

information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Respondents/Affected Entities:

Owners/operators of Fossil Fuel Fired Steam Generating Units.

Estimated Number of Respondents:

660.

Frequency of Response: Quarterly.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 62,865 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Capital, O&M Cost Burden: \$9,900,000.

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. 1052.06 and OMB Control No. 2060-0026 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Information, Collection Strategies Division (2822), 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: December 8, 1999.

Oscar Morales,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

[FR Doc. 99-32382 Filed 12-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6508-2]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request, National Emission Standard for Mercury

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: National Emission Standard for Mercury, OMB 2060-0097, expiration date January 31, 2000. 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 January 13, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the ICR contact 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> and refer to EPA ICR No. 0113.07. For technical questions about the ICR contact Melissa Raack at (202) 564-7039.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* National Emission Standard for Mercury, (OMB Control No. 2060-0097; EPA ICR No. 0113.07) expiring January 31, 2000. This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Abstract: The National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Mercury emissions (40 CFR part 61, subpart E) were proposed on December 7, 1971, promulgated on April 6, 1973, and amended on October 14, 1975 and March 19, 1987. These standards apply to all stationary sources which process mercury ore to recover mercury, use mercury chlor-alkali cells to produce chlorine gas and alkali metal hydroxide, and incinerate or dry wastewater treatment plant sludge. Approximately 142 sources (133 sludge incineration and drying plants and 12 mercury-cell chlor-alkali plants) are currently subject to the standard; and no additional sources are expected to become subject to the standard in the next three years. Mercury is the pollutant regulated under this standard. Owners or operators of the affected facilities described must make the following one-time-only reports: notification of the date of construction or reconstruction; notification of the anticipated and actual dates of startup; notification of any physical or operational change to an existing facility which may increase the regulated pollutant emission rate; notification of the date of the initial performance test; and the results of the initial performance test. Owners or operators are also required to maintain records of the occurrence and duration of any startup, shutdown, or malfunction in the operation of an affected facility, or any period during which the monitoring system is inoperative. A written report of each period for which hourly monitored parameters fall outside their established limits is required semi-annually for mercury-cell chlor-alkali plants. These notifications, reports and records are required, in general, of all sources subject to NESHAP.

In the Administrator's judgment, mercury emissions from mercury ore

processing facilities, mercury chlor-alkali plants, including the cell room ventilation system, and sludge incineration and drying plants cause or contribute to air pollution that may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health or welfare.

In order to ensure compliance with the standards promulgated to protect public health, adequate recordkeeping and reporting is necessary. In the absence of such information enforcement personnel would be unable to determine whether the standards are being met on a continuous basis, as required by the Clean Air Act. Recordkeeping and reporting are mandatory under this regulation. Records of emission test results and other data needed to determine total emissions shall be maintained at the source and made available for inspection for a minimum of two 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 **Federal Register** document required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on June 22, 1999 (64 FR 33284); one comment was received; however, there was no comment received on adjusting the burden figures.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1,104 hours per response. 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: Owners/operators of sources which process mercury.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 142.

Frequency of Response: semiannual for existing sources (chlor-alkali facilities).

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 26,504 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Capital, O&M Cost Burden: \$0.

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. 0113.07 and OMB Control No. 2060-0097 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Information, Collection Strategies Division (2822), 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.

Oscar Morales,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

[FR Doc. 99-32383 Filed 12-13-99; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6508-8]

Science Advisory Board; Notification of Public Advisory Committee Meeting; Open Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that the public teleconference meeting of the Science Advisory Board's (SAB) Integrated Risk Project Subcommittee of the Executive Committee scheduled for Monday, December 20, 1999 between the hours of 1:00 pm-3:00 pm has been canceled and will likely be rescheduled during January 2000. Any member of the public wishing further information concerning the cancellation of the meeting should contact John R. Fowle III, Designated Federal Officer for the Integrated Risk Project Subcommittee, Science Advisory Board (1400), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington DC 20460; telephone (202) 564-4547; FAX (202) 501-0323; or via e-mail at <fowle.jack@epa.gov>

Dated: December 3, 1999.

Donald G. Barnes,

Staff Director, Science Advisory Board.

[FR Doc. 99-32378 Filed 12-13-99; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6508-6]

Regulatory Reinvention (XL) Pilot Projects

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability of Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) Pretreatment Project XL Draft Phase I Project Agreement (PPA).

SUMMARY: EPA is today requesting comments on a draft Project XL Phase I Project Agreement for MSD. The Phase I PA is a voluntary agreement developed collaboratively by MSD, stakeholders, the state of Kentucky, and EPA. Project XL, announced in the **Federal Register** on May 23, 1995 (60 FR 27282), gives regulated sources the flexibility to develop alternative strategies that will replace or modify specific regulatory requirements on the condition that they produce greater environmental benefits than would have been achieved without the flexibility. This Phase 1 Project XL Agreement is the first phase of a two-part agreement between EPA and MSD. It spells out the intentions of MSD and EPA related to data collection and development of pretreatment performance measures and program redevelopment. Due to the phased approach of the project and the data collection and analyses that need to be accomplished by MSD prior to determination of any requested regulatory flexibility, EPA and MSD have adopted a phased approach to the Project XL Agreement. This Phase 1 Agreement contains as much detail as possible at this time regarding the project and the intentions of each party. The Final Project Agreement between EPA and MSD will be signed in the future to implement Pretreatment Program reinvention.

MSD plans to redesign its pretreatment program at the Jeffersonstown WWTP, establishing links between wastewater programs (such as collection system, storm water, sludge), and move towards a more holistic watershed protection strategy (Chenoweth Run watershed). Information gathering and sharing are important aspects of this proposal. Resources will be shifted from the pretreatment program and applied towards other environmental programs for greater environmental gain within the watershed. Before redesigning its pretreatment program, MSD will expend extensive resources collecting data in the watershed and developing

performance measures. MSD's requested flexibility will be finalized once data is analyzed and performance measures identified. The Final Project Agreement will include details of MSD's requested flexibility and commensurate superior environmental performance. A notice of availability and request for comment on the Final Project Agreement will be published in the **Federal Register** at a later date.

MSD has proposed this project for a watershed which is not currently meeting its use designation. In an effort to reduce pollutant loadings and reach use designation, MSD will identify desirable loading patterns within the watershed, including loadings to the collection system and treatment plants, stormwater facilities, and from plants and facilities to receiving waters. MSD plans to use pretreatment program requirement alternatives to encourage industry's aid in funding non-traditional water quality controls such as creating riparian zones and planting trees.

The current MSD XL proposal defers any request for Agency consideration of regulatory flexibility until the completion of data collection in the first phase of the project. Therefore MSD's Phase I Agreement describes a process to conduct data collection and development of pretreatment performance measures, program redevelopment, and program implementation. The proposal, and supplemental information provided to EPA, does set forth the following regulatory areas as potentially requiring regulatory flexibility in the next phases of the project: significant noncompliance; monitoring and inspections; reporting; and definition of significant industrial user (SIU). Upon the completion of the data gathering activities, EPA will work with MSD to develop and articulate more specifically the environmental benefits associated with the flexibility considered in MSD's proposal (e.g., pollution prevention measures or other environmental improvements). An FPA will be negotiated upon receipt of sufficient data for the Agency to evaluate the proposed SEP and associated regulatory flexibility. The site specific rulemaking setting forth the specific regulatory flexibility to be implemented will be developed and will ensure that the project will fully comply with applicable federal requirements under the Clean Water Act. Opportunities for public comment will be provided once the rule has been drafted.

DATES: The period for submission of comments ends on December 28, 1999.