

ACTION: Notice and request for OMB review and comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance, a proposal for a three-year extension, with changes, of a collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed collection will provide DOE with the information necessary to meet its statutory and regulatory obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the DOE NEPA implementing regulations, which requires EERE to perform environmental impact analyses prior to making a decision to provide Federal funding for research, development and demonstration projects funded by DOE.

DATES: Comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before March 22, 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 DOE Desk Officer at OMB 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. Find this information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

And to: Andrew M. Montano at U.S. Department of Energy, 15013 Denver West Parkway, Golden, CO 80401, or by email at: EEREComments@ee.doe.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the EERE Environmental Questionnaire should be directed to Andrew M. Montano at: EEREComments@ee.doe.gov. The EERE Environmental Questionnaire also is available for reviewing in the Golden Field Office Public Reading Room at: www.energy.gov/node/2299401. If you have difficulty accessing this document, please contact Casey Strickland at (720) 356-1575.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This information collection request contains: (1) OMB No.: 1910-5175; (2) *Information Collection Request Title:* Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)

Environmental Questionnaire; (3) *Type of Request: Revision*; (4) *Purpose:* The DOE’s EERE provides Federal funding through Federal assistance programs to businesses, industries, universities, and other groups for renewable energy and energy efficiency research and development and demonstration projects. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) requires that an environmental analysis be completed for all major Federal actions significantly affecting the environment including projects entirely or partly financed by Federal agencies. To effectively perform environmental analyses for these projects, the DOE’s EERE needs to collect project-specific information from Federal financial assistance awardees. DOE’s EERE has developed its Environmental Questionnaire to obtain the required information and ensure that its decision-making processes are consistent with NEPA as it relates to renewable energy and energy efficiency research and development and demonstration projects. Minor changes have been made to the Environmental Questionnaire that help to clarify certain questions as related to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law), but do not change the meaning of the questions being asked. These revisions include additional fields in Section 1 to collect award, funding, and contact information and additional fields in Section 3 of the Environmental Questionnaire to collect information about project location(s). The average hours per response have increased from one hour to one- and one-half hours and the revisions made should not add any additional time needed to complete the Environmental Questionnaire; (5) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses:* 300; (6) *Average Hours per Response:* 1.5; and (7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours:* 443; (8) *Annual Estimated Respondent Costs:* \$29,238. There is no cost associated with reporting and recordkeeping.

Statutory Authority: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*).

Signing Authority: This document of the Department of Energy was signed on February 14, 2024, by Matthew Blevins, Director, Environment, Safety and Health Office, Golden Field Office, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 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 February 15, 2024.

Treena V. Garrett,

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

[FR Doc. 2024-03470 Filed 2-20-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

Agency Information Collection Extension

AGENCY: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: DOE submitted an information collection request for extension as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection requests a three-year extension of Form DOE-417 *Electric Emergency Incident and Disturbance Report*, OMB Control Number 1901-0288. The collection will enable DOE to monitor electric emergency incidents and disturbances in the United States (including all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Territories). The information collected allows DOE to conduct post-incident reviews examining significant interruptions of electric power or threats to the national electric system.

DATES: Comments on this information collection must be received no later than March 22, 2024. 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. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you need additional information, contact Matthew Tarduogno, U.S. Department of Energy, telephone (202) 586-2892, or by email at Matthew.Tarduogno@hq.doe.gov. The forms and instructions are available

online at: <https://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/oe417.aspx>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This information collection request contains

- (1) *OMB No.*: 1901–0288;
- (2) *Information Collection Request Title*: Electric Emergency Incident and Disturbance Report;
- (3) *Type of Request*: Three-year extension with changes;
- (4) *Purpose*: DOE uses Form DOE–417 *Emergency Incident and Disturbance Report* to monitor electric emergency incidents and disturbances in the United States (including all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Territories) and to investigate significant interruptions of electric power or threats to the electric system reliability. Form DOE–417 also enables DOE to meet the Department’s national security responsibilities as the coordinating agency for Emergency Support Function (ESF) #12—Energy, under the National Response Framework, and the Sector-Specific Agency for the energy sector, pursuant to Presidential Policy Directive 21—*Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience*, Presidential Policy Directive 41—*United States Cyber Incident Coordination*, and the Fixing Americas Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, Public Law 114–94. The information may also be shared with other non-regulatory federal agencies assisting in emergency response and recovery operations or investigating the causes of an incident or disturbance to the national electric system. Public summaries of Form DOE–417 submissions are published on the DOE–417 web page (<https://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/oe417.aspx>) on a regular basis to keep the public informed.

(4a) *Changes to Information Collection*: DOE proposes to make changes to Form DOE–417 to continue to ensure future alignment with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) CIP–008–6 Reliability Standard, as well as the NERC EOP–004–6 Reliability Standard, and potential future changes. The continued alignment between Form DOE–417 and NERC reporting requirements helps minimize confusion among industry stakeholders about where and how to file reports and enable industry stakeholders to train personnel to report using a single form. Additional changes to Form DOE–417 clarify reporting criteria and updated types of entities that are required to submit certain criteria. A summary of these and other changes to Form DOE–417 is provided below:

- Minor edit to alert criteria 2 to add “as defined in the NERC Glossary of Terms”
 - Under “Criteria for Filing” section added alert criteria 27, “Uncontrolled loss of a total of 500 MW or more from inverter-based resource(s) for greater than 30 minutes at a common point of interconnection to the bulk electric system.”
 - Under “Cause” in the “Type of Emergency” section added the following subcategories to physical attack:
 - Ballistic
 - Arson
 - Explosive device
 - Other
 - Under “Cause” in the “Type of Emergency” section added the following subcategories to suspicious activity:
 - Aircraft or Unmanned Aerial System (UAS)
 - Trespassing or non-destructive intrusion
 - Surveillance
 - Vandalism
 - Other
 - Under “Cause” in the “Type of Emergency” combined “(Cyber event information technology)” and “cyber event (operational technology)” and added the following subcategories:
 - Information Technology
 - Operational Technology
 - *Updated Instructions*: Replaced “Office of Electricity” with “Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response”
 - *Updated Instructions*: Replaced “oe417@hq.doe.gov” with “DOE417@hq.doe.gov.”
 - *Updated Instructions*: Replaced “Assistant Secretary” with “Director”
 - *Updated Instructions*: Appendix A. Replace “What is Excluded” text for generating entities with “Entities who have 300 MW or more of generation detected to one or more end-use customers (e.g. retail or industrial customers), except for commercial power reactors regulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and subject to the physical and cybersecurity event notification requirements of 10 CFR part 73. All items need to be addressed.”
 - On Line F., Date/Time Incident Began.: Added Atlantic and Chamorro time zones
 - On Line G., Date/Time Incident Ended: Added Atlantic and Chamorro time zones
- (5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents*: 2,174;
- (6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses*: 400;
- (7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours*: 5,025;
- (8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden*: \$438,984.

DOE estimates that respondents will have no additional costs associated with the surveys other than the burden hours and the maintenance of the information during the normal course of business.

Statutory Authority: 15 U.S.C. 772(b), 764(b); 764(a); and 790a and 42 U.S.C. 7101 *et seq.* and the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2601, Pub. L. 93–275.

Signed in Washington, DC, on February 15, 2024.

Samson A. Adeshiyan,
Director, Office of Statistical Methods & Research, U. S. Energy Information Administration.

[FR Doc. 2024–03515 Filed 2–20–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2607–016]

Spencer Mountain Hydropower, LLC; Notice Soliciting Scoping Comments

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

- a. *Type of Application*: Subsequent License.
 - b. *Project No.*: P–2607–016.
 - c. *Date Filed*: June 26, 2023.
 - d. *Applicant*: Spencer Mountain Hydropower, LLC (SMH).
 - e. *Name of Project*: Spencer Mountain Hydroelectric Project (Spencer Mountain Project).
 - f. *Location*: On the South Fork Catawba River, near the town of Gastonia, in Gaston County, North Carolina.
 - g. *Filed Pursuant to*: Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. 791(a)–825(r).
 - h. *Applicant Contact*: Mr. Kevin Edwards and Mrs. Amy Edwards, Spencer Mountain Hydropower, LLC, 916 Comer Rd., Stoneville, NC 27048; Phone at (336) 589–6138, or smhydro@pht1.com.
 - i. *FERC Contact*: Michael Spencer at (202) 502–6093; or michael.spencer@ferc.gov.
 - j. *Deadline for filing scoping comments*: March 15, 2024.
- The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file scoping comments using the Commission’s eFiling system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FEROnline.aspx>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx>. You must include your