prepared to reflect changes to ICR requirements identified in the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Specifically, it addresses the expanded scope of the Act in redefining "collection of information" to include "disclosure to third parties or the public." Information collection burden other than third-party notification is reflected in the existing ICR for the CSO Control Policy. This ICR will also include the estimated burden for the reporting and recordkeeping associated with monitoring CSOs during wet weather events. This monitoring is necessary to determine the effectiveness

of selected CSO control measures to comply with CWA requirements and to achieve compliance with applicable State water quality standards.

Combined sewer systems (CSSs) serve approximately 950 municipalities, primarily in the Northeast and Great Lakes regions. This number is smaller than that in the initial ICR largely because the Agency has better data on the number of municipalities with combined sewer systems nationwide. CSOs occur when these systems overflow and discharge to receiving waters prior to treatment in a publicly owned treatment works (POTW).

The CSO Control Policy, published on April 19, 1994 (59 FR 18688), is a national framework for controlling CSOs through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program. The Policy represents a comprehensive national strategy to ensure that municipalities with CSSs, NPDES permitting authorities, water quality standards authorities, and the public engage in a comprehensive and coordinated planning effort to achieve cost-effective CSO controls that ultimately meet appropriate health and environmental objectives, including compliance with water quality standards.

Among the provisions in the CSO Policy are the "nine minimum controls" (NMC), which are technology-based actions or measures designed to reduce the magnitude, frequency, and duration of CSOs and their effects on receiving water quality. The CSO Control Policy provided for implementation of the NMC by January 1, 1997.

One of the NMC is public notification of CSO occurrences and impacts. Public notification is of particular concern at beach and recreation areas directly or indirectly affected by CSOs, where public exposure is likely to be significant. Although the information collection burden associated with implementing and documenting the NMC is included in the ICR for the CSO Control Policy, that ICR does not include any burden associated with third-party notification. That burden is included in this renewal.

The CSO Control Policy also contains a provision for the development of long-term control plans. The policy recommends that permit writers require permittees to develop a long-term plan within two years of the issuance of an NPDES permit or other enforceable mechanism containing such a requirement. The core of the plan is the development and evaluation of long-term control alternatives. One of the elements of the long-term plan is the development of a post-construction

compliance monitoring program to be implemented when selected controls are completed. OMB's approval of the initial ICR for the CSO Control Policy recommended that the renewal ICR include EPA's best estimate of the burden associated with a reasonable and targeted compliance monitoring program.

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 on its ICR amendment. Specifically, we would like comments to help us to:

- (i) 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) 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) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (iv) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond.

Burden Statement: The estimated burden reflected in this ICR is 1,861,528 hours and a cost of \$58,737,887.

Of this total, the portion for municipalities with combined sewer systems is 1,774,319 hours at a cost of \$55,975,099, including start-up costs of \$180,080 for the third party notification under the Nine Minimum Controls (NMC) in the CSO policy. The estimated burden on each of 238 municipalities for DMR reporting and recordkeeping is 291 hours and \$9,219. The estimated burden on each of 570 municipalities for NMC reporting and long-term control plan development and submission is 2,978 hours and \$93,598 and for third-party notification, 24 hours and \$756.

The estimated burden for Federal and State governments is 8896.5 hours and \$281,844 and 78,312.5 hours and \$2,480,944, respectively. This includes the burden associated with reviewing the DMRs, the NMC documentations, and the long-term control plans submitted by the respondents and reissuing NPDES permits or issuing other enforceable mechanisms to municipalities with CSSs to implement the CSO Control Policy. The annual

average burden for Federal and State review of DMRs, NMC documentations, and long-term control plans is 2,445.5 hours and \$77,475 and 21,157.5 hours and \$670,271, respectively. The annual average burden associated with reissuing NPDES permits or issuing other enforceable mechanisms to CSO municipalities is 520 hours and \$16,474 for the Federal government and 4,547 hours and \$144,039 for State governments.

The estimated burden on the States to report summary information to EPA for oversight of the EPA's CSO Control Policy and for GPRA purposes is 1,200 hours and \$38,016.

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; 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; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the draft supporting statement, including the burden analysis, from Timothy Dwyer, EPA Office of Wastewater Management, at (202) 260-6064.

Dated: February 14, 1997.

Michael B. Cook,

Director, Office of Wastewater Management.

[FR Doc. 97-4617 Filed 2-24-97; 8:45 am]

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[FRL-5693-7]

Notice of Proposed Assessment of Clean Water Act Class II Administrative Penalty to Golden City Gateway and Opportunity To Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed administrative penalty assessment and opportunity to comment.

SUMMARY: EPA is providing notice of proposed administrative penalty assessment and proposed Consent Agreement for alleged violations of the Clean Water Act. EPA is also providing

notice of opportunity to comment on the proposed assessment.

Under 33 U.S.C. Section 1319(g), EPA is authorized to issue orders assessing civil penalties for various violations of the Act. EPA may issue these orders after the commencement of either a Class I or Class II penalty proceeding. EPA provides public notice of the proposed assessments pursuant to 33 U.S.C. Section 1319(g)(4)(a).

Class II proceedings are conducted under EPA's Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation and Suspension of Permits, 40 C.F.R. Part 22. The procedures through which the public may submit written comment on a proposed Class II order or participate in a Class II proceeding, and the Procedures by which a Respondent may request a hearing, are set forth in the Consolidated Rules. The deadline for submitting public comment on a proposed Class II order is thirty days after publication of this notice.

On the date identified below, EPA commenced the following Class II proceeding for the assessment of penalties:

In the Matter of Golden City Gateway, Ca Limited Partnership, 711 Church Hill Rd La Habra Hts. Ca 90061; EPA Docket No. CWA-IX-FY97-11; filed on February 18, 1997, with Mr. Steven Armsey, Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. EPA Region 9, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, California 94105, (415) 744-1389, proposed penalty of \$40,000 for failure to comply with the California General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities. EPA and Golden City Gateway have agreed to a proposed Consent Agreement in which Golden City Gateway shall pay a civil penalty of \$40,000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Persons wishing to receive a copy of EPA's Consolidated Rules, review of the complaint or other documents filed in this proceeding, comment upon a proposed assessment, or otherwise participate in the proceeding should contact the Regional Hearing Clerk identified above. The administrative record for this proceeding is located in the EPA Regional Office identified above, and the file will be open for public inspection during normal business hours. All information submitted by the respondent is available as part of this administrative record, subject to provisions of law restricting public disclosure of confidential information. In order to provide opportunity for public comment, EPA will issue no final order assessing a penalty in these proceedings prior to thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice.