

reacting with other compounds in the atmosphere to form ozone. Ozone is a major air quality problem in many cities throughout the United States. The collection of this information is used by the EPA to ensure that appropriate environmental rules are being complied with and that emission control devices are properly operated and maintained. Reports required under this collection authority are used by the Agency to monitor compliance as well as targeting treatment, storage and disposal facilities for inspection. Section 3004(n) of the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) directed the EPA to promulgate regulations for monitoring and control of air emissions from treatment, storage and disposal facilities, as necessary, to protect human health and the environment. 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.

The 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; and
- (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.

Burden Statement: Based upon the latest available figures, the Agency estimated the number of respondents to be 9,526 with a burden of 62.5 hours for each respondent. For Reporting Requirements, it was estimated to take 9 hours to read, gather and write the necessary reports. For Recordkeeping Requirements, 53.5 hours were estimated to complete the necessary testing and inspecting of tanks, surface impoundments and containers (21.5 hours), develop a recordkeeping system (16 hours), time to enter the information into the system (8 hours) and personnel training (8 hours). This estimate includes 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.

Dated: June 2, 1997.

Bruce Weddle,

Acting Director, Office of Compliance.

[FR Doc. 97-15983 Filed 6-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5843-5]

Toxic Chemicals; Chemical-Specific Rules; Submission of ICR No. 1198 to OMB; Agency Information Collection Activities

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of submission to OMB.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) entitled: TSCA Section 8(a) Chemical-Specific Rules [EPA ICR No. 1198.05; OMB Control No. 2070-0067] has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval pursuant to the OMB procedures in 5 CFR 1320.12. The ICR, which is abstracted below, describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated cost and burden.

The Agency is requesting that OMB renew for 3 years the existing approval for this ICR, which is scheduled to expire on August 31, 1997. A **Federal Register** notice announcing the Agency's intent to seek the renewal of this ICR and the 60-day public comment opportunity, requesting comments on the request and the contents of the ICR, was issued on February 26, 1997 (62 FR 8725). EPA did not receive any comments on this ICR during the comment period.

DATES: Additional comments may be submitted on or before July 18, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY CONTACT: Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone on (202) 260-2740 or by e-mail: "farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov," and

refer to EPA ICR No. 1198.05 and OMB Control No. 2070-0067.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referencing EPA ICR No. 1198.05 and OMB Control No. 2070-0067, to the following addresses:

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regulatory Information Division (Mailcode: 2137), 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20460

And to:

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Review Requested: This is a request to renew a currently approved information collection pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12.

ICR Numbers: EPA ICR No. 1198.05; OMB Control No. 2070-0067.

Current Expiration Date: Current OMB approval expires on August 31, 1997.

Title: TSCA Section 8(a) Chemical-Specific Rules.

Abstract: Section 8(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) 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). 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 annual public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to range between approximately 67 and 275 hours per response for an estimated four respondents making one or more submissions of information 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. No person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for these regulations are displayed in 40 CFR Part 9.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are those persons who manufacture, import or process chemical substances and mixtures, or who propose to manufacture, import, or process chemical substances and mixtures, in the United States.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 4.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 275 hours.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Changes in Burden Estimates: There is a decrease of 1,665 hours in the total estimated respondent burden as compared with that identified in the information collection request most recently approved by OMB, from 1,940 hours currently to an estimated 275 hours. At the time of the last clearance of this ICR in May 1994, EPA estimated the burden for respondents to be 276 hours annually, a decrease of 1,940 hours from the burden total in the OMB inventory at the time. However, OMB's action notice approving this ICR, dated August 8, 1994, appears to transpose

these two numbers: the action notice indicates a new status of 1,940 burden hours and a difference of -275 hours. EPA believes that this was a simple inversion mistake made at the time the approval was processed.

The current request for renewal estimates a total burden to respondents of 275 hours, a difference of one hour from that estimated in EPA's 1994 request for renewal. However, the current burden estimate of 275 hours represents a decrease of 1,665 hours from the (incorrect) burden total in the current OMB inventory. Note that the reason for the reduction in burden at the time of the 1994 clearance of this ICR was that the estimate for the number of TSCA section 8(a) chemical-specific rules to be promulgated annually was reduced from an anticipated ten rules per year to one rule per year.

According to the procedures prescribed in 5 CFR 1320.12, EPA has submitted this ICR to OMB for review and approval. Any comments related to the renewal of this ICR should be submitted within 30 days of this notice, as described above.

Dated: June 12, 1997.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 97-15986 Filed 6-17-97; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5843-8]

Performance Evaluation Reports for Fiscal Year 1996 Section 105 Grants; Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability of grantee performance evaluation reports.

SUMMARY: The EPA's grant regulations (40 CFR 35.150) require the Agency to conduct yearly performance evaluations on the progress of the approved State/EPA Agreements. The EPA's regulations (40 CFR 56.7) require that the Agency make available to the public the evaluation reports. The EPA has conducted evaluations on the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and Kansas Department of Health and Environment. These evaluations were conducted to assess the agencies' performance under the grants made to them by the EPA pursuant to section 105 of the Clean Air Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 18, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the evaluation reports are available for public inspection at the EPA's Region VII Air, RCRA, and Toxics Division; 726 Minnesota Avenue; Kansas City, Kansas 66101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Pawlowski at (913) 551-7920.

Dated: June 4, 1997.

William Rice,

Acting Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-15987 Filed 6-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5844-2]

Environmental Statistics Subcommittee of the National Advisory Council for Policy and Technology; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that the Environmental Statistics Subcommittee (of the Environmental Information, Economics and Technology Committee) of the National Advisory Council on Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) will hold a one day meeting of the full Subcommittee.

The Environmental Statistics Subcommittee was formed to provide key recommendations and strategic advice on the statistical products and activities necessary to enhance the Agency's knowledge about environmental statistics and trends, and to explore information gaps from the perspective of the users/products of these data products. The meeting is being held to discuss and offer critical advice on initiatives of the Office of Strategic Planning and Environmental Data.

Scheduling constraints preclude oral comments from the public during the meeting. Written comments can be submitted by the mail, and will be transmitted to Committee members for consideration.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on July 22, 1997 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The meetings will be held at Loews L'Enfant Plaza Hotel 480 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W. 2nd Floor Renoir Conference Room Washington, D.C. 20024. This meeting is open to the public. Due to limited space, seating at the meeting will be on a first-come basis.