

authorization was requested July 17, 1996.

The SCD boards have met regularly and provided positive leadership to the furthering of conservation and improvement of the watershed. Ongoing water quality, quantity and management practices are being installed by a combination of landowner, district and state funds. The two district boards cooperated in getting a HUA and 319 demonstration project, approved in FY-91, to show the value of surge irrigation and irrigation water management in the watershed area. The projects were enthusiastically accepted by the farmers.

In September, 1996, the watershed was approved for planning. A meeting was held in October, 1996, with field and area staffs, the State Water Resources Planning staff, and sponsors to review the Plan of Work and develop assignments to complete the watershed plan. A scoping meeting and environmental assessment meeting was held at this time.

The Watershed Plan was developed and reviewed with the sponsors at their board meetings on May 14, 1997. They requested that NRCS have a public meeting to present the plan to all interested parties. On December 3, 1997, a public meeting was held in Rocky Ford, Colorado. It was the consensus of those present to move forward into inter-agency review.

Specific consultation was conducted with the State Historic Preservation Officer concerning cultural resources in the watershed.

Public meetings were held throughout the planning process to keep all interested parties informed of the study progress and to obtain public input to the plan and environmental evaluation.

Agency consultation and public participation to date has shown no unresolved conflicts related to the project plan.

#### Conclusion

The Environmental Assessment summarized above indicates that this federal action will not cause significant local, regional, or national impact on the environment. Therefore, based on the above findings, I have determined that an environmental impact statement for the Highline Breaks Watershed Plan is not required.

Dated: October 28, 1998.

**Stephen F. Black,**

*State Conservationist.*

[FR Doc. 98-29379 Filed 11-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Associated Electric Cooperative; Finding of No Significant Impact

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact with respect to its action related to the construction of a 100 megawatt simple cycle combustion turbine electric generation plant in Southeast Missouri by Associated Electric Cooperative (Associated). The finding of no significant impact is the conclusion of an environmental assessment prepared by RUS. The environmental assessment is based on an environmental analysis submitted to RUS by Associated. RUS conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental analysis and concurs with its scope and content. The environmental analysis has been incorporated by reference in the environmental assessment.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bob Quigel, Environmental Protection Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, RUS, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250, telephone (202) 720-0468, E-mail bquigel@rus.usda.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The preferred site for the plant is located in Stoddard County, Missouri, approximately 1.2 miles east of Idalia on County Road E. As proposed, the project is a 100-MW, simple-cycle combustion turbine generator. It will be powered by a Westinghouse 501D5A simple cycle/dry low-nitrogen oxides combustor. Fuel for the plant will be natural gas. No backup source of fuel, such as number 2 fuel oil, is proposed. The plant will occupy approximately three acres and will be located at an existing 12 acre electric distribution substation site. The main generator unit will be approximately 40 feet wide and 140 feet long. The exhaust stack will be 50 feet high. This type of combustion turbine is typically used for peak power generation and would normally be expected to operate only a few hundred to a few thousand hours per year.

Alternatives considered to constructing the project as proposed included no action, conservation and load management, power purchases, combined cycle combustion turbine technology, and an alternative site location.

Copies of the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact along with the environmental analysis are available for review at, or can be obtained from, RUS at the address provided herein or from Jerry Bindel, Associated Electric Cooperative, PO Box 754, Springfield, Missouri, 65801-0754 telephone (417) 885-9272. Mr. Bindel's E-mail address is jbindel@aeci.org. These documents are also available at Bloomfield Public Library, 200 Seneca Street, Bloomfield, Missouri. Interested parties wishing to comment on the adequacy of the environmental assessment should do so within 30 days of the publication of this notice. RUS will take no action that would approve clearing or construction activities related to proposed combined cycle power plant prior to the expiration of the 30-day comment period.

Dated: October 27, 1998.

**Thomas L. Eddy,**

*Acting Assistant Administrator, Electric Program.*

[FR Doc. 98-29435 Filed 11-2-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission For OMB Review; Comment Request

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

*Agency:* Bureau of the Census.

*Title:* Quarterly Financial Reports (QFR) Program.

*Form Number(s):* QFR-101(MG), QFR-101A(MG), QFR-102(TR), QFR-103(NB).

*Agency Approval Number:* 0607-0432.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Burden:* 77,616 hours.

*Number of Respondents:* 13,186.

*Avg Hours Per Response:* 2 hours and 2 minutes.

*Needs and Uses:* The QFR Program has published up-to-date aggregate statistics on the financial results and position of U.S. corporations since 1947. It is a principal economic indicator that also provides financial data essential to calculation of key Government measures of national economic performance. The QFR Program provides timely, accurate data on business financial conditions for use by Government and private-sector organizations and individuals. Primary users of QFR data are governmental