

with the Cooperating Agencies, will determine the scope of the EIS.

The MCS Study included maps of only three of the four transmission line corridor alternatives. This report has been updated to include the map of four transmission line macrocorridor options that are currently part of the study area. Notices distributed in local areas to notify the public of the proposed project included only one macrocorridor option with two route alternatives the applicants proposed in the State of Minnesota Route Permit Application. To ensure that interested parties located within the any of the four transmission line macrocorridor alternatives are provided adequate opportunity for comment, notices are being reissued and the public comment period is being extended for one month.

DATES: A Notice of Intent To Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed project was published in the **Federal Register** on July 18, 2008. The public comment period has been extended and written comments relating to the proposed project will be accepted until 5 p.m. Eastern Time on September 30, 2008.

ADDRESSES: To send comments or for further information, contact Barbara Britton, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA Rural Development Utilities Programs, at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-1414, fax: (202) 690-0629, e-mail Barbara.Britton@wdc.usda.gov or Suzanne Steinhauer, Project Manager, Minnesota Department of Commerce, Office of Energy Security, at 85 Seventh Place, Suite 500, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55010, telephone (651) 296-2888, e-mail Suzanne.Steinhauer@state.mn.us. A copy of the AES and MCS can be obtained from the Agency Web site at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/eis/eis.htm>, by contacting Bob Lindholm of Minnesota Power at (888) 373-4113, bemidjiinfo@capx2020.com, and at the public libraries listed below:

Bemidji Public Library, 509 America Avenue, NW., Bemidji, MN 56601.
Cass Lake Community Library, 223 Cedar Avenue, NW., P.O. Box 836, Cass Lake, MN 56633.
Grand Rapids Area Library, 140 NE. 2nd Street, Grand Rapids, MN 55744.
Blackduck Community Library, 72 First Street, SE., P.O. Box 326, Blackduck, MN 56630.
Margaret Welch Memorial Library, P.O. Box 106, 5051 State 84, Longville, MN 56655.
Walker Public Library, 207 4th Street, P.O. Box 550, Walker, MN 56484.

Bovey Public Library, Village Hall, 402 2nd Street, P.O. Box 130, Bovey, MN 55709-0130.

Coleraine Public Library, Independent Building, 203 Cole Avenue, P.O. Box 225, Coleraine, MN 55722-0225.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Minnkota Power, Otter Tail Power, and Minnesota Power propose to construct a new transmission line from Bemidji to Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The proposal is designed to correct a local load serving inadequacy for the Bemidji area and the northern Red River Valley in West Central Minnesota. The line would originate from Minnkota's 230 kV Wilton Substation located just west of Bemidji, Minnesota, to Minnesota Power's 230 kV Boswell Substation in Cohasset, Minnesota, northwest of Grand Rapids, Minnesota. It is part of the CapX2020 long-range planning effort that has identified a comprehensive framework for new transmission infrastructure that will be needed to maintain reliability of the transmission system throughout Minnesota and the surrounding region. Minnkota Power, Otter Tail Power, and Minnesota Power are partners in this investment, and Minnkota Power is seeking financing from Rural Development Utilities Programs for its portion of the investment.

The proposed project may require permits from the United States Department of the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) under section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 U.S.C. 403, for the project's overhead wires to cross the Mississippi River, and under section 404 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1344, to place transmission line structures and associated backfill into waters of the United States. The proposed project may require a Special Use Permit to cross the Chippewa National Forest from the United States Forest Service under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act pursuant to 36 CFR 251.58, if it traverses the Chippewa National Forest. The proposed project may require a permit to cross Federal Aid Highways under the Department of Transportation Act 23 CFR 1.23 and 1.27; 23 U.S.C. 116, 123, and 315; 23 CFR 645; and 23 CFR 771. The proposed project may require a certification from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under section 401 of the Clean Water Act if it traverses tribal lands. The proposed project must be considered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for compliance with the Endangered Species Act 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*, the Migratory Bird Act U.S.C. 703-712, 50 CFR Ch 1, and the Bald and

Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1972 16 U.S.C. 668. The proposed project may require a right of way permit from the United States Bureau for Indian Affairs to cross American Indian trust lands pursuant to 25 CFR 169. The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe may be a signatory to any agreement prepared under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act addressing resolution of adverse effects of the proposed project, if identified, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6, particularly if the proposed project traverses the Leech Lake Band Reservation.

Dated: September 5, 2008.

Mark S. Plank,

Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff, USDA/Rural Development/Utilities Programs.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the emergency provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: International Trade Administration.

Title: Market Research to Broaden and Deepen U.S. Exporter Base.

OMB Control Number: None.

Form Number(s): ITA-8710; ITA-8711; ITA-8712; and ITA-8713.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 1,800.

Number of Respondents: 4,000.

Average Hours per Response: 15 minutes, ITA-8710 and ITA-8713; and 30 minutes, ITA 8711 and ITA-8712.

Needs and Uses: Expanding U.S. exports is a national priority essential to improving U.S. trade performance. The Department of Commerce (DOC), International Trade Administration (ITA), U.S. Commercial Service (CS) serves as the key U.S. government agency responsible for promoting exports of goods and services from the United States, particularly by small and medium-sized enterprises, and assisting U.S. exporters in their dealings with foreign governments.

Section 4721 of 15 U.S. Code contains several provisions that direct the CS to, "identify United States businesses with the potential to export goods and services and provide such businesses with advice and information on establishing export businesses." As

such, the long-term performance goal of the CS is to "broaden and deepen the U.S. exporter base."

Furthermore, the CS is mandated by the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 to improve program performance and achieve better results for the American people. Based on this mandate, the CS developed new metrics driven by the 2008 Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) to measure the effectiveness and impact of the CS at broadening and deepening the U.S. exporter base.

In order to collect information that establishes the baseline metrics for some of these new performance measures and provides data points for determining how to meet program performance goals, the CS requests approval to conduct market research on prospective and existing U.S. exporters using the following four surveys:

1. Commercial Service Brand Analysis and Strategy Survey (Form ITA-8710): The CS must increase awareness of our organization and the services provided to U.S. companies. Currently, there is no research available about CS awareness and brand position. This survey was designed to measure four new performance metrics (awareness, consideration, transaction and loyalty) related to broadening and deepening the U.S. exporter base.

2. Market Segmentation Survey of Moderate U.S. Exporters—Manufacturers (Form ITA-8711): The CS must gain market knowledge and generate statistically valid characterizations about the needs of exporting companies, especially small and medium-sized enterprises. This survey was designed to identify different segments of U.S. manufacturers so that the organization can measure our ability to broaden and deepen the exporter base of each unique segment.

3. Market Segmentation Survey of U.S. Exporters—Service Providers (Form ITA-8712): CS must gain market knowledge and generate statistically valid characterizations about the needs of exporting companies. This survey was designed to identify different segments of U.S. service providers so that the organization can measure our ability to broaden and deepen the exporter base of each unique segment.

4. Market Evaluation Survey of Non-Exporting Companies (Form ITA-8713): CS must gain market knowledge and generate statistically valid characterizations about the needs of non-exporting companies. This survey was designed to uncover the needs of U.S. companies that are not currently exporting so that the CS can measure

the organization's ability to turn non-exporters into exporters.

The information will be used to improve and better target services provided to the public. Without this information, the CS is unable to measure program performance and systematically determine the needs and benefits desired of U.S. companies and how best to meet these needs in order to broaden and deepen the U.S. exporter base.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: One-time, annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OMB Desk Officer, David Rostker, FAX number (202) 395-5806, or David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: September 5, 2008.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Evaluation of Public Visitors' Experience of Exhibits at Mokupapapa Discovery Center.

OMB Control Number: None.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 31.

Number of Respondents: 250.

Average Hours per Response: 7 to 8 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMS) education team has embarked on an ambitious

evaluation project that will allow the NMS to assess education program outcomes and impacts across all sites and activities and to link outcome measures to program efforts. The purpose of this effort is to evaluate if the current exhibits at the Mokupapapa Discovery Center (Hilo, HI) are meeting the goals and objectives of the educational mandates of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, particularly in relation to the relatively recent establishment of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands (NWHI). Randomly selected visitors to the Mokupapapa Discovery Center will be interviewed when leaving to explore their understanding of the location and geography of the islands, as well as their perception of interpretive messages, including the significance and sensitivity of the NWHI ecology. Application of findings from this evaluation will assist in adjusting program content, format, range of activities, and target audiences to improve overall effectiveness of educational efforts and expenditures.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: One-time only.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, FAX number (202) 395-7285, or David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: September 5, 2008.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the