public disclosure of information originally supplied by the Federal government to the recipient for the purpose of disclosure to the public is not included within [the definition of collection of information.]"

Thus, the Commission concludes that the proposed amendments would not increase the paperwork burden associated with compliance with the Rule. To ensure that no significant paperwork burden is being overlooked, however, the Commission requests comments on this issue.

Part G—Request for Comments

Members of the public are invited to comment on any issues or concerns they believe are relevant or appropriate to the Commission’s consideration of proposed amendments to the Care Labeling Rule. The Commission requests that factual data upon which the comments are based be submitted with the comments. In addition to the issues raised above, the Commission solicits public comment on the costs and benefits to industry members and consumers of each of the proposals as well as the specific questions identified below. These questions are designed to assist the public and should not be construed as a limitation on the issues on which public comment may be submitted.

Questions

A. Requiring Instructions for Cleaning in Water

(1) Is there empirical evidence regarding whether consumers interpret a "dry clean" instruction to mean that a garment cannot be washed?

(2) How many domestic businesses provide professional wet cleaning, as defined in Part D.1. above, to the public on a regular basis?

(3) Should the Rule provide that, if an instruction for professional wet cleaning is provided, no other instruction need be given, or should a professional wet cleaning instruction only be allowed along with another cleaning instruction?

B. The Reasonable Basis Requirement of the Rule

(4) Would the amendment of Section 423.6(c)(3) of the Rule, which provides that a reasonable basis can consist of reliable evidence that each component of the garment can be cleaned according to the care instructions, to state, additionally, that a manufacturer or importer must possess a reasonable basis for the garment as a whole, clarify the reasonable basis requirements? Is any additional clarification needed?

C. Definitions of Water Temperatures

(5) How can consumers best be made aware of the approximate water temperatures in which they can safely and effectively wash their clothing? How can consumers best be made aware of how these temperatures correlate to the descriptors "hot," "warm," and "cold"? Do consumers need to determine the actual or approximate water temperature in their washing machines when they select "hot," "warm," and "cold" on their washing machine dials, and, if so, how could they easily and practically do this?

Could consumers use this information to select the optimal temperature offered by their washing machines for clothes labeled for "hot," "warm," or "cold" washing?

(6) Would consumers understand an instruction to use "very hot" water? Could consumers use this information either to select the optimal temperature offered by their washing machines for clothes labeled for "very hot" washing or to determine that such clothes should be washed by a professional cleaner?


List of Subjects in 16 CFR Part 423

Care labeling of textile wearing apparel and certain piece goods; Trade practices.

By direction of the Commission, Commissioner Azcuenaga not participating.

Donald S. Clark, Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–12233 Filed 5–7–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
30 CFR Part 934

[SPATS No. ND–037–FOR, Amendment No. XXVI]

North Dakota Regulatory Program

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; public comment period and opportunity for public hearing on proposed amendment.

SUMMARY: The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing receipt of a proposed amendment to the North Dakota regulatory program (hereinafter, the "North Dakota program") under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). The proposed amendment consists of proposed changes to North Dakota’s revegetation policy document, "Standards for Evaluation of Revegetation Success and Recommended Procedures for Pre- and Postmining Vegetation Assessments."

The changes pertain to (1) prime farmland woodlot and productivity standards, (2) woodland cover standards, (3) wetland standards, (4) woodland and shelterbelt standards for recreational lands, and (5) methods for sampling woodland cover. The amendment is intended to revise the North Dakota program to be consistent with SMCRA and the Federal regulations, and to improve operational efficiency.

DATES: Written comments must be received by 4:00 p.m., m.d.t., June 8, 1998. If requested, a public hearing on the proposed amendment will be held on June 2, 1998. Requests to present oral testimony at the hearing must be received by 4:00 p.m., m.d.t. on May 26, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be mailed or hand delivered to Guy Padgett at the address listed below. Copies of the North Dakota program, the proposed amendment, and all written comments received in response to this document will be available for public review at the addresses listed below during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Each requester may receive one free copy of the proposed amendment by contacting OSM’s Casper Field Office.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Guy Padgett, Telephone: 307/261–6550; Internet: GPadget@OSM.RE.GOV

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background on the North Dakota Program

On December 15, 1980, the Secretary of the Interior conditionally approved the North Dakota program. General background information on the North Dakota program, including the Secretary’s findings, the disposition of comments, and conditions of approval of the North Dakota program can be
found in the December 15, 1980, Federal Register (45 FR 82214).

Subsequent actions concerning North Dakota’s program and program amendments can be found at 30 CFR 934.15, 934.16, and 934.30.

II. Proposed Amendment

By letter dated April 8, 1998, North Dakota submitted a proposed amendment (amendment number XXVI, administrative record No. ND-AA-05) (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.) North Dakota submitted the proposed amendment in response to the required program amendments at 30 CFR 934.16(aa) and (bb), and on its own initiative. The amendment consists of changes to North Dakota’s revegetation success standards policy document. The rule changes included in this amendment pertain to: (1) prime farmland productivity standards, (2) woodland cover standards, (3) wetlands standards, (4) recreational land use standards, and (5) methods for sampling woodland cover.

Specifically, North Dakota proposes to modify prime farmland provisions to require that yield measurements to be taken from reclaimed prime farmlands and productivity standards be met for at least 3 years before third stage (vegetation establishment) bond release can be granted. Changes are proposed to the woodland section to allow canopy and litter from woody plants to be included as part of total ground cover required for fourth-stage (final) bond release on reclaimed woodlands. Changes of the wetlands section of the revegetation document are proposed to allow more discretion in sampling prime wetlands and to reduce data requirements for reclaimed wetlands at the same time of final bond release. Changes to the other land use section are proposed to require that applicable woodland shelterbelt standard be met for fourth stage bond release when woody planting are part of recreation land uses. Changes to the measurements section of the revegetation document are proposed to allow additional methods (the Daubumire frame and intercept line method) for sampling cover in woodlands.

III. Public Comment Procedures

In accordance with the provisions of 30 CFR 732.17(h), OSM is seeking comments on whether the proposed amendment satisfies the applicable program approval criteria of 30 CFR 732.15. If the amendment is deemed adequate, it will become part of the North Dakota program.

1. Written Comments

Written comments should be specific, pertain only to the issues proposed in this rulemaking, and include explanations in support of the commenter’s recommendations. Comments received after the time indicated under DATES or at locations other than the Casper Field Office will not necessarily be considered in the final rulemaking or included in the administrative record.

2. Public Hearing

Persons wishing to testify at the public hearing should contact the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT by 4:00 p.m., m.d.t., on May 26, 1998. Any disabled individual who has need for a special accommodation to attend a public hearing should contact the individual listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT. The location and time of the hearing will be arranged with those persons requesting the hearing. If no one requests an opportunity to testify at the public hearing, the hearing will not be held.

Filing of a written statement at the time of the hearing is requested as it will greatly assist the transcriber. Submission of written statements in advance of the hearing will allow OSM officials to prepare adequate responses and appropriate questions.

The public hearing will continue on the specific date until all persons scheduled to testify have been heard. Persons in the audience who have not been scheduled to testify, and who wish to do so, will be heard following those who have been scheduled. The hearing will end after all persons scheduled to testify and persons present in the audience who wish to testify have been heard.

3. Public Meeting

If only one person requests an opportunity to testify at a hearing, a public meeting, rather than a public hearing, may be held. Persons wishing to meet with OSM representatives to discuss the proposed amendment may request a meeting by contacting the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT. All such meetings will be open to the public and, if possible, notices of meetings will be posted at the locations listed under ADDRESSES. A written summary of each meeting will be made a part of the administrative record.

IV. Procedural Determinations

1. Executive Order 12866

This rule is exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review).

2. Executive Order 12988

The Department of the Interior has conducted the reviews required by section 3 of Executive Order 12988 (Civil Justice Reform) and has determined that this rule meets the applicable standards of subsections (a) and (b) of that section. However, these standards are not applicable to the actual language of State regulatory programs and program amendments since each such program is drafted and promulgated by a specific State, not by OSM. Under sections 503 and 505 of SMCRA (30 U.S.C. 1253 and 1255) and the Federal regulations at 30 CFR 730.11, 732.15, and 732.17(h)(10), decisions on proposed State regulatory programs and program amendments submitted by the States must be based solely on a determination of whether the submittal is consistent with SMCRA and its implementing Federal regulations and whether the other requirements of 30 CFR Parts 730, 731, and 732 have been met.

3. National Environmental Policy Act

No environmental impact statement is required for this rule since section 702(d) of SMCRA (30 U.S.C. 1292(d)) provides that agency decisions on proposed State regulatory program provisions do not constitute major Federal actions within the meaning of section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)).

4. Paperwork Reduction Act

This rule does not contain information collection requirements that require approval by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507 et seq.).

5. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Department of the Interior has determined that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.). The State submittal that is the subject of this rule is based upon counterpart Federal regulations for which an economic analysis was prepared and certification made that such regulations will not have a significant economic effect upon a substantial number of small entities. Accordingly, this rule will ensure that
existing requirements previously promulgated by OSM will be implemented by the State. In making the determination as to whether this rule would have a significant economic impact, the Department relied upon the data and assumptions for the counterpart Federal regulations.

6. Unfunded Mandates

This rule will not impose a cost of $100 million or more in any given year on any governmental entity or the private sector.

List of Subjects in 30 CFR Part 934

Intergovernmental relations, Surface mining, Underground mining.


Russell F. Price,
Acting Regional Director, Western Regional Coordinating Center.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, telephone (800) 426-4791. The Safe Drinking Water Hotline is open Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time. For technical inquiries, contact Dr. Vicki Dellarco, Office of Science and Technology (MC 4304), or Mike Cox, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (MC 4607), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington DC 20460; telephone (202) 260-7336 (Dellarco) or (202) 260-1445 (Cox).


Robert Periciasepe,
Assistant Administrator for Water.

ENGLISH: Notice of data availability published in the Federal Register on March 31, 1998 (63 FR 15674). USEPA solicits comment on all chapters of Draft Update IVA. Written comments must be submitted by June 8, 1998. Comments should be postmarked or delivered by hand on or before June 8, 1998. Comments must be received or post-marked by midnight June 8, 1998.

AGENCIES: Send written comments to DBP NODA Docket Clerk, Water Docket (MC–4101); U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; 401 M Street, SW; Washington, DC 20460. Comments may be hand-delivered to the Water Docket, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; 401 M Street, SW, East Tower Basement, Washington, DC 20460. Comments may be submitted electronically to owdocket@epamail.epa.gov.

As noted above, EPA is holding a public meeting on May 26, 1998, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to discuss the contents of the Notice of Data Availability. The public meeting will be held at the office of Resolve at 1255 23rd Street, NW; Suite 275; Washington DC 20037. In keeping with its open door policy for meetings with the public EPA is inviting all interested members of the public to attend this meeting, with seating on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested persons who wish to submit comments should do so in writing during the 30-day public comment period in the manner described in the previous sections of this Notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, telephone (800) 426-4791. The Safe Drinking Water Hotline is open Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time. For technical inquiries, contact Dr. Vicki Dellarco, Office of Science and Technology (MC 4304), or Mike Cox, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (MC 4607), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington DC 20460; telephone (202) 260-7336 (Dellarco) or (202) 260-1445 (Cox).


Robert Periciasepe,
Assistant Administrator for Water.

[FR Doc. 98–12248 Filed 5–7–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–50–M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Parts 258, 260, 261, 264, 265, 266, 270, and 279

[FRL–6011–1]

Notice of Intent To Reform Implementation of RCRA-Related Methods and Monitoring and Notice of Availability for Draft Update IVA of SW–846

AGENCIES: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of intent and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is providing notice of, and invites comment on, its intent to reform implementation of RCRA-related monitoring by formally adopting a performance-based measurement system (PBMS), by improving public outreach and communication, and by improving availability and distribution of the EPA-approved test methods manual “Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods”, EPA Publication SW–846. Implementation of PBMS will include a proposal to change certain RCRA regulations so that the exclusive use of SW–846 methods will no longer be required. EPA is also announcing the availability of, and requests comment on, “Draft Update IVA” to the Third Edition of SW–846, which contains new and revised methods. EPA also requests comment on deleting several individual methods and integrating them into two comprehensive methods, and removing Chapter Eleven from SW–846.

DATES: The Agency is opening the comment period for the limited purpose of obtaining information and views on the Agency’s notice to reform implementation of RCRA-related monitoring, as described in this document, and on the methods and chapters of Draft Update IVA. Written comments must be submitted by June 22, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Commenters must send an original and two copies of their comments referencing docket number F–98–ATMA–FFFF to: RCRA Information Center (RIC), Office of Solid Waste (5305G), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters (EPA, HQ), 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20460. Courier deliveries of comments should be submitted to the RIC at the address listed below. Comments may also be submitted electronically through the Internet to: RCRA-docket@epamail.epa.gov.