

Dated: February 14, 1997.

Paul Stolpman,

Office Director, Office of Air Programs.

[FR Doc. 97-4754 Filed 2-24-97; 8:45 am]

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[OPPTS-00207; FRL-5587-5]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Request for Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that EPA is planning to submit the following continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the information collection described below. The ICR is a continuing ICR entitled "Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 8(a) Chemical-Specific Rules," EPA ICR No. 1198.05, OMB No. 2070-0067, which relates to reporting requirements found at 40 CFR part 704, subpart B. 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 OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9. **DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before April 28, 1997. **ADDRESSES:** Submit three copies of all written comments to: TSCA Document Receipts (7407), Room E-G99, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: 202-260-7099. All comments should be identified by administrative record number AR-171 and ICR number 1198.05. This ICR is available for public review at, and copies may be requested from, the docket address and phone number listed above.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the administrative record number AR-171 and ICR number 1198.05. No confidential business

information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail. Electronic comments on this document may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found in Unit III. of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information contact: Susan B. Hazen, Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: 202-554-1404, TDD: 202-554-0551, e-mail: TSCA-Hotline@epamail.epa.gov. For technical information contact Keith Cronin, Chemical Control Division (7405), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: 202-260-8157, Fax: 202-260-1096, e-mail: cronin.keith@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Electronic Availability: Electronic copies of this document and the ICR are available from the EPA home page at the Environmental Sub-Set entry for this document under "Regulations" (<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>).

I. Background

Entities potentially affected by this action are persons who manufacture, process or import, or who propose to manufacture, process or import, chemical substances and mixtures. For the collection of information addressed in this notice, EPA would like to solicit comments to:

(i) 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.

(ii) 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.

(iii) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

(iv) 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 submission of responses.

II. Information Collections

EPA is seeking comments on the following Information Collection Request.

Title: Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 8(a) Chemical-Specific Rules, EPA ICR No. 1198.05, OMB No. 2070-0067. Expires August 31, 1997.

Abstract: TSCA section 8(a) authorizes the Administrator of EPA to promulgate rules that require persons who manufacture, import or process chemical substances and mixtures, or who propose to manufacture, import or process chemical substances and mixtures, to maintain such records and submit such reports to EPA as may be reasonably required. Any chemical covered by TSCA for which EPA or another Federal agency has a reasonable need for information and which cannot be satisfied via other sources is a proper potential subject for a chemical-specific TSCA section 8(a) rulemaking.

Information that may be collected under TSCA section 8(a) includes, but is not limited to, chemical names, categories of use, production volume, byproducts of chemical production, existing data on deaths and environmental effects, exposure data, and disposal information. Generally, EPA uses chemical-specific information under TSCA section 8(a) to evaluate the potential for adverse human health and environmental effects caused by the manufacture, importation, processing, use or disposal of identified chemical substances and mixtures. Additionally, EPA may use TSCA section 8(a) information to assess the need or set priorities for testing and/or further regulatory action. To the extent that reported information is not considered confidential, environmental groups, environmental justice advocates, state and local government entities and other members of the public will also have access to this information for their own use.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 704, subpart B). Respondents may claim all or part of a notice confidential. EPA will disclose information that is covered by a claim of confidentiality only to the extent permitted by, and in accordance with, the procedures in TSCA section 14 and 40 CFR part 2.

Burden Statement: The burden to respondents for complying with this ICR is estimated to total 275 hours per year with an annual cost of \$15,745. These totals are based on an average burden of approximately 69 hours per response for an estimated four respondents making one response annually. These estimates include the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and

disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

III. Public Record

A record has been established for this action under docket control number "OPPTS-00207" (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, Rm. NE-B607, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at: oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

The official record for this action, as well as the public version, as described above will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into printed, paper form as they are received and will place the paper copies in the official record which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing. The official record is the paper record maintained at the address in ADDRESSES at the beginning of this document.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection and Information collection requests.

Dated: February 11, 1997.

Susan H. Wayland,
Acting Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 97-4777 Filed 2-25-97; 8:45 am]

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[FRL-5694-3]

Effluent Guidelines Plan Update

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has obtained approval in U.S. District Court to modify a Consent Decree covering the Agency's Effluent

Guidelines Program. The modified Decree extends deadlines for several rulemaking projects described in the 1996 Effluent Guidelines Plan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Strassler, Engineering and Analysis Division (4303), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460; telephone 202-260-7150. E-mail: strassler.eric@epamail.epa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA published its 1996 Effluent Guidelines Plan on October 7, 1996 (61 FR 52582). The Plan described the Effluent Guidelines Program and listed regulations that the Agency was developing or intended to develop. As mentioned in the Plan, several of these regulation projects are required by a Consent Decree in *Natural Resources Defense Council et al v. Browner* (D.D.C. 89-2980, January 31, 1992 (the "Consent Decree"). Table 1 in the Plan listed deadlines for the rules, with a footnote explaining that EPA was discussing extensions to the deadlines with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). See 61 FR 52583.

EPA and NRDC have agreed on revised deadlines and related adjustments for several of the rules listed in the Plan, and have obtained Court approval of modifications to the Decree. An unopposed motion to modify the Decree was filed in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia on January 31, 1997, and the motion was approved by District Judge Royce C. Lamberth on February 4, 1997. In addition to extending several deadlines, the modifications allow the Agency to merge two ongoing rules, Metal Products and Machinery Phases 1 and 2, into a single project. The modified dates are listed in the following table.

MODIFICATIONS TO EFFLUENT GUIDELINES DEADLINES

Category	Proposal	Final action
Centralized Waste Treatment (proposed 1/27/95, 60 FR 5464)	8/15/99
Pharmaceutical Manufacturing (proposed 5/2/95, 60 FR 21592)	4/98
Industrial Laundries ...	9/97	6/99
Transportation Equipment Cleaning	1/98	2/00
Landfills and Incinerators	11/97	11/99

MODIFICATIONS TO EFFLUENT GUIDELINES DEADLINES—Continued

Category	Proposal	Final action
Metal Products and Machinery (Phase 1 proposed 5/30/95, 60 FR 28209) ..	10/00	12/02

EPA and NRDC signed a related Settlement Agreement stating the Agency's intent to take final action on air emission standards for pharmaceutical production, under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act, jointly with the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Effluent Guidelines in April 1998. A separate notice describing this action was published on February 21, 1997 at 62 FR 8012.

The parties also agreed on revised deadlines for completion of four Preliminary Studies, which the Agency uses to support decisions on selecting industries for additional rulemaking. The deadlines for the studies are as follows:

- Chemical Formulators and Packagers: April 1997.
- Feedlots: 1998.
- Urban Stormwater: 1998.
- Airport De-Icing: 1999.

EPA and NRDC are continuing negotiations on deadlines for other rules covered by the Decree.

Dated: February 19, 1997.

Tudor T. Davies,

Director, Office of Science and Technology.

[FR Doc. 97-4756 Filed 2-25-97; 8:45 am]

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[OPP-00471; FRL-5589-5]

EPA's Interim Approach to Implementation of the 1996 Food Quality Protection Act; Notice of Availability

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA is announcing its interim approach to implementation of the new food safety requirements of the Food Quality Protection Act through a Pesticide Registration (PR) Notice 97-1. Interested parties may request this document as described in the ADDRESSES unit of this notice.

ADDRESSES: PR Notice 97-1 is available by mail from the Policy and Special Projects Staff, Mail Code 7506C, Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location,