

Environmental Coordinator, at (503) 326-5858 extension 224.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5909-1]

Toxic Chemicals; Preliminary Assessment Information Rule (PAIR); Submission of ICR No. 586 to OMB; Agency Information Collection Activities

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of submission to OMB.

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: TSCA Section 8(a) Preliminary Assessment Information Rule (PAIR) [EPA ICR No. 0586.08; OMB Control No. 2070-0054] 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 and its estimated cost and burden.

The Agency is requesting that OMB renew for 3 years the existing approval for this ICR, which is scheduled to expire on November 30, 1997. 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 23, 1997 (62 FR 33860). EPA did not receive any comments on this ICR during the comment period.

DATES: Additional comments may be submitted on or before November 14, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referencing EPA ICR No. 0586.08 and OMB Control No. 2070-0054, to the following addresses: Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regulatory Information Division (Mailcode: 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY

CONTACT: Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone on (202) 260-2740 or by e-mail: "farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov," and refer to EPA ICR No. 0586.08 and OMB Control No. 2070-0054.

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. 0586.08; OMB Control No. 2070-0054.

Current Expiration Date: Current OMB approval expires on November 30, 1997.

Title: TSCA Section 8(a) Preliminary Assessment Information Rule (PAIR).

Abstract: Section 8(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) authorizes EPA to promulgate rules under which manufacturers, importers and processors of chemical substances and mixtures must maintain records and submit reports to EPA. One of the rules EPA has promulgated under TSCA section 8(a) is the Preliminary Assessment Information Rule (PAIR). EPA uses PAIR to collect information to identify, assess and manage human health and environmental risks from chemical substances, mixtures and categories. PAIR requires chemical manufacturers and importers to complete a standardized reporting form to help evaluate the potential for adverse human health and environmental effects caused by the manufacture or importation of identified chemical substances, mixtures or categories. Chemicals identified by EPA or any other federal agency, for which a justifiable information need for production, use or exposure-related data can be satisfied by the use of the PAIR are proper subjects for TSCA section 8(a) PAIR rulemaking. In most instances the information that EPA receives from a PAIR report is sufficient to satisfy the information need in question.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 712). 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 section 14 and 40 CFR part 2.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to be approximately 30 hours per response for an estimated 48 respondents making one or more submissions of information annually. These estimates include 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 these regulations are displayed in 40 CFR part 9.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are those persons who manufacture or import chemical substances, mixtures or categories.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 48.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 3,489 hours.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Changes in Burden Estimates: There is an increase of 1,543 hours in the total estimated respondent burden as compared with that identified in the information collection request most recently approved by OMB, from 1,946 hours currently to an estimated 3,489 hours. This increase is due to both an increase in the number of respondents and an increase in the number of forms submitted to EPA in recent years.

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 within 30 days of this notice, as described above.

Dated: October 8, 1997.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 97-27269 Filed 10-14-97; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5909-2]

OMB Review of Pesticide 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 Data Acquisition for Pesticide

Registration (OMB Control No. 2070-0122, EPA No. 1503.03) which is abstracted below, has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and expected cost and burden; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument. A **Federal Register** notice requesting public comment on the renewal of this ICR published on June 27, 1997 (62 FR 34744). EPA did not receive any comments.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 14, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY CALL: Sandy Farmer by phone on EPA, (202) 260-2740. Please refer to OMB No. 2070-0122 or EPA ICR No. 1503.03.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Data Acquisition for Pesticide Registration.

ICR No.: OMB Control No. 2070-0122; EPA ICR No. 1503.03.

Expiration Date: November 30, 1997.

Request: This is a request for an extension of a currently approved information collection activity.

Affected Entities: Registrants of Pesticide Products

Abstract: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or the Agency) is responsible for the regulation of pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Applicants for pesticide registration must provide EPA with the data needed to assess whether the registration of a pesticide would cause unreasonable adverse effects on human health or the environment, and EPA has authority under FIFRA to require registrants to provide additional data to maintain an existing registration.

When the need for additional data arises, OPP issues a Data Call-In Notice (DCI) under the authority of FIFRA section 3(c)(2)(B) to affected registrants. Data supporting pesticide inert ingredients may also be called in, based on OPP's policy statement on inert ingredients in pesticide products (52 FR 13305, April 22, 1987, and revised on November 22, 1989 (54 FR 48314). A need for additional data may arise from changes in the Agency's general data requirements, from the discovery of deficiencies in previously submitted data, or from the discovery of specific attributes of the pesticide or its ingredients.

Two types of DCIs are conducted under this information collection activity. The first type of DCI consists of data requirements for pesticide products

containing selected inert ingredients. The second type of DCI addresses specific data requirements for pesticide active ingredients.

Burden Statement: The annual respondent burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6,938 hours per response. This estimate includes the time needed for: planning activities, creating information, gathering information, processing, compiling, and reviewing information for accuracy, recording, disclosing or displaying the information, and storing, filing, and maintaining the data. The DCI program contains exemptions for small businesses, and does not impose any third party notification activities.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Parties affected by this information collection are registrants of pesticide products.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 30.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 208,132 hours.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion as needed by the Agency.

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, in addition to their initial display in the **Federal Register** appear at 40 CFR part 9.

You may provide additional comments regarding the burden estimate, or any other aspect of the information collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA No. 1503.03 and OMB Control No. 2070-0122 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460; and

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

Dated: October 8, 1997.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division
[FR Doc. 97-27270 Filed 10-14-97; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FR-5909-8]

Proposed Settlement Agreement, Clean Air Act Citizen Suit

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed settlement; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 113(g) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (Act), 42 U.S.C. 7413(g), notice is hereby given of a proposed partial consent decree, which was lodged with the United States District Court for the District of Columbia by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on September 30, 1997, to address a lawsuit filed by the Sierra Club. This lawsuit, which was filed pursuant to section 304(a) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 7604(a), addresses, among other things, EPA's alleged failure to meet a mandatory deadline under section 112(n)(1)(B) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 7412(n)(1)(B), which concerns a study of mercury emissions. The proposed partial consent decree provides, in part, that "[n]o later than December 19, 1997, the Administrator shall sign a letter transmitting to Congress the study described by CAA section 112(n)(1)(B), 42 U.S.C. 7412(n)(1)(B). With five business days thereafter, EPA shall deliver to Congress such letter and study."

For a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this document, the Agency will receive written comments relating to the proposed partial consent decree from persons who were not named as parties or intervenors to the litigation in question. EPA or the Department of Justice may withdraw or withhold consent to the proposed partial consent decree if the comments disclose facts or considerations that indicate that such consent is inappropriate, improper, inadequate, or inconsistent with the requirements of the Act. Unless EPA or the Department of Justice determine, following the comment period, that consent is inappropriate, the final partial consent decree will establish a deadline for specific actions under section 112(n)(1)(B) of the Act.

A copy of the proposed partial consent decree was lodged with the Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia on September 30, 1997. Copies are also available from Phyllis J. Cochran, Air and Radiation Division (2344), Office of General Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 260-7606. Written comments should be sent to Patrick S. Chang at the address above and must be submitted on or before November 14, 1997.