

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 35-26988]

**Filings Under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as Amended ("Act")**

March 5, 1999.

Notice is hereby given that the following filing(s) has/have been made with the Commission pursuant to provisions of the Act and rules promulgated under the Act. All interested persons are referred to the application(s) and/or declaration(s) for complete statements of the proposed transaction(s) summarized below. The application(s) and/or declaration(s) and any amendments is/are available for public inspection through the Commission's Office of Public Reference.

Interested persons wishing to comment or request a hearing on the application(s) and/or declaration(s) should submit their views in writing by March 30, 1999, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, D.C. 20549, and serve a copy on the relevant applicant(s) and/or declarant(s) at the address(es) specified below. Proof of service (by affidavit or, in case of an attorney at law, by certificate) should be filed with the request. Any request for hearing should identify specifically the issues of fact or law that are disputed. A person who so requests will be notified of any hearing, if ordered, and will receive a copy of any notice or order issued in the matter. After March 30, 1999, the application(s) and/or declaration(s), as filed or as amended, may be granted and/or permitted to become effective.

**Ohio Power Company (70-6373)**

Ohio Power Company ("Ohio Power"), 301 Cleveland Avenue, S.W., Canton, Ohio 44702, an electric utility subsidiary of American Electric Power Company, Inc., a registered holding company, has filed a post-effective amendment under sections 6(a), 7, 9(a), 10, and 12(d) of the Act and rules 44 and 54 under the Act.

By order dated November 26, 1979 (HCAR No. 21308), Ohio Power was authorized to transfer to, and subsequently reacquire from, the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority ("Authority") certain pollution control facilities at its cardinal and Muskingum River Generating Stations ("Project") under an installment sale agreement ("Agreement") between Ohio Power and the Authority. On November 28, 1979, the Authority issued \$50 million of State of Ohio Air Quality Development

Revenue Bonds, Series A ("Series A Bonds") to provide funds to reimburse Ohio Power for a portion of the cost of construction of the Project.

By supplemental order dated August 11, 1989 (HCAR No. 24938), Ohio Power was authorized to refund the Series A Bonds. On August 23, 1989, the Authority issued \$50 million of air quality development revenue refunding bonds, Series B ("Series B Bonds") to provide funds for the refunding of the Series A Bonds.

Ohio Power now proposes to enter into arrangements for the refunding of the Series B Bonds. Under the Agreement, Ohio Power may request the Authority to issue and sell additional air quality development revenue bonds in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$50 million ("Series C Bonds") to provide funds for the refunding of the Series B Bonds prior to their stated maturity. The Series B Bonds may be redeemed beginning August 1, 1999 at a redemption price of 102%.

In addition, Ohio Power proposes to issue or enter into arrangements for the issuance of an instrument, such as a letter of credit, bond insurance or surety bond, for the credit enhancement for the Series C Bonds.

It is stated that Ohio Power will not urge, without further order of the commission, the issuance by the Authority of any Series C Bond: (a) if the stated maturity of the Series C Bond is more than forty (40) years; (b) if the fixed rate of interest exceeds 8% per annum or the initial rate of interest by any fluctuating rate exceeds 8%; (c) if the discount from the initial public offering price exceeds 5% of the principal amount; or (d) if the initial public offering price is less than 95% of the principal amount of the Series C Bonds.

**Jersey Central Power & Light Company (70-9399)**

Jersey Central Power & Light Company, 2800 Pottsville Pike, Reading, Pennsylvania 19605 ("JCP&L"), a subsidiary of GPU, Inc. ("GPU"), a registered holding company, 300 Madison Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey 07962, has filed an application under sections 9(a) and 10 of the Act and rule 54 under the Act.

JCP&L proposes to organize a special purpose business trust ("JCP&L Capital Trust"), which will issue and sell from time to time in one or more series through December 31, 2000 up to \$200 million aggregate liquidation value of preferred trust securities ("Preferred Trust Securities"). JCP&L will initially capitalize JCP&L Capital Trust through the purchase of JCP&L Capital Trust's

common trust securities ("Common Trust Securities"), which JCP&L Capital Trust will issue to JCP&L in amounts that in the aggregate will equal up to \$6.2 million. The sole purpose of JCP&L Capital Trust will be to issue and sell the Preferred Trust Securities to investors and to lend to JCP&L the net proceeds of the sale, together with the proceeds of the sale to JCP&L of the Common Trust Securities, through the purchase of JCP&L's subordinated debentures ("Subordinated Debentures").

The interest payments by JCP&L on the Subordinated Debentures will constitute JCP&L Capital Trust's only income, and JCP&L Capital Trust will use that income to pay distributions on the Preferred Trust Securities. The distribution rates, payment dates, redemption and other similar provisions of each series of Preferred Trust Securities will be identical to the interest rates, payment dates, redemption and other provisions of the Subordinated Debentures issued by JCP&L to borrow the proceeds of that series. The Subordinated Debentures will have an initial term of up to 49 years.

In the event of any voluntary or involuntary dissolution or winding up of JCP&L Capital Trust, the holders of Preferred Trust Securities will be entitled to receive out of the assets of JCP&L Capital Trust, after satisfaction of liabilities to creditors and before any distribution of assets is made to JCP&L, the sum of their stated liquidation preference and all accumulated and unpaid distributions to the date of payment. All assets of JCP&L Capital Trust remaining after payment of the liquidation distribution to the holders of Preferred Trust Securities will be distributed to JCP&L.

JCP&L will issue guarantees ("Guaranties") on a limited basis with respect to certain amounts that may be payable on the Preferred Trust Securities by JCP&L Capital Trust. These include the payment of distributions on the Preferred Trust Securities, the redemption price for any redemption of the Preferred Trust Securities, the aggregate liquidation preference on the Preferred Trust Securities, and certain additional amounts that may be payable related to the Preferred Trust Securities.

JCP&L assets that the issuance of the Subordinated Debentures and the Guaranties to JCP&L Capital Trust will be exempt from the declaration requirements of the Act under rules 45(b)(1) and 52 under the Act. In addition, JCP&L states that the issuance and sale of the Preferred Trust Securities will be exempt from the

declaration requirements of the Act under rule 52. JCP&L expects to use the net proceeds of the borrowings evidenced by the Subordinated Debentures for the redemption of outstanding senior securities under optional redemption provisions, for the repayment of outstanding short-term debt, for construction purposes, and for other general corporate purposes.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Request and Comment Request

In compliance with Public Law 104-13, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, SSA is providing notice of its information collections that require submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). SSA is soliciting comments on the accuracy of the agency's burden estimate; the need for the information; its practical utility; ways to enhance its quality, utility and clarity; and on ways to minimize burden on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

#### I. The Information Collections Listed Below Will be Submitted to OMB Within 60 Days From the Date of This Notice

Therefore, comments and recommendations regarding the information collections would be most useful if received by the Agency within 60 days from the date of this publication. Comments should be directed to the SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the address listed at the end of the notices. You can obtain a copy of the collection instruments by calling the SSA Reports Clearance Officer on (410) 965-4145, or by writing to him.

1. *Request for Hearing—0960-0269.* The information collected on Form HA-501 is used by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to process a request for hearing on an unfavorable determination of entitlement or eligibility to benefits administered by SSA. The respondents are individuals whose claims for benefits are denied and who request a hearing on the denial.

*Number of Respondents:* 554,100.  
*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 10 minutes.

*Estimated Average Burden:* 92,350 hours.

2. *Petition to Obtain Approval of a Fee for Representing a Claimant Before the Social Security Administration—0960-0104.* Form SSA-1560 is used by SSA if the representative files a fee petition to obtain approval of a fee for representing a claimant. The representative must file either a fee petition or a fee agreement with SSA in order to charge for representing a claimant in proceedings before the Agency. The information is reviewed by SSA to determine a reasonable fee for the representative's services. The respondents are attorneys and other persons representing Social Security claimants.

*Number of Respondents:* 34,624.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 30 minutes.

*Estimated Average Burden:* 17,312 hours.

3. *Letter to Landlord Requesting Rental Information—0960-0454.* Form SSA-L5061 is used by SSA to provide a nationally uniform vehicle for collecting information from landlords in making a rental subsidy determination in the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program. The responses are used in deciding whether income limits are met. The respondents are landlords who provide subsidized rental arrangements to SSI applicants and recipients.

*Number of Respondents:* 49,000.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 10 minutes.

*Estimated Average Burden:* 8,167 hours.

4. *State Contribution Return—0960-0041.* SSA uses the information on Form SSA-3961 to identify and account for all contributions owed and paid, under section 218 of the Social Security Act. The data is used to balance each deposit made by a State and to allocate the deposited contributions by specific liability. The form is ultimately used to provide audit statements to State agencies and to perform trust fund accounting. The respondents are State Social Security agencies (one agency in each state, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands) and each of approximately 65 interstate instrumentalities.

*Number of Respondents:* 10,000.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 3 minutes.

*Estimated Average Burden:* 500 hours.

5. *Farm Arrangement Questionnaire—0960-0064.* SSA needs the information collected on Form SSA-7157-F4 to

determine if farm rental income may be considered self-employment income for Social Security coverage purposes. The respondents are individuals alleging self-employment income from renting land for farming activities.

*Number of Respondents:* 38,000.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 30 minutes.

*Estimated Average Burden:* 19,000 hours.

#### II. The Information Collections Listed Below Have Been Submitted to OMB for Clearance

Written comments and recommendations on the information collections would be most useful if received within 30 days from the date of this publication. Comments should be directed to the SSA Reports Clearance Officer and the OMB Desk Officer at the addresses listed at the end of the notices. A copy of the OMB clearance packages can be obtained by calling the SSA Reports Clearance Officer on (410) 965-4145, or by writing to him.

1. *Inquiry To File an SSI Child's Application—0960-0557.* The information collected on Form SSRO-3-293 (formerly SSA-293) is used by SSA to document the earliest possible filing date and to determine potential eligibility for SSI child's benefits. The respondents are individuals, such as hospital social workers, who inquire about SSI eligibility for low birth weight babies.

*Number of Respondents:* 2,100.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 3 minutes.

*Estimated Average Burden:* 105 hours.

2. *Request for Workers' Compensation/Public Disability Information—0960-0098.* Form SSA-1709 is used by SSA to request and/or verify information about worker's compensation or public disability benefits given to Social Security disability insurance benefit recipients so that their monthly benefit adjustments are properly made. The respondents are State and local governments and/or businesses that administer workers' compensation or other disability benefits.

*Number of Respondents:* 140,000.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Average Burden:* 35,000 hours.

3. *Individuals Who Inquire About SSI Eligibility for Themselves—0960-0140.* Form SSA-3462 is completed by SSA personnel, via telephone or personal interview and is used to determine