

need to gather accurate and up-to-date information regarding respirator use in the workplace so that the NIOSH respirator certification and research program can assure that workers have needed products and are properly informed and protected.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

III. Current Action

OMB clearance is being sought for the Survey of Respirator Use and Practices.

Type of Review: New Collection.

Agency: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Title: Survey of Respirator Use and Practices.

OMB Number: 1220–New.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Farms.

Total Respondents: 40,000.

Frequency: One-time; Non-recurring.

Average Time Per Response: The weighted average per response is 30 minutes. Ninety (90) minutes for establishments with respirator use. Fifteen (15) minutes for establishments with no respirator use.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 20,000 hours.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they also will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 20th day of October 2000.

Karen A. Krein,

Acting Chief, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension:

Rule 15c2–12, SEC File No. 270–330, OMB Control No. 3235–0372

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of a previously approved collection of information discussed below.

- Rule 15c2–12 Disclosure requirements for municipal securities
- Rule 15c–12, under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, requires underwriters of municipal securities: (1) To obtain an review a copy of an official statement deemed final by an issuer of the securities, except for the omission of specified information; (2) in non-competitively bid offerings, to make available, upon request, the most recent preliminary official statement, if any; (3) to contract with the issuer of the securities, or its agent, to receive, within specified time periods, sufficient copies of the issuer's final official statement to comply both with this rule and any rules of the MSRB; (4) to provide, for a specified period of time, copies of the final official statement to any potential customer upon request; (5) before purchasing or selling municipal securities in connection with an offering, to reasonably determine that the issuer or other specified person has undertaken, in a written agreement or contract, for the benefit of holders of such municipal securities, to provide certain information about the issue or issuer on a continuing basis to a nationally recognized municipal securities information repository; and (6) to review the information the issuer of the municipal security has undertaken to provide prior to recommending a transaction in the municipal security.

These disclosure and recordkeeping requirements will ensure that investors have adequate access to official disclosure documents that contain details about the value and risks of particular municipal securities at the time of issuance while the existence of compulsory repositories will ensure that investors have continued access to terms and provisions relating to certain static features of those municipal securities. The provisions of Rule 15c2–12 regarding an issuer's continuing disclosure requirements assist investors by ensuring that information about an issue or issuer remains available after the issuance.

Municipal offerings of less than \$1 million are exempt from the rule, as are offerings of municipal securities issued in large denominations that are sold to no more than 35 sophisticated investors, have short-term maturities, or have short-term tender or put features. It is estimated that approximately 12,000 brokers, dealers, municipal securities dealers, issuers of municipal securities, and nationally recognized municipal securities information repositories will spend a total of 123,850 hours per year complying with Rule 15c2–12. Based on average cost per hour of \$50, the total cost of compliance with Rule 15c2–12 is \$6,192,500.

There is no specific retention period applied by Rule 15c2–12 for the recordkeeping requirement contained in Rule 15c2–12. The retention period is determined by private agreement between a nationally recognized municipal securities information repository and the issuer.

The recordkeeping requirement is mandatory to ensure that investors have access to information about the issuer and particular issues of municipal securities. This rule does not involve the collection of confidential information. Please note that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

General Comments regarding the estimated burden hours should be directed to the following persons: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503; and (ii) Michael E. Bartell, Associate Executive Director, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 5th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549.

Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: October 20, 2000.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 35-27257]

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

October 20, 2000.

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 amendment(s) is/are available for public inspection through the Commission's Branch 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 November 14, 2000, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC 20549-0609, 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 the case of an attorney at law, by certificate) should be filed with the request. Any request for hearing should identify specifically the issues of facts 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 November 14, 2000, the application(s) and/or declaration(s), as filed or as amended, may be granted and/or permitted to become effective.

American Electric Power Company, Inc., et al. (70-9353)

American Electric Power Company, Inc. ("AEP"), a registered holding company, AEP Energy Services, Inc. and AEP Resources, Inc., (collectively "Applicants"), both nonutility subsidiaries of AEP, and all located at 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215, have filed a post-effective amendment under sections 6(a), 7, 9(a) and 10 of the Act and rule 54 under the

Act to a previously filed application-declaration.

By order dated November 2, 1998 (HCAR No. 26933) ("Prior Order"), Applicants are currently authorized through December 31, 2003 ("Authorization Period") to acquire nonutility energy assets in the United States that would be incidental to, and would assist, Applicants and their subsidiaries in connection with energy marketing, brokering and trading (collectively, "Energy Assets"). These assets include natural gas production, gathering, processing, storage and transportation facilities and equipment, liquid oil reserves and storage facilities and associated facilities. Applicants were authorized to invest up to \$800 million ("Investment Limitation") during the Authorization Period in such Energy Assets or in the equity securities of companies substantially all of whose physical properties consist of such Energy Assets.

Applicants request that the Investment Limitation be increased to \$2.0 billion. Applicants state that they intend to use the increased investment authority as needed to enable Applicants and such subsidiaries to continue to add nonutility, marketing-related assets as and when market conditions warrant, whether through acquisitions of specific assets or groups of assets that are offered for sale, or by acquiring existing companies.

Entergy Corporation (70-9723)

Entergy Corporation ("Entergy"), a registered holding company, located at 639 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70113, filed an application-declaration under sections 9(a), 10, 12(b), 12(c), and 13(b) of the Act and rules 45, 46, 54, 86, 87, and 90 under the Act.

Together with Koch Energy, Inc. ("Koch"), an unaffiliated company that is not currently regulated under the Act, Entergy intends to form a new limited partnership, Entergy-Koch, LP ("Entergy-Koch").¹ Entergy-Koch will be a partially-owned subsidiary of Entergy, through which Entergy and Koch will combine certain discrete non-utility energy assets.

Entergy states that it will contribute to Entergy-Koch its interests in certain companies.² Specifically, Entergy

¹ Entergy states that it is currently authorized to form intermediate holding companies such as Entergy-Koch. See *Entergy Corp.*, HCAR No. 27039 (June 22, 1999) (authorizing Entergy to form companies to acquire and hold the securities of one or more energy-related companies).

² The Commission previously authorized Entergy to reorganize its energy-related interests, including the intermediate holding companies that hold those

interests to transfer its interests in Entergy Power Marketing Corp. ("EPMC"), which markets and trades physical and financial energy commodities in various wholesale and retail markets within the United States,³ and EGT Holding, Ltd. ("EGT"), whose sole asset is the stock of Entergy Trading & Marketing, Ltd. ("ET&M"), a company that trades energy commodities to manage the fuel supply and power sales risk of certain foreign utility companies owned by Entergy.

Koch will contribute its interests in Koch Energy Trading, Inc. ("KET"), which is engaged in energy trading and marketing,⁴ and Koch Gateway Pipeline Company ("Gateway Pipeline"), which owns and operates a 9,000-mile interstate natural gas pipeline system and related gas gathering and storage facilities. Entergy further states that it intends to merge EPMC and KET to form a new energy marketing and trading company ("Trading Company").

The general partner of Entergy-Koch, with a 1% interest, will be Entergy-Koch, LLC ("EK-LLC"), a Delaware limited liability company that will be held in equal shares by Koch and Entergy Power International Holdings Corporation ("EPIH"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Entergy. In addition, Entergy and Koch will each acquire and hold, indirectly, a 49.5% limited partnership interest in Entergy-Koch.

In connection with the establishment of the joint venture, Entergy requests authority to acquire, directly or indirectly, through December 31, 2005, up to \$1.2 billion ("Investment Limitation") in energy-related, nonutility assets that are incidental to energy marketing and brokering ("Energy-Related Assets"),⁵ or the equity securities of companies substantially all of whose physical assets consist of Energy-Related Assets ("Energy-Related Equity Securities"), including Gateway Pipeline. Entergy states that the prices of Energy-Related Assets and Energy-Related Equity Securities will be and, in the case of Gateway Pipeline, has been established through arms-length negotiations and

interests. See *Entergy Corp.*, HCAR No. 27039 (June 22, 1999).

³ EPMC currently sells approximately 200 million cubic feet of gas per day and, in 1999, sold approximately 47.2 million MWh of electricity.

⁴ The direct acquisition of energy marketing companies such as KET by Entergy is exempt from the requirements of section 9(a) of the Act by rule 58(a)(1) under the Act.

⁵ Energy-Related Assets include natural gas production, gathering, processing, storage and transportation facilities and equipment, liquid oil reserves and storage facilities, and associated facilities, that would be incidental to and would assist a future subsidiary in connection with energy marketing, brokering and trading.