

including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

**Burden Statement:** For both permitted and interim status land disposal facilities, the estimated total annual hour burden for this information collection is 380,938 hours. The estimated total annual cost burden for this information collection is \$51,402,078, which includes labor, capital, operations and maintenance, and purchased service costs. For 393 permitted land disposal facilities, the annual reporting hour burden is estimated to average 130 hours per response, and the annual recordkeeping hour burden is estimated to average 400 hours per year response, which includes time for reading the regulations, implementing a ground-water monitoring system, performing and keeping records of ground-water monitoring and maintaining records. These estimates represent the overall reporting and recordkeeping burdens placed on permitted facilities, regardless of whether they are performing detection monitoring, compliance monitoring, or corrective action. For 431 interim status land disposal facilities, the annual reporting hour burden is estimated to average 45 hours per year, which includes time for developing and submitting notifications, reports, and demonstrations, and the annual recordkeeping hour burden is estimated to average 355 hours per year, which includes time for reading the regulations, implementing a ground-water monitoring system, performing and keeping records of ground-water monitoring and maintaining records. The burden hour estimates are dramatically higher than presented in the 1998 ICR. This is due to a change in methodology: Hours that were attributed to contractors and counted as "costs" in 1998 have been converted to respondent hours.

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.

**Matthew Hale,**

*Acting Director, Office of Solid Waste.*

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**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6997-3]

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Reporting and Recordkeeping Activities Associated With EPA's PFC Emission Reduction Partnership for the Semiconductor Industry

**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 EPA is planning to submit the following proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Reporting and Recordkeeping Activities Associated with EPA's PFC Emission Reduction Partnership for the Semiconductor Industry, EPA ICR No. 1823.02. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before August 24, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain a free copy of the proposed ICR, contact Scott Bartos, U.S. EPA 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., (6205J), Washington, DC 20460.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Scott Bartos, Program Manager Tel.: (202) 564-9167, Fax: (202) 565-2155, E-mail: [bartos.scott@epa.gov](mailto:bartos.scott@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Affected entities:** Entities potentially affected by this action are those which produce semiconductor devices in the United States.

**Title:** Reporting and Recordkeeping Activities Associated with EPA's PFC Emission Reduction Partnership for the

Semiconductor Industry (EPA ICR No. 1823.02).

**Abstract:** Following the 1993 introduction of the Climate Change Action Plan, U.S. EPA's Office of Atmospheric Programs launched the PFC Emission Reduction Partnership for the Semiconductor Industry. This important voluntary program contributes to the country's overall reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Like Energy Star Buildings and the Voluntary Aluminum Industrial Partnership, the PFC Emission Reduction Partnership for the Semiconductor Industry is a voluntary effort aimed at preventing pollution before it is generated. These voluntary programs all focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and tracking progress by collecting information from partners on a periodic basis. The PFC Emissions Reduction Partnership for the Semiconductor Industry is a voluntary, non-regulatory program that supports the industry's efforts to reduce perfluorocompound (PFC) emissions.

PFCs are the most potent greenhouse gases known with atmospheric lifetimes of up to 50,000 years. These unique chemical compounds are required during two delicate semiconductor manufacturing steps, plasma etching and CVD chamber cleaning. EPA's semiconductor industry partners share information on available cost-effective emission reduction technologies and EPA tracks successful emission reduction efforts. EPA also recognizes companies for their success in reducing PFC emissions through certificates, awards, and assistance in communicating their achievements with the public.

All semiconductor manufacturers operating in the U.S. are invited to join the partnership. Participation in the program begins by completing a Memorandum of Understanding that defines a voluntary agreement between the company and EPA. By joining the partnership, a company agrees to track and report an estimate of its PFC emissions to EPA annually. A designated third party assembles the reported data and protects any confidential or sensitive information prior to EPA review. The partner companies' annual reports will provide an estimate of total PFC emissions and a description of the estimating method. The partnership will track progress as a group using the aggregate annual PFC emissions estimate.

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 EPA would like to solicit comments to:

(i) evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

**Burden Statement:** In estimating the expected burden, EPA assumes 21 companies will participate in the first year and 2 new companies will join in each of the three years covered by this ICR for a total of 27 in year 3. These values provide an average of 25 partners/year over the 3 years covered by this proposed ICR.

Average annual reporting burden hours=6,277.

Average burden hours/response=251.

Frequency of response=1/year.

Estimated number of respondents=25.

Estimated total annual cost burden=\$1,275,143.

Total capital and start-up costs=\$0.

Total operation and maintenance costs=\$138,502.

**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.

Dated: June 4, 2001.

**Jeff Cohen,**

*Chief, Alternatives and Emissions Reduction Branch.*

[FR Doc. 01-15879 Filed 6-22-01; 8:45 am]

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7000-9]

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Application for Reference or Equivalent Method Determination

**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 EPA is planning to submit the following continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Application for Reference and Equivalent Method Determination, EPA ICR Number: 0559.06, OMB No: 2080-0005, expiration date: 12/31/2001. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before August 24, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Human Exposure and Atmospheric Sciences Division, Atmospheric Methods and Monitoring Branch, Mail Drop 46, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the ICR without charge by contacting the contact person identified in this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Elizabeth T. Hunike, 919-541-3737; facsimile number: 919-541-1153; E-Mail: [Hunike.Elizabeth@epa.gov](mailto:Hunike.Elizabeth@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Affected entities:** Entities potentially affected by this action are primarily manufacturers and vendors of ambient air quality monitoring instruments which are used by state and local air quality monitoring agencies in their federally required air surveillance monitoring networks, and agents acting for such instrument manufacturers or vendors. Other entities potentially affected may include state or local air monitoring agencies, other users of ambient air quality monitoring instruments, or any other applicant for

a reference or equivalent method determination.

**Title:** Application for Reference and Equivalent Method Determination (OMB Control No. 2080-0005; EPA ICR No. 0559.06; expiring December 31, 2001).

**Abstract:** To determine compliance with the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS), State air monitoring agencies are required to use, in their air quality monitoring networks, air monitoring methods that have been formally designated by the EPA as either reference or equivalent methods under EPA regulations at 40 CFR part 53. A manufacturer or seller of an air monitoring method (e.g. an air monitoring sampler or analyzer) that seeks to obtain such EPA designation of one of its products must carry out prescribed tests of the method. The test results and other information must then be submitted to the EPA in the form of an application for a reference or equivalent method determination in accordance with 40 CFR part 53. The EPA uses this information, under the provisions of part 53, to determine whether the particular method should be designated as either a reference or equivalent method. After a method is designated, the applicant must also maintain records of the names and mailing addresses of all ultimate purchasers of all analyzers or samplers sold as designated methods under the method designation. If the method designated is a method for fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), the applicant must also submit a checklist signed by an ISO-certified auditor to indicate that the samplers or analyzers sold as part of the designated method are manufactured in an ISO 9001-registered facility. Also, an applicant must submit a minor application to seek approval for any proposed modifications to previously designated methods.

A response to this collection of information is voluntary, but it is required to obtain the benefit of EPA designation under 40 CFR part 53. Submission of some information that is claimed by the applicant to be confidential business information may be necessary to make a reference or equivalent method determination. The confidentiality of any submitted information identified as confidential business information by the applicant will be protected in full accordance with 40 CFR 53.15 and all applicable provisions of 40 CFR part 2.

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