

[FRL-5618-4]

Toxic Chemicals; PMNs; Submission of EPA ICR No. 574 to OMB; Agency Information Collection Activities**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 the Information Collection Request (ICR) entitled: Pre-Manufacture Review Reporting and Exemption Requirements for New Chemical Substances and Significant New Use Reporting Requirements for Chemical Substances [EPA ICR #574.09; OMB Control #2070-0012] 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. The ICR, which is abstracted below, describes the nature of the information collection, its estimated cost and burden, and includes a copy of the actual data collection instrument.

The Agency is requesting that OMB renew for 3 more years the existing approval for this ICR, which is scheduled to expire on October 31, 1996. A Federal Register notice announcing the Agency's intent to seek the renewal of this ICR and the 60 day public comment opportunity, requesting comments on the request and the contents of the ICR, was issued on June 28, 1996 (61 FR 33732). EPA did not receive any comments on this ICR during the comment period. Additional comments may be submitted on or before October 30, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY CONTACT: Sandy Farmer at EPA, (202) 260-2740, and refer to EPA ICR No. 574.09 or OMB Control No. 2070-0012.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referencing EPA ICR No. 574.09 and OMB Control No. 2070-0012, to the following addresses:

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regulatory Information Division (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. 574.09; OMB Control No. 2070-0012.

Current Expiration Date: Current OMB approval expires on October 31, 1996.

Title: Pre-Manufacture Review Reporting and Exemption Requirements for New Chemical Substances and Significant New Use Reporting Requirements for Chemical Substances.

Abstract: Section 5 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) requires manufacturers and importers of new chemical substances to submit to EPA notice of intent to manufacture or import a new chemical substance 90 days before manufacture or import begins. EPA reviews the information contained in the notice to evaluate the health and environmental effects of the new chemical substance. On the basis of the review, EPA may take further regulatory action under TSCA, if warranted. If EPA takes no action within 90 days, the submitter is free to manufacture or import the new chemical substance without restriction.

TSCA section 5 also authorizes EPA to issue Significant New Use Rules (SNURs). EPA uses this authority to take follow-up action on new or existing chemicals that may present an unreasonable risk to human health or the environment if used in a manner that may result in different and/or higher exposures of a chemical to humans or the environment. Once a use is determined to be a significant new use, persons must submit a notice to EPA 90 days before beginning manufacture, processing or importation of a chemical substance for that use. Such a notice allows EPA to receive and review information on such a use and, if necessary, regulate the use before it occurs.

Finally, TSCA § 5 also permits applications for exemption from section 5 review under certain circumstances. An applicant must provide information sufficient for EPA to make a determination that the circumstances in question qualify for an exemption. In granting an exemption, EPA may impose appropriate restrictions.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR parts 720, 721 and 723). Respondents may claim all or part of a notice confidential. EPA will disclose information that is covered by a claim of confidentiality only to the extent permitted by, and in accordance with, the procedures in TSCA § 14 and 40 CFR part 2.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately 101.5 hours per response, and to require 8,100 hours of recordkeeping. This estimate 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. No person is 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 displayed in 40 CFR Part 9.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are manufacturers or importers of new chemical substances, as defined by TSCA, or manufacturers, processors or importers of a chemical substance for a use that has been determined a significant new use, as defined by TSCA.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 432.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 241,611 hours.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

According to the procedures prescribed in 5 CFR 1320.12, EPA has submitted this ICR to OMB for review and approval. Any comments related to the renewal of this ICR should be submitted as described above.

Dated: September 24, 1996.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 96-24999 Filed 9-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

[FRL-5618-3]

Request for Applications for Essential Use Exemptions to the Production and Import Phaseout of Ozone Depleting Substances Under the Montreal Protocol**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: Through this notice, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is requesting applications for consideration at the Ninth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol to be held in September 1997 for exemptions to the production and import phaseout in 1998 and subsequent years for ozone-depleting substances (including halons 1211 and