

FDA is also making a correction to the filing notice.

**DATES:** FDA is reopening the comment period on the notification of petition published in the **Federal Register** of April 26, 2024 (89 FR 32386). Either electronic or written comments must be submitted by September 23, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments as follows. Please note that late, untimely filed comments will not be considered. The <https://www.regulations.gov> electronic filing system will accept comments until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time at the end of September 23, 2024. Comments received by mail/hand delivery/courier (for written/paper submissions) will be considered timely if they are received on or before that date.

#### Electronic Submissions

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to <https://www.regulations.gov> will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else's Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>.

- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see "Written/Paper Submissions" and "Instructions").

#### Written/Paper Submissions

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- **Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions):** Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in "Instructions."

**Instructions:** All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA-2024-F-1912 for "Filing of Food Additive Petition From Environmental Defense Fund, Breast Cancer Prevention Partners, Center for Food Safety, Environmental Working Group, Tom Neltner, and Maricel Maffini; Request To Amend the Food Additive Regulations To Remove Authorization of Fluorinated Polyethylene; Reopening of the Comment Period." Received comments, those filed in a timely manner (see **ADDRESSES**), will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as "Confidential Submissions," publicly viewable at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240-402-7500.

- **Confidential Submissions**—To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states "THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION." We will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in our consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as "confidential." Any information marked as "confidential" will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA's posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the "Search" box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240-402-7500.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lillian Mawby, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Food and Drug Administration, 5001 Campus Dr., College Park, MD 20740, 301-796-4041.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In the **Federal Register** of April 26, 2024 (89 FR 32386), FDA published a notification of filing of a food additive petition (FAP 3B4837), submitted by Environmental Defense Fund, Breast Cancer Prevention Partners, Center for Food Safety, Environmental Working Group, Tom Neltner, and Maricel Maffini, c/o Maricel Maffini, Frederick, MD 21701. The petition proposes that FDA revoke § 177.1615 (21 CFR 177.1615, "Polyethylene, fluorinated"). Interested persons were originally given until June 25, 2024, to comment.

Following publication of the filing notice in the **Federal Register** of April 26, 2024, FDA was alerted that FAP 3B4837 was not uploaded to the docket, which did not allow respondents the ability to view the FAP when the notice was published in the **Federal Register**. Therefore, we are reopening the comment period for 60 days (which corresponds to the amount of time that the petition was missing from the docket) to allow for interested parties to view the FAP posted to the docket.

#### Correction

In the **Federal Register** of Friday, April 26, 2024 (89 FR 32886), in FR Doc. 2024-09027, on page 32387, in the second column in the paragraph under Section II. "Request To Repeal 21 CFR part 177.1615," correct the second sentence to read: "Specifically, the petitioners state that the fluorinated polyethylene manufactured consistent with § 177.1615 can produce per- and poly-fluorinated alkyl substances that can migrate to food and, therefore, are not safe pursuant to section 409(c)(5) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 348(c)(5))."

We are correcting the sentence to delete the word "polymeric."

Dated: July 22, 2024.

**Lauren K. Roth,**

*Associate Commissioner for Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2024-16337 Filed 7-24-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4164-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### 38 CFR Part 1

#### RIN 2900-AS11

#### Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its regulations governing the confidentiality and release of VA records subject to the Privacy Act of 1974. VA proposes to exempt portions of the new “Law Enforcement Officer Evaluations (LEO Evals)—VA” (216VA10) system of records from certain provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 to prevent compromising the objectivity and fairness of the testing and evaluation process.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before September 23, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Except as provided below, comments received before the close of the comment period will be available at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) for public viewing, inspection, or copying, including any personally identifiable or confidential business information that is included in a comment. Comments received before the close of the comment period on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) will be posted as soon as possible after they have been received. VA will not post [Regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) public comments that make threats to individuals or institutions or suggest that the individual will take actions to harm the individual. VA encourages individuals not to submit duplicative comments; however, we will post comments from multiple unique commenters even if the content is identical or nearly identical to other comments. Any public comment received after the comment period’s closing date is considered late and will not be considered in the final rulemaking. In accordance with the Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023, a 100 word Plain-Language Summary of this proposed rule is available at [Regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), under RIN 2900–AS11.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephania Griffin, Chief Privacy Officer, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, [stephania.griffin@va.gov](mailto:stephania.griffin@va.gov), 704–245–2492 (this is not a toll-free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Privacy Act of 1974, codified at section 552a of title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.), governs the means by which the U.S. Government collects, maintains, uses, and disseminates personally identifiable information. The Privacy Act applies to such information that is maintained in a “system of records.” A system of records is a group of any records under the control of an agency from which information about

an individual is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual. See section 552a(a)(4) and (5).

VA maintains numerous systems of records and, in accordance with section 552a(e)(4), provides notice in the **Federal Register** each time a system of records is established or revised. In order to safeguard personal information contained in VA’s systems of records and carry out the requirements of the Privacy Act, VA has established regulations in 38 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1.575 through 1.582. These regulations govern VA’s policy on maintenance, use, and disclosure of information contained in its systems of records, including the ability of individuals to access information about themselves under the Privacy Act.

While individuals may request access to records containing information about themselves under the Privacy Act, sections 552a(j) and (k) allow the head of a Federal agency to promulgate rules to exempt a system of records from the general accounting, access, and administrative provisions of the Privacy Act contained in section 552a(c)(3), (d), (e)(1), (e)(4)(G) through (I), and (f). In particular, section 552a(j) provides for general exemptions and section 552a(k) provides for specific exemptions.

Concurrent with this proposed rulemaking, notice is being provided in the **Federal Register** that VA is establishing a new system of records entitled “Law Enforcement Officer Evaluations (LEO Evals)—VA (216VA10).” Information in this new system of records will be used to document the records of VA police officer candidates and VA police officers undergoing psychological evaluations for hire or annually after hire. The function of the VA Police Service is to provide for the maintenance of law and order and the protection of persons and property on Department property. Having qualified individuals is critical to this function. Psychological evaluations, testing, and notes will contain data to assess the applicant’s or employee’s psychological fitness to meet the functional requirements of a VA police officer position. Such information will be provided by VA Police Officers and VA Police Officer candidates; VA psychologists and psychiatrists conducting psychological evaluations; VA police chiefs and supervisors; and VA human resources and occupational health staff.

Consistent with section 552a(k)(6), which allows an agency to exempt testing or examination materials used

solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the Federal service the disclosure of which would compromise the objectivity or fairness of the testing or examination process, VA proposes to exempt portions of the “LEO Evals” system of records from the accounting, access, and administrative provisions of the Privacy Act established in section 552a(c)(3), (d)(1) through (4), (e)(1), (e)(4)(G) through (I), and (f).

VA proposes this exemption because portions of a record may relate to testing and examination material used solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the Federal service. Access to or amendment of this information by VA police officers and VA police officer candidates would compromise the objectivity and fairness of the testing or examination process. Amendment of such records could also impose a highly impracticable administrative burden by requiring testing and examinations to be continuously re-administered.

Without this proposed exemption, the accounting, access, and administrative provisions of the Privacy Act contained in 38 U.S.C. 552a(c)(3), (d)(1) through (4), (e)(1), (e)(4)(G) through (I), and (f) would allow VA police officers and VA police officer candidates to obtain their personal information contained in the “LEO Evals” system of records, to obtain an accounting of certain disclosures of such personal information, and to amend certain personal information contained therein.

Therefore, VA proposes to add this exemption to its current list of Privacy Act exemptions in new paragraph (f) of 38 CFR 1.582. This would ensure the integrity of the testing and examination process to certify only those VA police officers that possess the emotional and mental stability to serve in this critical role.

As proposed, 38 CFR 1.582(f) would thus state that VA provides limited access to Law Enforcement Officer Evaluations (LEO Evals)—VA (216VA10). Subparagraph (1) would state that records contained in this system of records are exempted pursuant to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(6) from 5 U.S.C. 552a(c)(3), (d)(1) through (4), (e)(1), (e)(4)(G) through (I), and (f). Subparagraph (2) would further explain that these exemptions apply to the extent that information in this system of records is subject to exemption pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(6) because they relate to testing or examination material used solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the Federal service, the

disclosure of which could compromise the objectivity or fairness of the testing or examination process.

#### Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and 14094

Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review) directs agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, when regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, and other advantages; distributive impacts; and equity). Executive Order 13563 (Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review) emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, reducing costs, harmonizing rules, and promoting flexibility. Executive Order 14094 (Executive Order on Modernizing Regulatory Review) supplements and reaffirms the principles, structures, and definitions governing contemporary regulatory review established in Executive Order 12866 of September 30, 1993 (Regulatory Planning and Review), and Executive Order 13563 of January 18, 2011 (Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review). The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has determined that this rulemaking is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866, as amended by Executive Order 14094. The Regulatory Impact Analysis associated with this rulemaking can be found as a supporting document at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

#### Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Secretary hereby certifies that this proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities as they are defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612). This proposed rule would exempt certain personnel evaluations from disclosure under certain provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974. The Privacy Act primarily affects individuals and not entities and the proposed rule would impose no duties or obligations on small entities. Therefore, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), the initial and final regulatory flexibility analysis requirements of 5 U.S.C. 603 and 604 do not apply.

#### Unfunded Mandates

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 requires, at 2 U.S.C. 1532, that agencies prepare an assessment of anticipated costs and benefits before issuing any rule that may result in the expenditure by State, local, and Tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the

private sector, of \$100 million or more (adjusted annually for inflation) in any one year. This proposed rule would have no such effect on State, local, and Tribal governments, or on the private sector.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act

This proposed rule contains no provisions constituting a collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521).

#### List of Subjects in 38 CFR Part 1

Administrative practice and procedure, Archives and records, Government employees, Privacy, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures.

#### Signing Authority

Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved and signed this document on July 18, 2024, and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### Jeffrey M. Martin,

*Assistant Director, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Department of Veterans Affairs proposes to amend 38 CFR part 1 as set forth below:

#### PART 1—GENERAL PROVISIONS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 1 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 38 U.S.C. 5101, and as noted in specific sections.

■ 2. Amend § 1.582 by adding paragraph (f) to read as follows:

#### § 1.582 Exemptions.

\* \* \* \* \*

(f) *Exemption of Law Enforcement Officer Evaluation Records.* VA provides limited access to Law Enforcement Officer Evaluations (LEO Evals)—VA (216VA10).

(1) Records contained in this system of records are exempted pursuant to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(6) from 5 U.S.C. 552a(c)(3), (d)(1) through (4), (e)(1), (e)(4)(G) through (I), and (f).

(2) These exemptions apply to the extent that information in this system of records is subject to exemption pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(6) because they relate to testing or examination material used solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the Federal service, the

disclosure of which could compromise the objectivity or fairness of the testing or examination process.

\* \* \* \* \*

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

#### 40 CFR Part 52

[EPA–R04–OAR–2021–0264; FRL–8980–01–R4]

#### Air Plan Approval; North Carolina; Mecklenburg Emission Control Standards and Nitrogen Oxides

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision to the Mecklenburg County portion of the North Carolina SIP, hereinafter referred to as the Mecklenburg Local Implementation Plan (LIP). The revision was submitted by the State of North Carolina, through the North Carolina Division of Air Quality (NCDAQ), on behalf of Mecklenburg County Air Quality (MCAQ) via a letter dated April 24, 2020. The revision includes updates to various emission control standards contained in the Mecklenburg County Air Pollution Control Ordinance (MCAPCO) incorporated into the LIP. EPA is proposing to approve these changes pursuant to the Clean Air Act (CAA or Act).

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before August 26, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–R04–OAR–2021–0264 at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from [Regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or