ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
[FRL-6008-3]
Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/Sewage Sludge Monitoring Reports
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 Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/Sewage Sludge Monitoring Reports, EPA ICR No. 229.11, and OMB Control No. 2040-0004, expiring May 31, 1998. 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 June 3, 1998.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 620-2740, by e-mail at farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov, or download off the Internet at http://www.epa.gov/icc and refer to EPA ICR No. 229.11.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: The Discharge Monitoring Report for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/Sewage Sludge Monitoring Reports (OMB Control No. 2040-0004; EPA ICR No. 229.11) expiring 5/31/98. This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.
Abstract: This ICR estimates the current monitoring, reporting, and record keeping burden and costs associated with submitting and reviewing Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs), sewage sludge monitoring reports, and other monitoring reports under the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) NPDES program. The NPDES program regulations, codified at 40 CFR parts 122 through 125, require permitted municipal and non-municipal point source discharges to collect, analyze, and submit data on their wastewater discharges. Under these regulations, the permittee is required to collect and analyze wastewater samples or have the analysis performed at an outside laboratory and report the results to the permitting authority (EPA or an authorized NPDES State) using DMRs, a pre-printed form used for reporting pollutant discharge information. Sample monitoring, analysis, and reporting frequencies vary by permit, but must be performed at least annually for all permitted discharges except for certain storm water discharges.
Upon renewal of this ICR, the permitting authority will continue to require NPDES and sewage sludge facilities to report pollutant discharge monitoring data. The permitting authority will use the data from these forms to assess permittee compliance, modify/add new permit requirements, and revise effluent guidelines. The monitoring data required of NPDES and sewage sludge facilities represents the minimum information necessary to achieve the Agency's goals and satisfy regulatory standards.
Due to the re-estimation of burden for this collection, the burden hours associated with this new ICR have been greatly reduced from the burden hours of the current ICR. This decrease is due to more accurate estimates, which reflect the general practice of using outside laboratory services. The change in burden is reflected in higher operation and maintenance costs, due to the cost associated with using the services of outside laboratories.
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 11/24/97 (62 FR 62590); one comment was received.
Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10.7 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: NPDES permittees including publicly owned treatment works, privately owned treatment works industrial facilities, and storm water permittees. The sewage sludge record keeping and reporting requirements identified in this ICR apply to treatment works (public and private) treating domestic sewage and to domestic septage haulers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 130,380.

Frequency of Response: Varies depending on nature and effect of the discharge, but, except for storm water discharge, is not less than annually.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 6,540,416 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: $278,450,948.

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. 0229.11 and OMB Control No.2050–0053; EPA ICR No. 1189.06. This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Under 40 CFR 260.20(b), all rulemaking petitioners must submit basic information with their demonstrations, including name, address, and statement of interest in the proposed action. Under section 260.21, all petitioners for equivalent testing or analytical methods must include specific information in their petitions and demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Administrator that the proposed method is equal to or superior to the corresponding method in terms of its sensitivity, accuracy, and reproducibility. Under section 260.22, petitions to amend part 261 to exclude a waste produced at a particular facility (more simply, to delist a waste) must meet extensive informational requirements. When a petition is submitted, the Agency reviews materials, deliberates, publishes its tentative decision in the Federal Register, and requests public comment. EPA also may hold informal public hearings (if requested by an interested person or at the discretion of the Administrator) to hear oral comments on its tentative decision. After evaluating all comments, EPA publishes its final decision in the Federal Register.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: Identification, Listing, and Rulemaking Petitions, OMB Control No. 2050–0053; EPA ICR No. 1189.06. This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 6,540,416 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: $278,450,948.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: Identification, Listing, and Rulemaking Petitions, OMB Control No. 2050–0053; EPA ICR No. 1189.06. This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Under 40 CFR 260.20(b), all rulemaking petitioners must submit basic information with their demonstrations, including name, address, and statement of interest in the proposed action. Under section 260.21, all petitioners for equivalent testing or analytical methods must include specific information in their petitions and demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Administrator that the proposed method is equal to or superior to the corresponding method in terms of its sensitivity, accuracy, and reproducibility. Under section 260.22, petitions to amend part 261 to exclude a waste produced at a particular facility (more simply, to delist a waste) must meet extensive informational requirements. When a petition is submitted, the Agency reviews materials, deliberates, publishes its tentative decision in the Federal Register, and requests public comment. EPA also may hold informal public hearings (if requested by an interested person or at the discretion of the Administrator) to hear oral comments on its tentative decision. After evaluating all comments, EPA publishes its final decision in the Federal Register.

40 CFR 260.30, 260.31, and 260.33 comprise the standards, criteria, and procedures for variances from classification as a solid waste for three types of materials: materials that are collected speculatively without sufficient amounts being recycled; materials that are reclaimed and then reused within the original primary production process in which they were generated; and materials which have been reclaimed, but must be reclaimed further before the materials are completely recovered. This variance is available to owners or operators of enclosed flame combustion devices. 40 CFR 261.33 and 261.4 contain provisions that allow generators to obtain a hazardous waste exclusion for certain types of wastes. Facilities applying for these exclusions must either submit supporting information or keep detailed records. Under section 261.3(a)(2)(iv), generators may obtain a hazardous waste exclusion for wastewater mixtures subject to Clean Water Act regulation. Under section 261.3(c)(2)(ii)(C), generators may obtain an exclusion for certain non-wastewater residues resulting from high metals recovery processing (HTMR) or K061, K062 and F006 waste. In addition, under section 261.4(b)(6), generators of chromium-containing waste may obtain a hazardous waste exclusion under certain conditions.

Also addressed under this section is the shipment of samples between laboratories for the purpose of testing to determine a waste’s characteristics or composition. Sample handlers who are not subject to DOT or USPS shipping requirements must comply with the information requirements of section 261.4(d)(2).

When intended for treatability studies, hazardous waste otherwise subject to regulation under Subtitle C of RCRA is exempted from these regulations, provided that the requirements in section 261.4(e)-(f) are met, including the following information requests: Initial notification, recordkeeping, reporting, and final notification. In addition, generators and collectors of treatability study samples also may request quantity limit increases and time extensions, as specified in section 261.4(e)(3).

40 CFR 261.31(b)(2)(ii) governs procedures and informational requirements for generators and treatment, storage, and disposal facilities to obtain exemptions from listing as F037 and F038 wastes. Also under this section are regulations promulgated in 1990 under section 261.35(b) and governing procedures and informational requirements for the cleaning or replacement of all process equipment that may have come into contact with chlorophenolic formulations or constituents thereof, including, but not limited to, treatment cylinders, sumps, tanks, piping systems, drip pads, fork lifts, and trans.

EPA anticipates that some data provided by respondents will be claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). Respondents may make a business confidentiality claim by marking the appropriate data as CBI.