

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6715-1]

Continuous Release Reporting Regulations (CRRR) Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA); Request for Comment on Renewal Information Collection**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 EPA is planning to submit the following continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Continuous Release Reporting Regulations (CRRR) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) (EPA ICR No. 1445.05, OMB No. 2050-0086). This is a request to renew an existing ICR that is currently approved. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the collection.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 14, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments submitted by regular U.S. Postal Service mail should be sent to: Docket Coordinator, Superfund Docket Office, Mail Code 5201G, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters, Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number 102RQ-CR2 in the subject line on the first page of your comment. Comments may also be submitted electronically or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for these submission methods as provided in unit III of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lynn Beasley, (703) 603-9086. Facsimile number: (703) 603-9104. Electronic address: beasley.lynn@epa.gov. Comments should not be submitted to this contact person.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Does This Notice Apply to Me?**

You may be affected by this notice if you are in charge of a facility that releases hazardous substances into the environment as specified in section 103(a) of the Comprehensive

Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended. According to section 103(a) of CERCLA, if the facility you are in charge of releases a hazardous substance that equals or exceeds its reportable quantity (RQ) and the release is not Federally permitted, you are required to notify the National Response Center (NRC) of the release immediately. However, according to section 103(f)(2) of CERCLA, if the release at the facility you are in charge of is "continuous," and "stable in quantity and rate," you may be exempted from the per-occurrence notification requirements of section 103(a) of CERCLA. To determine if the facility you are in charge of is affected by this action, you should carefully examine the applicability provisions in the Continuing Release Reporting Regulations (CRRR) (40 CFR part 302.8).

II. How Can I Get Additional Information or Copies of This Document or Other Support Documents?*A. By Phone, Fax, or E-Mail*

If you have any questions or need additional information about this notice or the information collection request (ICR) referenced, please contact Lynn Beasley, (703) 603-9086. Facsimile number: (703) 603-9104. Electronic address: beasley.lynn@epa.gov.

B. In Person

The official record for this notice, including the public version, and the referenced ICR have been established under docket control number 102RQ-CR2 (including comments and data submitted electronically, as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of any electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI), and the referenced ICR are available for inspection in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Superfund Docket Office, Crystal Gateway I, First Floor, 1235 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. The Superfund Docket is open from 9 AM to 4 PM, Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number of the Superfund Docket is (703) 603-9232.

III. How Can I Respond to This Notice?*A. How and to Whom Do I Submit the Comments?*

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. Be sure to identify the docket control number 102RQ-CR2 on any correspondence.

1. *By mail.* Submit written comments to: Docket Coordinator, Superfund Docket Office, Mail Code 5201G, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters, Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver written comments to: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Superfund Docket Office, Crystal Gateway I, First Floor, 1235 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. Telephone: (703) 603-9232.

3. *Electronically.* Submit your comments and/or data electronically by e-mail to: superfund.docket@epa.gov. Please note that you should not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comment and data will also be accepted on standard computer disks in WordPerfect 6/7/8 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number 102RQ-CR2. Electronic comments on this notice may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

B. How Should I Handle CBI Information That I Want to Submit To EPA?

You may claim information that you submit in response to this notice as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must also be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public docket by EPA without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult with Lynn Beasley, (703) 603-9086. Facsimile number: (703) 603-9104. Electronic address: beasley.lynn@epa.gov.

C. What Information Is EPA Particularly Interested In?

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), EPA specifically solicits comments and information to enable it to:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of EPA, including whether the information will have practical utility.

2. Evaluate the accuracy of EPA's estimates of the burdens of the proposed collections of information.

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

4. Minimize the burden of the collections of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated or electronic collection technologies or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

D. What Should I Consider When I Prepare My Comments for EPA?

EPA invites you to provide your views on the various options EPA proposes, new approaches EPA hasn't considered, the potential impacts of the various options (including possible unintended consequences), and any data or information that you would like EPA to consider during the development of the final action. You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

- Explain your views as clearly as possible.
- Describe any assumptions that you used.
- Provide technical information and/or data to support your views.
- If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate.
- Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
- Offer alternative ways to improve the rule or collection activity.
- Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this notice.
- At the beginning of your comments (e.g., as part of the "Subject" heading), be sure to properly identify the document on which you are commenting. You can do this by providing the docket control number assigned to this notice, along with the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation, or by using the appropriate EPA ICR or the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

IV. To What Information Collection Activity or ICR Does This Notice Apply?

EPA is seeking comments on the following ICR:

Title: Continuous Release Reporting Regulations (CRRR) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA).

ICR numbers: EPA ICR No. 1445.05, OMB No. 2050-0086.

ICR status: This ICR is currently scheduled to expire on September 30, 2000. 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 information collections appear on the collection instruments or instructions, in the **Federal Register** notices for related rulemakings and ICR notices, and, if the collection is contained in a regulation, in a table of OMB approval numbers in 40 CFR part 9.

Abstract: Section 103(a) of CERCLA, as amended, requires the person in charge of a facility to immediately notify the NRC of a hazardous substance release into the environment if the amount of the release equals or exceeds the substance's RQ. The RQ of every hazardous substance can be found in Table 302.4 of 40 CFR part 302.4. Section 103(f)(2) of CERCLA provides facilities relief from this per-occurrence notification requirement if the hazardous substance release above the RQ is continuous, and stable in quantity and rate. Under the CRRR, a continuous release of a hazardous substance above the RQ requires an initial telephone call to the NRC, an initial written report to the EPA Region, and, if the source and chemical composition of the continuous release does not change and the level of the continuous release does not significantly increase, a follow-up written report to the EPA Region one year after submission of the initial written report. If the source or chemical composition of the previously reported continuous release changes, notifying the NRC and EPA Region of a change in the source or composition of the release is required. Further, a significant increase in the level of the previously reported continuous release must be reported immediately to the NRC according to section 103(a) of CERCLA. Finally, any change in information submitted in support of a continuous release notification must be reported to the EPA Region.

The reporting of a hazardous substance release that is above the substance's RQ allows the Federal government to determine whether a Federal response action is required to control or mitigate any potential adverse effects to public health or welfare or the environment.

The continuous release of hazardous substance information collected under CERCLA section 103(f)(2) is also available to EPA program offices and other Federal agencies who use the information to evaluate the potential need for additional regulations, new permitting requirements for specific substances or sources, or improved emergency response planning. Release notification information, which is stored

in the national Continuous Release-Emergency Response Notification System (CR-ERNS) data base, is available to State and local government authorities as well as the general public. State and local government authorities and facilities subject to the CRRR use release information for purposes of local emergency response planning. Members of the general public, who have access to release information through the Freedom of Information Act, may request release information for purposes of maintaining an awareness of what types of releases are occurring in different localities and what actions, if any, are being taken to protect public health and welfare and the environment. CR-ERNS fact sheets, which provide summary and statistical information about hazardous substance release notifications, also are available to the public.

V. What Are EPA's Burden and Cost Estimates for This ICR?

Under the PRA, "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. For this collection, it includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and use 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.

The ICR provides a detailed explanation of this estimate, which is only briefly summarized in this notice. The annual public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 77 hours per affected facility. The following is a summary of the estimates taken from the ICR:

Respondents/affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are facilities that manufacture, process, or otherwise use certain specified hazardous substances.

Estimated total number of facilities that will have to report continuous hazardous substance releases per year: 2,342.

Frequency of response: After reporting the continuous release to the NRC and EPA Region initially, only an annual report to the EPA Region is necessary unless there is a change in the source of

the continuous release, a change in the chemical composition of the continuous release, or a significant increase in the level of the continuous release. In these cases the person in charge of the facility has to notify the NRC and/or the EPA Region of the change in the continuous release.

Estimated total annual burden hours: 24,732 hours.

Estimated total annual burden costs: \$725,000.

VI. Are There Changes in the Estimates From the Last Approval?

In the renewal ICR, EPA will review the current burden and cost statement and adjust it accordingly. EPA does not expect the burden and cost statement in the renewal ICR to be any greater than the burden and cost statement in the current ICR.

VII. What Is the Next Step in the Process for This ICR?

EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12. EPA will issue another **Federal Register** notice pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(a)(1)(iv) to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB. If you have any questions about this ICR or the approval process, please contact Lynn Beasley, (703) 603-9086. Facsimile number: (703) 603-9104. Electronic address: beasley.lynn@epa.gov.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Information collection requests, Reporting and record keeping requirements.

Dated: June 1, 2000.

Stephen D. Luftig,

Director, Office of Emergency and Remedial Response.

[FR Doc. 00-14869 Filed 6-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Final Comment Request

AGENCY: Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

ACTION: Final notice of submission for OMB review.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Equal

Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has submitted a request for clearance of the information collection described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). A notice that the EEOC would be submitting this request was published in the **Federal Register** on March 1, 2000, allowing for a 60-day public comment period. No public comments were received.

DATES: Written comments on this final notice must be submitted on or before July 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this final notice should be submitted to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Stuart Shapiro, Desk Officer for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or electronically mailed to SSHAPIRO@OMB.EOP.GOV. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Mr. Neckere at the address below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joachim Neckere, Director, Program Research and Surveys Division, 1801 L Street, NW., Room 9222, Washington, DC 20507, (202) 663-4958 (voice) or (202) 663-7063 (TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Collection Title: State and Local Government Information (EEO-4).

OMB Number: 3046-0008.

Frequency of Report: Biennial.

Type of Respondent: State and local government jurisdictions with 100 or more full-time employees.

Description of Affected Public: State and local governments excluding elementary and secondary public school districts.

Number of Responses: 10,000.

Reporting Hours: 40,000.

Number of Forms: 1.

Federal Cost: \$47,000.

Abstract: Section 709(c) of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000e-8(c), requires employers to make and keep records relevant to a determination of whether unlawful employment practices have been or are being committed and to make reports therefrom as required by the EEOC. Accordingly, the EEOC has issued regulations which set forth the reporting requirements for various kinds of employers. State and local governments with 100 or more full-time employees have been required to submit EEO-4 reports since 1973 (biennially in odd-numbered years since 1993). The individual reports are confidential.

EEO-4 data are used by the EEOC to investigate charges of discrimination

against state and local governments. In addition, the data are used to support EEOC decisions and conciliations, and for research. The data are shared with several other Federal government agencies. Pursuant to section 709(d) of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, EEO-4 data are also shared with 86 State and Local Fair Employment Practices Agencies (FEPAs). Aggregated data are also used by researchers and the general public.

Burden Statement: The estimated number of respondents included in the EEO-4 survey is 5,000 state and local governments. The estimated number of responses per respondent is approximately 2 EEO-4 reports and the reporting burden averages between 1 and 5 hours per response, including the time needed to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather and maintain the data, and complete and review the collection of information. The total number of responses is thus 10,000 reports while the total burden is estimated to be 40,000 hours, including recordkeeping burden. In order to help reduce burden, respondents are encouraged to report data on electronic media such as magnetic tapes and diskettes.

Dated: June 7, 2000.

For the Commission.

Ida L. Castro,

Chairwoman.

[FR Doc. 00-14889 Filed 6-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750-01-M

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission for Extension Under Delegated Authority; Comments Requested

June 7, 2000.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection(s), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) that does not display a valid control number. Comments are requested concerning (a)