

Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

*Title of Collection:* State of Preschool Survey 2013–2015.

*OMB Control Number:* 1850–NEW.

*Type of Review:* New information collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* State, Local or Tribal Governments.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 53.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 636.

*Abstract:* The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), within the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) of the U.S. Department of Education (ED), is seeking approval to conduct in 2013, 2014, and 2015 the annual, web-based State of Preschool survey, which centralizes data about publicly provided early childhood education opportunities. Data are collected from state agencies responsible for providing early childhood education and made available for secondary analyses. Data collected as part of the survey focus on enrollment counts in state-funded early childhood education programs, funding provided by the states for these programs, and program monitoring and licensing policies. The collected data are then reported, both separately and in combination with extant data available from federal agencies supporting early childhood education programs such as Head Start and the U.S. Census Bureau. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau form the basis for some of the rates developed for the State of Preschool reports. The data and annual report resulting from the State of Preschool data collection provide a key information resource for research and for federal and state policy on publicly funded early childhood education.

Dated: March 5, 2013.

**Stephanie Valentine,**

*Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management.*

[FR Doc. 2013–05541 Filed 3–8–13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### DOE's Preferred Alternative for Certain Tanks Evaluated in the Final Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement for the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of DOE's preferred alternative.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is announcing its preferred alternative for wastes contained in underground radioactive waste storage tanks evaluated in the *Final Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement for the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington* (Final TC & WM EIS, DOE/EIS–0391, December 2012). With regard to those wastes that, in the future, may be properly and legally classified as mixed transuranic waste (mixed TRU waste) <sup>1</sup> DOE's preferred alternative is to retrieve, treat, package, and characterize and certify the wastes for disposal at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, New Mexico, a geologic repository for the disposal of mixed TRU waste generated by atomic energy defense activities. This Notice supplements DOE's expression of its preferred alternatives identified in the Final TC & WM EIS in Section S.7 of the Summary, and in Chapter 2, Section 2.12, of Volume 1. (Also see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**)

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the Final TC & WM EIS (paper or electronic) may be obtained by contacting: Ms. Mary Beth Burandt, NEPA Document Manager, Office of River Protection, U.S. Department of Energy, P.O. Box 1178, Richland, Washington 99352, Email: [TC&WMEIS@saic.com](mailto:TC&WMEIS@saic.com).

The Final TC & WM EIS and its DOE Notice of Availability are available on

<sup>1</sup> Transuranic (TRU) waste is waste that contains alpha particle-emitting radionuclides with atomic numbers greater than that of uranium (92) and half-lives greater than 20 years in concentrations greater than 100 nanocuries per gram of waste. "Mixed waste" is radioactive waste containing hazardous constituents regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

the DOE NEPA Web site at <http://energy.gov/nepa>. Additional information on the Final TC & WM EIS is also available through the Hanford Web site at <http://www.hanford.gov/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information on the Final TC & WM EIS, contact Ms. Burandt as listed in **ADDRESSES** or by telephone at 1–888–829–6347. For general information regarding the DOE NEPA process, contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance, GC–54, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, Telephone: 202–586–4600, or leave a message at 1–800–472–2756, Email: [askNEPA@hq.doe.gov](mailto:askNEPA@hq.doe.gov).

For further information about DOE's preferred alternative for the tanks discussed herein, contact: Mr. Todd Shrader, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, Telephone: 202–586–3784.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### Background

The Hanford Site, located in southeastern Washington State along the Columbia River, is approximately 586 square miles in size. Hanford's mission from the early 1940s to approximately 1989 included defense-related nuclear research, development, and weapons production activities. These activities created a wide variety of chemical and radioactive wastes. Hanford's mission now is focused on the cleanup of those wastes and ultimate closure of the Site.

To support its decision making process, DOE prepared the TC & WM EIS pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and in accordance with Council on Environmental Quality and DOE NEPA implementing regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508; 10 CFR Part 1021); the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology are cooperating agencies on this EIS. The TC & WM EIS addresses proposed actions in three major areas: The retrieval and treatment of waste from 177 underground radioactive waste storage tanks, including 149 single-shell tanks (SSTs), and closure of the SSTs; decommissioning the Fast Flux Test Facility and its auxiliary facilities; and continued and expanded management of low-level radioactive waste and mixed low-level radioactive waste.

### TC & WM EIS Evaluation of Candidate Tank Waste for Classification as Mixed TRU Waste

This notice pertains only to the retrieval, treatment, packaging, and characterization and certification, for disposal at WIPP, of wastes contained in the 20 tanks evaluated in the TC & WM EIS as being candidates for classification as mixed TRU waste. The total volume of waste in these tanks is approximately 3.1 million gallons, all of which the EIS evaluations assumed to be mixed TRU waste for the purposes of analysis. Currently, DOE has not classified any of the waste as mixed TRU waste. The 20 tanks were included in five of the tank closure alternatives evaluated in the TC & WM EIS.<sup>2</sup> Information about these tanks and further details of the evaluation can be found in the Summary (Page S-57) and in Appendix E of the TC & WM EIS.

### Preferred Alternatives

DOE's preferred alternatives for all three major areas listed above are described in the Summary, Section S.7, and in Chapter 2, Section 2.12, of Volume 1 of the Final TC & WM EIS. Regarding wastes contained in the 20 tanks evaluated as candidates for classification as mixed TRU waste, the EIS stated that: "Retrieval of tank waste identified as mixed TRU waste would commence only after DOE had issued a **Federal Register** notice of its preferred alternative and a ROD".<sup>3</sup>

To make progress in the overall tank waste retrieval process, and in view of recent information about potential tank leaks, DOE now prefers to retrieve, treat, package, and characterize and certify the wastes that are properly and legally classified as mixed TRU waste for disposal at WIPP. Initiating retrieval of tank waste classified as mixed TRU waste would be contingent on DOE's obtaining the applicable and necessary permits, ensuring that the WIPP Waste Acceptance Criteria and all other applicable regulatory requirements have been met, and making a documented determination that the waste is properly classified as mixed TRU waste. Further, retrieval of waste would not commence until a ROD had been issued. DOE may issue such a ROD regarding the candidate TRU wastes no sooner than 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 4, 2013.

**David Huizenga,**

Senior Advisor for Environmental Management.

[FR Doc. 2013-05509 Filed 3-8-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

#### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

#### Filings Instituting Proceedings

- Docket Numbers:* RP13-620-000.  
*Applicants:* Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.  
*Description:* Fuel Filing—Eff. April 1, 2013 to be effective 4/1/2013.  
*Filed Date:* 3/1/13.  
*Accession Number:* 20130301-5056.  
*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/13/13.  
*Docket Numbers:* RP13-621-000.  
*Applicants:* WBI Energy Transmission, Inc.  
*Description:* 2013 Annual Fuel and Electric Power Reimbursement to be effective 4/1/2013.  
*Filed Date:* 3/1/13.  
*Accession Number:* 20130301-5057.  
*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/13/13.  
*Docket Numbers:* RP13-622-000.  
*Applicants:* Discovery Gas Transmission LLC.  
*Description:* 2013 Tariff Revisions to be effective 4/1/2013.  
*Filed Date:* 3/1/13.  
*Accession Number:* 20130301-5058.  
*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/13/13.  
*Docket Numbers:* RP13-623-000.  
*Applicants:* Texas Eastern Transmission, LP.  
*Description:* Northeast Energy Contract Conversion FTS-5 to FT-1 to be effective 4/1/2013.  
*Filed Date:* 3/1/13.  
*Accession Number:* 20130301-5064.  
*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/13/13.  
*Docket Numbers:* RP13-624-000.  
*Applicants:* Elba Express Company, L.L.C.  
*Description:* BG Negotiated Rate Filing to be effective 4/1/2013.  
*Filed Date:* 3/1/13.  
*Accession Number:* 20130301-5067.  
*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/13/13.  
*Docket Numbers:* RP13-625-000.  
*Applicants:* Crossroads Pipeline Company.  
*Description:* Operational Transactions year ended Dec 2012.  
*Filed Date:* 3/1/13.

*Accession Number:* 20130301-5069.  
*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/13/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-626-000.

*Applicants:* Energy West

Development, Inc.

*Description:* Energy West Development, Inc. submit Lost and Unaccounted Gas [LAUF] reimbursement.

*Filed Date:* 2/28/13.

*Accession Number:* 20130228-5419.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/12/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-627-000.

*Applicants:* Virginia Power Energy

Marketing Inc., Dominion Energy

Brayton Point, LLC.

*Description:* Joint Petition of Virginia Power Energy Marketing, Inc. and Dominion Energy Brayton Point, LLC for Temporary Waiver of Capacity Release Regulations and Policies, and Request for Expedited Treatment.

*Filed Date:* 2/28/13.

*Accession Number:* 20130228-5420.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/8/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-628-000.

*Applicants:* TWP Pipeline LLC.

*Description:* Annual FRP Filing to be effective 4/1/2013.

*Filed Date:* 3/1/13.

*Accession Number:* 20130301-5073.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/13/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-629-000.

*Applicants:* Empire Pipeline, Inc.

*Description:* Annual Report Pursuant to GT&C Sec 23.5.

*Filed Date:* 3/1/13.

*Accession Number:* 20130301-5078.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/13/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-630-000.

*Applicants:* Stingray Pipeline

Company, L.L.C.

*Description:* Stingray Pipeline

Company, L.L.C. submits Events

Surcharge Adjustment.

*Filed Date:* 2/28/13.

*Accession Number:* 20130228-5421.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/12/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-631-000.

*Applicants:* Gulf South Pipeline

Company, LP.

*Description:* Remove Tariff Sections

Affected by Abandonment in CP13-31-000 to be effective 3/31/2013.

*Filed Date:* 3/1/13.

*Accession Number:* 20130301-5092.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/13/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-632-000.

*Applicants:* Transcontinental Gas

Pipe Line Company.

*Description:* Annual Fuel Tracker

Filing 2013 to be effective 4/1/2013.

*Filed Date:* 3/1/13.

*Accession Number:* 20130301-5093.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 3/13/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-633-000.

*Applicants:* Columbia Gas

Transmission, LLC.

<sup>2</sup> Tank Closure Alternatives 3A, 3B, 3C, 4, and 5.

<sup>3</sup> "ROD" refers to a Record of Decision.