

chemicals, including lead and lead compounds, will be valuable to communities and will significantly enhance their knowledge about toxic chemical releases and other waste management activities that may be of concern to them. At the same time, EPA recognizes that the August 3, 1999 proposal, along with the rule lowering reporting thresholds for various other PBT chemicals (64 FR 58666), will increase the total burden imposed by the TRI program on facilities that must provide the information. EPA has therefore initiated a number of burden reducing activities in the TRI program to help minimize reporting burden, while continuing to provide communities with high quality right-to-know information to meet the goals and objectives of EPCRA section 313. For example, EPA is developing reporting guidance, including guidance specifically for small businesses, which will simplify and ease reporting burdens. These efforts include the development of intelligent reporting software with built-in error checking routines and calculation methodologies; the development of a single facility identification program for facilities that report to EPA; and the development of guidance to facilitate more consistent use of chemical nomenclature, reporting units, and time frames across different programs.

As a means of identifying other potential areas for reducing TRI reporting burden, EPA initiated an intensive stakeholder process to comprehensively evaluate current TRI reporting. An important part of this stakeholder process was a review conducted by the Toxics Data Reporting (TDR) Committee of the National Advisory Council on Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT). The TDR Committee report is available on the Internet at www.epa.gov/tri, and is also discussed in the proposed rule (see 64 FR 42222, at 42224). Although the TDR Committee did not reach final consensus on most issues, the TDR Committee presented various ideas for burden reduction, including the creation of an intelligent software program for reporters, the integration of reporting across programs, the provision of industry-specific guidance, the expansion of the EPCRA section 313 exemptions, and options for increasing eligibility for the alternate threshold as certified by Form A.

In addition to the TDR Committee report, EPA has received other suggestions for burden reduction in the TRI program. Although EPA has already requested comment on the suggestion that EPA effectively modify the

frequency of reporting for PBT chemicals (see 64 FR 688, at 718), and lead and lead compounds (Unit III.C. of the proposed rule), it has been suggested that EPA consider changing the frequency of reporting under EPCRA section 313 in general, i.e., require biennial reporting. EPA is requesting comment on the utility of biennial reporting and whether that approach would provide for significant burden reduction for affected facilities. EPA welcomes comment on the availability of information that would allow the Agency to make the requisite findings under EPCRA section 313(i)(3)(B), especially how consideration of alternate reporting requirements should pertain to the facilities in the recently added industry sectors for which first reports have just recently been received, the lack of readily available information on EPCRA section 313 chemicals from existing sources, and what available information may exist to allow EPA to address the requirements of the law.

EPA places great importance on reducing burden on the public and is currently considering the various suggestions it has received, including the ideas in the TDR Committee report, and others received from industry and other agencies. EPA welcomes additional suggestions, and specifically requests comment on the ideas presented in the TDR Committee report, particularly those that relate to burden reduction.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 372

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Community right-to-know, Hazardous substances, Intergovernmental relations, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Superfund.

Dated: November 9, 1999.

Susan H. Wayland,

Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

43 CFR Part 1300

RIN: 1004-AC73

[WO-420-1430-00-24 1A]

Definitions

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: This publication withdraws a proposed rule that would have created a central glossary of definitions of terms used throughout the regulations of the Bureau of Land Management.

DATES: November 15, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send suggestions and inquiries to Director (630), Bureau of Land Management, Room 401 LS, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ted Hudson at (202) 452-5042.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A rule proposing to create a central glossary of definitions, and proposing conforming amendments, was published in the **Federal Register** on November 19, 1996 (61 FR 58843). This proposed rule is withdrawn. The Department of the Interior plans no further action on this rule.

Dated: November 5, 1999.

Sylvia V. Baca,

Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 99-29718 Filed 11-12-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

49 CFR Part 571

[Docket No. NHTSA 99-3881]

RIN No. 2127-AH21

Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Transmission Shift Lever Sequence, Starter Interlock, and Transmission Braking Effect

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Withdrawal of rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This document withdraws the rulemaking in which NHTSA was considering whether to propose to amend its safety standard for transmission shift lever sequence. This rulemaking was in response to a petition received from BMW of North America, Inc. (BMW). BMW has been exploring the possibility of producing vehicles with electronically-controlled transmissions that do not use the conventional shift lever, but instead could employ shift mechanisms such as a rotary switch, keypad, touch screen, joystick, voice activation, or some other method. The joystick and other systems which employ lever-like designs, however, may not comply with requirements for the transmission shift lever sequence.