Abstract: Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) (Pub. L. 75–688) (15 U.S.C. 717–717w) provides, in part, that no person shall export any natural gas from the United States to a foreign country or import any natural gas from a foreign country without first having secured and order from the Commission authorizing it to do so. The 1992 amendments to Section 3 of the NGA concern importation or exportation from/to a nation which has a free trade agreement with the United States, and requires that such importation or exportation: (1) Shall be deemed to be a first sale, i.e., not a sale for a resale, and (2) Shall be deemed to be consistent with the public interest, and applications for such importation or exportation shall be granted without modification or delay.

With the ratification of the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Canadian Free Trade Agreement, the Federal regulatory focus on construction, operation, and siting of import and export facilities increased significantly.

Estimate of Annual Burden: ² The Commission estimates the annual public reporting burden and cost ³ for the information collection as:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Number of responses per respondent</th>
<th>Total number of responses</th>
<th>Average burden hours &amp; average cost per response ($)</th>
<th>Total annual burden hours &amp; total annual cost ($)</th>
<th>Cost per respondent ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>(1) × (2) = (3)</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>(3) × (4) = (5)</td>
<td>(5) + (1) = (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15 hours; $1,200 ..................................</td>
<td>180 hours; $14,400 ..................................</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments: Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency’s estimates of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: November 5, 2019.
Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
[ER–FRL–9047–9]

Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability


2 Burden is defined as the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a federal agency. See 5 CFR 1320 for additional information on the definition of information collection burden.

3 The Commission staff estimates that industry is similarly situated in terms of hourly cost (for wages plus benefits). Based on the Commission’s FY (Fiscal Year) 2019 average cost (for wages plus benefits), $80.00/hour is used.