

TABLE 2.—PROPOSED INTEGRATED LICENSING PROCESS—Continued

Data collection	Number of respondents ¹	Number of responses	Hours per response ²	Total annual hrs
FERC-505	15	1	7,000	105,000

¹ Estimated number of licenses subject to renewal through FY 2009.

² Based on a 30% reduction through concomitant processes.

Total Annual Hours for Collections:
(Reporting + Recordkeeping, (if appropriate)) = 942,200 hours

Information Collection Costs: The Commission seeks comments on the costs to comply with these

requirements. It has projected the average annualized cost per respondent to be the following:

ANNUALIZED COSTS

Annualized Costs (Capital & Startup Costs)	
(1) Using Traditional Licensing Process:	
(a) Projects less than 5 MW (average)	\$500,000.00
(b) Projects greater than 5 MW (average)	\$2,300,000.00
(2) Using Proposed Integrated Licensing Process:	
(a) Projects less than 5MW average	\$350,000.00
(b) Projects greater than 5 MW	\$1,610,000.00
Total Annualized Costs:	
(1) Traditional Licensing Process	\$67,300,000 (\$59.8 mil. + \$7.5 mil.)
(2) Proposed Integrated Licensing Process	\$47,110,000 (\$41.8 mil. + \$5.25 mil.)

The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulations ²⁹⁸ require OMB to approve certain information collection requirements imposed by agency rule. The Commission is submitting notification of this proposed rule to OMB.

Title: FERC-500 "Application for License/Relicense for Water Projects greater than 5 MW Capacity," and FERC-505, "Application for License for Water Projects less than 5 MW Capacity."

Action: Proposed Collections.

OMB Control No: 1902-0058 (FERC 500) and 1902-0115 (FERC 505).

Respondents: Business or other for profit, or non-profit.

Frequency of Responses: On occasion.

Necessity of the Information: The proposed rule would revise the Commission's regulations regarding applications for licenses to construct, operate, and maintain hydroelectric projects. Specifically, proposed revisions would establish a new process for the development and processing of license applications that combines during the pre-filing consultation phase activities that are currently conducted during pre-filing consultation and after the license application is filed. The information proposed to be collected is needed to evaluate the license application pursuant to the comprehensive development standard of FPA section 10(a)(1), to consider in the comprehensive development analysis certain factors with respect to

new licenses set forth in FPA section 15, and to comply with NEPA, ESA, and NHPA. Most of the information is already being collected under the existing regulations, and the new regulations would for the most part affect only the timing of the collection and the form in which it is presented. Internal Review: The Commission has reviewed the requirements pertaining to evaluation of hydroelectric license applications and has determined that the proposed revisions are necessary because the hydroelectric licensing process is unnecessarily long and costly.

These requirements conform to the Commission's plan for efficient information collection, communication, and management within the hydroelectric power industry. The Commission has assured itself, by means of internal review, that there is specific, objective support for the burden estimates associated with the information requirements.

Interested persons may obtain information on the reporting requirements by contacting the following: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, [Attention: Michael Miller, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Phone: (202) 502-8415, fax: (202) 273-0873, e-mail: mike.miller@ferc.gov]

For submitting comments concerning the collection of information(s) and the associated burden estimate(s), please send your comments to the contact listed above and to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of

Information and Regulatory Affairs, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503 [Attention: Desk Officer for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, phone (202) 395-7318, fax: (202) 395-7285.

VII. Public Comment Procedures

233. The Commission invites interested persons to submit comments, data, views and other information concerning the matters set out in this proposed rule. To facilitate the Commission's views of the comments, the Commission requests commenters to provide an executive summary of their recommendations. To the greatest degree possible, commenters should use the topic headings that the proposed rule uses and arrange their comments in the order of topics presented in this proposed rule, and cite the specific referenced paragraph numbers. Commenters should identify separately any additional issues they may wish to address. Comments must refer to Docket No. RM02-16-000, and may be filed on paper or electronically via the Internet. The Commission must receive all such comments no later than 60 days after the issuance of this notice of proposed rulemaking. Those filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing. Reply comments will not be entertained.

234. Those making paper filings should submit the original and 14 copies of their comments to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

235. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

²⁹⁸ 5 CFR 1320.11.