

correction to the labor rates was made, the overall facility costs decreased.

However, the decrease in facility costs due to the correction to the labor rates was offset by other changes that EPA has made to the ICR costs since proposal. Some commenters stated that the burdens for impingement and entrainment monitoring were too low. EPA has reviewed these burden estimates and has increased the burdens associated with impingement and entrainment monitoring associated with the Impingement Mortality and Entrainment Characterization Study. In addition, EPA has revised capital and O&M costs associated with the pilot-scale studies some facilities may perform to reflect the assumption that only facilities which are projected to install new technologies will perform pilot studies, and to be proportional to the projected capital costs for installing these new technologies to comply with the rule. The following provides a summary of the effects of these corrections and updates on labor costs and overall costs for facilities, as well as total combined costs for States and facilities.

- Facility labor costs increased by 65% from \$66,399,819 to \$109,346,909 annually.

- Facility capital and O&M costs decreased by 61% from \$63,633,640 to \$24,801,777 annually.

- Total costs for facilities increased by 3.2% from \$130,033,459 to \$134,148,685 annually.

- Total facility and State costs increased by 2.8% from \$135,990,706 to \$139,820,531 annually.

The effects of the recalculation are summarized in more detail in a memorandum placed in the record (see "Updated Information Collection Costs for the 316(b) Phase II Notice of Data Availability, January 31, 2002).

2. San Onofre Impacts Discussion

In response to comments received about inaccuracies related to facility-specific impacts caused by impingement and entrainment discussed in EPA's Information Collection Request (ICR), EPA provides the following clarification. Specifically, the ICR for the proposed rule described entrainment losses at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). EPA received updated information from SONGS facility scientists that clarified actual entrainment losses in normal (non-El Nino) years and described trends in shallow-water and deepwater fish species affected by entrainment. In addition, prior to publication of the proposed rule, EPA concluded that kelp

bed losses in proximity to the SONGS intake were attributable to turbidity increases caused by cooling water discharges, not cooling water withdrawals. The updated information for SONGS was placed in the preamble to the proposal (see 67 FR 17138–17139), but was inadvertently omitted from the ICR. The final ICR will reflect the changes described above.

XII. General Solicitation of Comments

EPA encourages public participation in this rulemaking and requests comments on this notice of availability supporting the proposed rule for cooling water intake structures for existing Phase II facilities. As stated in section II of this NODA, EPA is also reopening the comment period on all aspects of the proposal. EPA invites all parties to coordinate their data collection activities with the Agency to facilitate mutually beneficial and cost-effective data submissions.

Please refer to the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section at the beginning of this preamble for technical contacts at EPA.

Dated: March 12, 2003.

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