

plants. In actual FY 2014 billing, the highest LNG user fee was paid by Atlanta Gas Light. By paying a fee for each of its four plants, the total Atlanta Gas Light LNG user fee bill exceeded the bill for any LNG import plant. Thirteen other operators with multiple plants each paid a higher LNG user fee bill than any import plant. Billing on the sum of storage capacity for an operator better apportions the costs to larger operators.

PHMSA added five new billing tiers to reduce the burden on small operators. These new tiers include an ultra-low storage capacity tier to reduce the burden on operators with storage capacity less than 2,000 barrels. Another tier was added for operators with less than 50,000 barrels of storage. The previous tier structure generated the same fee for all plants over 500,000 barrels of storage, but the highest storage volume in FY 2014 billing was 5 million barrels. We adjusted the boundaries of the top two tiers and added three new tiers for operators with very high storage capacity.

For example, in FY 2014, an operator with three small plants was billed a total of \$3,750 for its three small plants. If PHMSA had implemented 10-tier billing per operator for FY 2014, Energy North Natural Gas Inc., would have paid 62 percent less. Under the cost per barrel approach suggested by APGA, the decrease would have been 11,670 percent. The APGA approach shifts too much of the financial burden from small operators.

In FY 2014, each of the eight operators of an import plant was billed \$7,500. If PHMSA had implemented 10-tier billing by operator for FY 2014, each of these eight large operators would have paid 79 percent more. Under the cost per barrel approach suggested by APGA, the percent increase would have ranged from 57 to 83 percent. The percent increase for these large plants using the new PHMSA structure is comparable to the percent increase using the APGA proposal.

For FY 2015, PHMSA has implemented the 10-tier billing structure below to collect 1.6 percent of gas costs with full collection in FY 2015 billing, not over 3 years as previously proposed:

Barrel range	# Operators	Rate
less than 2,000 .....	5	\$2,394
2,001–10,000 .....	10	4,787
10,001–50,000 .....	5	7,181
50,001–100,000 .....	7	9,575
100,001–250,000 .....	6	11,487
250,001–300,000 .....	11	16,467
300,001–500,000 .....	11	19,150
500,001–700,000 .....	8	28,721

Barrel range	# Operators	Rate
700,001–2 million	12	34,468
over 2 million .....	7	40,212

PHMSA continues to exempt mobile and temporary LNG plants from user fee billing.

PHMSA believes that an increase to 1.6 percent of gas costs accurately reflects the allocation of PHMSA resources to LNG operators. By implementing the 10-tier approach and billing by operator instead of by plant, PHMSA has established a rate plan that is fair and equitable to both small and large operators. Since PHMSA has determined that 1.6 percent of gas costs accurately reflect LNG regulatory costs, the increase has been implemented in FY 2015 user fee billing. PHMSA has placed a document in the docket that compares the actual FY 2014 bill and the actual FY 2015 bill for each operator. The largest LNG operator is being billed \$40,212.00 and the smallest is being billed \$2,394.00. In the future, PHMSA will ensure that LNG user fee rates continue to remain in proper alignment with program costs.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. Chapter 60301 and 601.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 1, 2015, under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.97.

**Jeffrey D. Wiese,**

*Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910–60–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Office of the Procurement Executive

**AGENCY:** Department of Treasury, Departmental Offices.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on an extension of an existing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). The Department of the Treasury, Office of the Procurement Executive, is soliciting comments concerning the Solicitation of Proposal Information for Award of Public Contracts, which is scheduled to expire August 31, 2015.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before July 6, 2015 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

*Email:* [Thomas.olinn@treasury.gov](mailto:Thomas.olinn@treasury.gov).

The subject line should contain the OMB number and title for which you are commenting.

*Mail:* Thomas O'Linn, Office of the Procurement Executive, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Metropolitan Square, Suite 6B113, Washington DC 20220.

All responses to this notice will be included in the request for OMB's approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or a copy of the information collection can be directed to the addresses provided above.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*OMB Number:* 1505–0081.

*Type of Review:* Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

*Title:* Solicitation of Proposal Information for Award of Public Contracts.

*Abstract:* Information being requested is used by the Government's contracting officer and other acquisition personnel, including technical and legal staffs, to evaluate offers and quotations submitted in response to a solicitation. Evaluation may include determining the adequacy of the offeror's proposed technical and management approach, experience, responsibility, responsiveness, expertise of the firms submitting offers. Each acquisition is a stand-alone action that is based upon unique project requirements.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector: Businesses or other for-profits.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 22,577.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Hours per Response:* 9.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 203,193.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be

collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information

technology, and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: May 4, 2015.

**Dawn D. Wolfgang,**

*Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2015-10984 Filed 5-6-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-25-P**