

determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-17015 Filed 6-27-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5849-9]

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

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 following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Notification of Episodic Releases of Oil and Hazardous Substances, OMB Control Number 2050-0046, expiring 6/30/97. 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 July 30, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY CALL: Sandy Farmer at EPA, (202) 260-2740, and refer to EPA ICR No. 1049.08.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Notification of Episodic Releases of Oil and Hazardous Substances, (OMB Control Number: 2050-0046; EPA ICR No. 1049.08) expiring 6/30/97. This ICR requests an extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: This ICR addresses the reporting and recordkeeping activities required to comply with the release notification requirements for hazardous substances and oil specified in section 103(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended, and section 311 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). These reporting requirements are codified at 40 CFR parts 110, 117, and 302, and require the person in charge of a facility

or vessel to immediately notify the National Response Center (NRC) of hazardous substance releases into the environment and oil discharges into U.S. waters. The regulated community is expected to:

- Gather necessary release data, such as the time, quantity, and source of the release;
- Brief the facility manager;
- Consult with the environmental compliance expert;
- Report the release to the NRC using a toll-free telephone number, a facsimile number, or a telex number; and
- Keep a log of release data such as the time, date, and circumstances of the release.

(This information is expected, but not required under the regulation).

There are no recordkeeping requirements specified under CERCLA section 103(a), CWA section 311, or their implementing regulations. The person in charge of the facility or vessel, however, may elect to maintain a log detailing the time, date, and circumstances associated with the reported release. The purpose of maintaining a log of reported releases is to track correspondence with response authorities and to document compliance with release notification requirements under CERCLA and CWA. Because the respondent will probably perform this activity, burden and cost estimates associated with recordkeeping are included in this ICR.

None of the information to be gathered for this collection is believed to be confidential. 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** Notice required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on February 26, 1997 (62 *FR* 8722). No comments were received.

Burden Statement:

The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 4.1 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:

Facilities or vessels which accidentally release hazardous substances.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 29,204.

Frequency of Response: One-time telephone call to the NRC in the event of an episodic release.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 119,737 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized 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. 1049.08 and OMB Control No. 2050-0046 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OPPE 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: June 23, 1997.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 97-17034 Filed 6-27-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5850-7]

Draft Carcinogenic Effects of Benzene: An Update

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of peer-review workshop and public comment period.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a peer-review workshop and a public review and comment period sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) of