

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-00237; FRL-5781-4]

Toxic Chemicals; Asbestos and PCBs; Agency Information Collection Activities

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 Information Collection Requests (ICRs) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Before submitting the ICRs to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the information collections described below. The ICRs are: (1) a continuing ICR entitled "Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements for Asbestos Abatement Worker Protection," EPA ICR No. 1246.06, OMB No. 2070-0072, which relates to reporting requirements found at 40 CFR part 763, subpart G, and (2) a continuing ICR entitled "PCB Notification and Manifesting of PCB Waste Activities, and Records of PCB Storage and Disposal," EPA ICR No. 1446.06, OMB No. 2070-0112, which relates to reporting requirements found at 40 CFR part 761. 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 July 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Each comment must bear the respective docket control number and administrative record numbers, as follows: comments on ICR No. 1246.06 should reference docket control number "OPPTS-00237" and administrative record number 192; comments on ICR No. 1446.06 should reference docket control number "OPPTS-00237" and administrative record number 193. All comments should be sent in triplicate to: OPPT Document Control Officer (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Rm. G099, Washington, DC 20460. Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to:

oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov. Follow the instructions under Unit III. of this document. No TSCA Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

All comments that contain information claimed as CBI must be clearly marked as such. Three sanitized copies of any comments containing information claimed as CBI must also be submitted and will be placed in the public record for this document. Persons submitting information any portion of which they believe is entitled to treatment as CBI by EPA must assert a business confidentiality claim in accordance with 40 CFR 2.203(b) for each such portion. This claim must be made at the time that the information is submitted to EPA. If a submitter does not assert a confidentiality claim at the time of submission, EPA will consider this as a waiver of any confidentiality claim and the information may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to the submitter.

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: Tony Baney, National Program Chemicals Division (7404), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: 202-260-3933; Fax: 202-260-1724; e-mail: baney.tony@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Electronic Availability:****Internet**

Electronic copies of the ICRs are available from the EPA Home Page at the Federal Register - Environmental Documents entry for this document under "Laws and Regulations" (<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgrstr/>).

Fax-on-Demand

Use a faxphone to call 202-401-0527 and select item 4059 for a copy of ICR No. 1246.06, or select item 4060 for a copy of ICR No. 1446.06.

I. Background

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are: with respect to ICR No. 1246.06, state and local governments without OSHA-approved state plans that have employees engaged in asbestos abatement; and, with respect to ICR No. 1446.06, persons who own or operate equipment containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) or who own or operate PCB storage and disposal facilities. For each collection of information addressed in this notice, EPA would like to solicit comments to:

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

4. 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 two ICRs, as well as the Agency's intention to renew the corresponding OMB approvals.

Title: Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements for Asbestos Abatement Worker Protection.

ICR numbers: EPA ICR No. 1246.06, OMB No. 2070-0072.

Approval expiration date: August 31, 1998.

Abstract: EPA's asbestos worker protection rule (40 CFR 763, subpart G) is designed to provide occupational exposure protection to state and local government employees who are engaged in asbestos abatement activities in states that do not have state plans approved by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The rule provides protection for public employees not covered by the OSHA standard from the adverse health effects associated with occupational exposure to asbestos.

This rule requires state and local governments to monitor employee exposure to asbestos, take action to reduce exposure, to monitor employee health, train employees about asbestos hazards, and provide employees with information about exposures to asbestos and the associated health effects. The rule also requires state and local governments to notify EPA before commencing any asbestos abatement project. State and local governments must maintain medical surveillance and monitoring records and training records on their employees, must establish a set of written procedures for respirator programs, and must maintain procedures and records of respirator fit tests. EPA will use the information to

monitor compliance with the asbestos worker protection rule.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 763, subpart G). 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 47,133 hours at a cost of \$2,394,000. These totals are based on an average burden of approximately 22.7 hours per response for an estimated 2,080 respondents making one or more responses 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.

Title: PCB Notification and Manifesting of PCB Waste Activities, and Records of PCB Storage and Disposal.

ICR numbers: EPA ICR No. 1446.06, OMB No. 2070-0112.

Approval expiration date: September 30, 1998.

Abstract: Section 6(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) directs EPA to regulate the marking, disposal, manufacturing, processing, distribution in commerce, and use of PCBs. EPA has promulgated rules prescribing methods for disposal of PCBs and criteria for the storage and handling of PCBs prior to disposal. These regulations require persons who own or operate equipment containing PCBs, or persons who own and operate facilities that store or dispose of PCB waste, to maintain records and submit certain reports, including third-party notifications, on the handling and disposition of such PCBs and PCB Items. This ICR addresses the burden associated with such recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 761). 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 175,453 hours per year with an annual cost of \$7,337,200. These totals are based on an average burden ranging between approximately 1 hour and 428 hours per response, depending upon the category of respondent, for an estimated 50,955 respondents making one or more responses 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 and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this document, as well as the public version, has been established for this document under docket number "OPPTS-00237" (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 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official 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. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form addressing ICR No. 1246.06 must be identified by docket control number "OPPTS-00237" and administrative record number 192. All comments and data in electronic form addressing ICR No. 1446.06 must be identified by docket control number "OPPTS-00237" and administrative record number 193. Electronic comments on this document may be

filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Information collection requests, Reporting and recordkeeping.

Dated: May 13, 1998.

Lynn R. Goldman,

Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 98-13629 Filed 5-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Graphic Arts Industry Subject to New Source Performance Standards

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 the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: New Source Performance Standards for the Graphic Arts Industry, OMB Control Number 2060-0105, expiration date 7/31/98. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 22, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the ICR, call Sandy Farmer at EPA, by phone at (202) 260-2740, by E-Mail at Farmer.Sandy@epamail.epa.gov or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr/icr.htm>, and refer to EPA ICR No. 0657.06

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: NSPS for Graphic Arts Industry (OMB Control No. 2060-0105, expiration date 7/31/98; EPA ICR No. 0657.06). This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The EPA is charged under Section 111 of the Clean Air Act, as amended, to establish standards of performance for new stationary sources that reflect:

* * * application of the best technological system of continuous emissions reduction which (taking into consideration the cost * * * and energy requirements) the Administrator determines has been