

the original and the number of copies required by the Commission's regulations to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. An additional copy must be sent to: Director, Division of Licensing and Compliance, Office of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, at the above address. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6452-1]

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Applications for NPDES Permits and the Sewage Sludge Management Permits

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Applications for NPDES Discharge Permits and the Sewage Sludge Management Permits, OMB Control No. 2040-0086, EPA ICR No. 0226.15, which expires on November 30, 1999. 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 November 4, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260-2740, by email at farmer.sandy@epa.gov. You may download a copy of the ICR from the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 0226.15.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Applications for NPDES Discharge Permits and the Sewage Sludge Management Permits, (OMB Control No. 2040-0086; EPA ICR No. 0226.15) which expires on 11/30/99.

**Abstract:** This ICR calculates the burden and costs associated with permit applications for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) discharges and sewage sludge management activities. It is an update of the ICR, and also integrates and updates application requirements discussed in one amendment ICR approved by OMB, "National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Application Requirements—Form 2A and 2S (Final Rule)," OMB Control No. 2040-0086, ICR No. 0226.14, approved January 13, 1999. EPA uses the data contained in applications and supplemental information requests to set appropriate permit conditions, issue permits, and assess permit compliance. EPA maintains national applications information in databases, which assist permit writers in determining permit conditions. Depending on the application form they are using, applicants may be required to supply information about their facilities, discharges, treatment systems, sewage sludge use and disposal practices, pollutant sampling data, or other relevant information. In its burden and cost calculations, this ICR includes requests for information supplemental to permit applications. Application information is necessary to obtain an NPDES or sewage sludge permit. This ICR also includes the development of a storm water pollution prevention plan as part of the requirements for the multi-sector general permit, for industrial activities. The average time for this activity is 80 hours and there are an estimated 16,350 respondents. The estimated annualized burden is 1,307,963 hours. This is a newly covered area under this ICR and represents the major portion of the increase in burden.

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 **Federal Register** document required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on 04/23/98 (63 FR 20182); no comments were received.

**Burden Statement:** The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 23.4 hours per response (combining reporting and recordkeeping). 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.

**Respondents/Affected Entities:** Publicly owned treatment works (POTWs), privately owned treatment works, new and existing industrial manufacturing and commercial dischargers, storm water dischargers, treatment works treating domestic sewage (TWTDS), and States and territories.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 88,209.

**Frequency of Response:** varies.

**Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden:** 2,038,694 hours.

**Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden (non-labor costs):** \$1,004,710.

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 0226.15 and OMB Control No. 2040-0086 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Policy, Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460;

and

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: September 29, 1999.

**Richard T. Westlund,**

*Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.*

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