resources of the project area. The analysis concluded the impact to a very few individuals at one particular location were great enough to raise the level of the visual impacts to significant. However, the CEC concluded in its PMPD that the Draft EIS/FSA analysis did not take into account the larger viewshed of the area and determined that the visual impacts were, therefore, not significant. Western agrees with this conclusion.

A final issue concerned the impacts to existing wetlands at the proposed site location. Region IX of the EPA expressed concerns over the wetland impacts of the project proposal. These wetlands are within the original 77-acre parcel owned by Calpine. This parcel had been a seasonally flooded rice field when the existing Greenleaf I plant was constructed in 1985, but the portion of the parcel not built upon had been left fallow. The SPP will fill 5.83 acres of these former rice fields. The EPA pointed out that there was an alternative presented in the Draft EIS/FSA that would avoid impacts to all wetlands. However, that alternative was considered infeasible because Sutter County would not likely permit a conversion of currently cultivated agricultural land to industrial use, the landowners stated their strong opposition to selling to Calpine for any reason, and this location had the likelihood of impacting the nearby Sutter National Wildlife Refuge.

Western has determined that the proposed action, with the system alternatives discussed above, is the environmentally preferable alternative. This alternative, with the mitigative measures outlined below, will not have a significant effect on any portion of the human environment.

Mitigation Measures

Western and the CEC have detailed 165 different Conditions of Certification, or mitigative measures, to reduce the impacts of the SPP. Not all of these conditions are included to reduce significant environmental impacts, some are merely intended to apply to the SPP as standard operating procedures. These conditions of certification are part of the standard certification process of the CEC. However, the following presents an overview of the mitigative measures that Calpine will adopt to reduce the environmental impacts of the SPP.

In terms of impacts to air resources, 44 separate conditions will apply to the construction and operation of the SPP. The plant itself will use the air-cooling alternative. Calpine must take a number of measures to reduce or avoid fugitive dust emissions during the construction phase of the project, such as paving roads, wetting open excavations, washing vehicles, and others. Calpine must obtain Emission Reduction Credits greater than 100 percent of the plant's emissions for all criteria pollutants. Other control technologies will reduce emissions to the lowest levels according to the best available control technology. Any potential for air emissions beyond the agreed upon levels, such as shutting down control equipment, or breaking or repairing this equipment, requires notification to the local air quality control district. Calpine must mitigate land use issues by construction and operation controls, such as using earth berms, vegetation screening, and lighting controls to reduce the impacts on the surrounding residents. Calpine must place the transmission lines to reduce to the greatest degree impacts to local farming practices. Calpine must also provide a new aircraft landing strip for use by the local farmers.

Calpine has agreed to carry out certain measures to lessen the impacts to the socioeconomic resources. These include payments to the local fire protection district for new equipment and training for firefighters.

The analysis in the Final EIS concluded that there was not a significant visual impact imposed by the project provided that certain measures were taken to lessen some of the impacts. Calpine must paint the existing plant, the new plant, and any other structures such as tanks, stacks, and fences with non-reflective colors so that they blend into the surroundings better. They must hood or direct exterior lighting onto surfaces to minimize light pollution, including fixes to the existing plant. They must landscape property to screen most of the plants from outside viewers. Finally, to the extent possible, they must not place transmission line structures directly in front of residences or in direct line-of-sight from a residence to the Sutter Buttes.

Though the impacts to biological resources are expected to be minimal, Calpine must provide a biological monitor on site during all construction phases, and provide environmental awareness training for all employees. Certain restrictions must be observed, such as timing and monitoring of activities to minimize impacts to the giant garter snake, Swainson's hawk, and migratory birds. Finally, Calpine must provide funding to Wildlands, Incorporated, to acquire and manage lands to compensate for loss of habitat.

Using the dry-cooling alternative will minimize overall impacts to water resources, and the plant must not discharge any wastewater into streams or surface water. The plant will provide sufficient on site stormwater retention to control a 10-year, 24-hour storm event so that the plant does not contribute to drainage problems. Calpine must mitigate impacted wetlands by purchasing land through Wildlands, Incorporated, at a ratio of one acre of compensatory wetlands for every acre disturbed.

Qualified professionals must monitor all construction-related activities in all areas determined to be sensitive for cultural and paleontological resources.

Specific mitigative measures have been proposed for the actions needed to accommodate the interconnection with Western's transmission system. The Mitigation Action Plan, prepared under 10 CFR 1021.331 and adopted as part of this Record of Decision, details the specific mitigation needed for the interconnection. These include the conditions placed upon the siting of the transmission line, which are discussed above. Also adopted as part of the environmentally preferred alternative, is the transmission line route with the switching station at the end of O'Banion Road.

All practicable means have been taken to avoid or minimize the environmental harm of the environmentally preferred alternative. No significant environmental impacts will result from the construction, operation, and maintenance of the SPP or its ancillary facilities.

Dated: May 25, 1999.

Michael S. Hacskaylo,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 99–15126 Filed 6–14–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6358–5]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Agricultural Health Study: Pesticide Exposure Study

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 proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) entitled: ''Agricultural Health Study: Pesticide Exposure Study'' EPA ICR Number: 1906.01. Before submitting this

ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 16, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Public comments should be submitted to: Ms. Dianne Dean, US EPA (MD–56), Research Triangle Park, NC 27711.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Interested persons may obtain a copy of this ICR without charge by contacting Ms. Dianne Dean, 919–541–3085. Fax: 919–541–1486. E-mail: dean.dianne@epamail.epa.gov. For technical information on the proposed study, contact Mr. Gary Evans, 919–541–3124. FAX: 919–541–4046. E-mail: evans.gary@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are private pesticide applicators in the Agricultural Health Study epidemiological cohort, their spouses, and children.

Title: Agricultural Health Study: Pesticide Exposure Study, EPA ICR Number: 1906.01.

Abstract: The National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) have agreed through a Memorandum of Understanding to perform a prospective epidemiological study of the risk of cancer and other diseases for 90,000 registered pesticide applicators and their spouses in the states of Iowa and North Carolina. Information Collection Requests prepared by NCI for survey data collection in the AHS epidemiological study have received OMB approval (current OMB #0925–04–06, expires November 30, 2001). The U.S. EPA will support the AHS by performing an exposure measurement study of private pesticide applicators in the cohort. The exposure measurement study is the subject of the information collection request cited in this notice.

Study respondents will be registered private pesticide applicators in the AHS prospective epidemiological cohort, their spouses, and up to two children (between the ages of 3–18 years old) selected from each home. An estimated total of 160 applicators will be selected into the study. Approximately 24 of these applicators will be asked to participate in the exposure study in each of two years. Participation will be entirely voluntary.

Applicator exposures will monitored around their application of a target pesticide. Observations of applicator pesticide handling, mixing, loading, and application (HMLA) work practices will be performed. A sample of the pesticide formulation will be collected. Measurements of applicator exposure will be obtained through collection of personal, environmental, and urinary biomarker samples. Urine samples will be collected from participating spouses and children to measure urinary biomarkers of exposure to the applied pesticide.

A screening questionnaire will be administered to cohort pesticide applicators to determine their eligibility for participation in the exposure study. A modified version of the NCI AHS Private Pesticide Applicator Followup Questionnaire (OMB #0925–04–06) will be administered to the applicator immediately after the observed HMLA activity. A Biomarker Questionnaire will be administered to the applicator at the end of the monitoring period to collect data for interpreting the measurements and to provide additional information about applicator and farm family exposure to pesticides. Spouse and child components of the Biomarker Questionnaire will be administered to participating spouses and up to two participating children in the applicator's family. The full NCI AHS Private Pesticide Applicator Followup Questionnaire (OMB ι0925–04–06) will be administered to the pesticide applicator several months after the observed application event.

The data will be used by scientists within ORD and the Agencies collaborating on AHS. Data will be used to:

(i) Assess the magnitude of cohort applicator exposures to applied target pesticides;

(ii) Assess the classification of cohort applicator exposures using data from AHS epidemiological study questionnaires and provide data for refining exposure classification algorithms;

(iii) Identify key exposure factors;

(iv) Assess the association between the application of target pesticides and potential exposure for the applicator's spouse and child.

The information will appear in the form of final EPA reports, journal articles, and will also be made publicly available.

The total cost of the study is estimated to be $1.8 M over a period of three years.

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 and 48 CFR Chapter 15.

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: Screening questionnaires will be administered by telephone to determine eligibility to participate in the study. It is estimated that 800 AHS cohort applicators will be screened to identify eligible pesticide applicators. Average respondent burden for screening is estimated to be 10 minutes. The total burden for the screening questionnaire is estimated to be 133 hours.

Average respondent burden for applicators participating in the exposure measurement study is estimated to be 4 hours for pesticide applicators, 60 minutes for applicator spouses and children providing urine samples, and 30 minutes for children only responding to the questionnaire. This time includes recruitment, training time, time the respondent will spend collecting or assisting collection of samples, and time spent completing interviewer-administered questionnaires. Approximately 24 of the 160 pesticide applicators will be monitored two times. It is estimated that 115 spouses and 96 children will provide urine samples and answer the questionnaire. An estimated additional 64 children will participate by answering the questionnaire only. The total burden for participating in the exposure study is estimated to be 983 hours.

The overall total estimated burden for screening and for participation in the exposure study is estimated to be 1116 hours. Data collection is scheduled to occur over a two-year period with work approximately 60 applicators in the first year, and the remainder of the applicators and repeat visits in the second year. Therefore, the annual

burden is estimated to be 410 hours for respondents for the first year, and 706 hours in the second year.

There are no direct respondent costs for this data collection. An incentive payment of $100 will be offered to defray the burden for pesticide applicators participating in the exposure measurement study. An incentive payment of $20 will be offered to spouses and children providing urine samples, and $5 to children responding to the questionnaire only.

Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This 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: May 27, 1999.

Gary J. Foley,

Director, National Exposure Research Laboratory.

[FR Doc. 99–15168 Filed 6–14–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6359–5]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Foreign Purchaser Acknowledgment Statement of Unregistered Pesticides; Submission of ICR No. 0161.08 to OMB for Review and Approval; Request for Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of submission to OMB; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that the following Information Collection Request (ICR) entitled: ''Foreign Purchaser Acknowledgment Statement of Unregistered Pesticides'' (EPA No. 0161.08, OMB No. 2070–0027) 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. This 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 June 30, 1999. Before submitting this ICR to OMB, EPA issued a **Federal Register** document announcing the Agency's intent to seek OMB approval for this ICR and providing a 60-day public comment opportunity (64 FR 3083, January 20, 1999). EPA did not receive any comments on this ICR during the comment period.

DATES: Additional comments, identified by ICR numbers EPA No. 0161.08 and OMB No. 2070–0027, must be received on or before July 15, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone on (202) 260-2740, by e-mail: ''farmer.sandy@epa.gov.'' You may also obtain copies of the ICR document from the EPA Internet Home Page at http://www.epa.gov/icr/icr.htm and refer to EPA ICR No. 0161.08.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referencing EPA ICR No. 0161.08 and OMB Control No. 2070-0027, to the following addresses:

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regulatory Information Division (Mail Code: 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. 0161.08; OMB Control No. 2070–0027.

Current Expiration Date: Current OMB approval expires on June 30, 1999.

Title: Foreign Purchaser Acknowledgment Statement of Unregistered Pesticides.

Abstract: This data collection program is designed to provide notice to foreign purchasers of unregistered pesticides exported from the United States that the pesticide product cannot be sold in the United States. Section 17(a)(2) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA or the Act) requires an exporter of any pesticide not registered under FIFRA section 3 or sold under FIFRA section 6(a)(1) to obtain a signed statement from the foreign purchaser acknowledging that the purchaser is aware that the pesticide is not registered for use in the United States and cannot be sold in the United States. A copy of this statement must be transmitted to an appropriate official of the government in the importing country. The purpose of the purchaser acknowledgment statement requirement is to notify the government of the importing country that a pesticide judged hazardous to human health or the environment, or for which no such hazard assessment has been made, will be imported into that country. This information is submitted in the form of annual or per-shipment statements to the EPA, which maintains original records and transmits copies thereof to appropriate government officials of the countries which are importing the pesticides. The burden for this information collection has been constant since the implementation of the 1993 pesticide export policy governing the export of pesticides, devices, and active ingredients used in producing pesticides.

A detailed description of the collection activity covered by this ICR is provided in the ICR. The other activities related to pesticide registration, e.g., labeling and recordkeeping, are covered by a separate ICR (EPA ICR No. 0277; OMB Control No. 2070–0060). In general, the records that are required to be maintained under section 8 of FIFRA are already covered by the Pesticide Registration ICR. In addition, this ICR does not include any estimated burden or costs related to pesticide product labeling, which is not considered to be a collection of information subject to approval under the PRA because the information that must be included as the product labeling has been approved and provided by EPA. In 1995, in the context of the Pesticide Registration ICR, OMB determined that the Agency does not need to estimate burden or costs for the third party disclosure requirement involving the registrant's disclosure of product specific information to potential users and the general public through the pesticide labeling is not considered to be a collection of information subject to approval under the PRA because the information that must be included as the product labeling has been approved and provided to the registrant by EPA. (5 CFR 1320.3(c)(2)). This ICR, therefore, only accounts for the incremental burden of maintaining records related to the foreign labeling, and providing appropriate translations of certain required labeling statements.

Burden Statement: The annual respondent burden for this information collection, which is based on a response