

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

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BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FR L-7256-4]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Construction Grants Program.

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 continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Construction Grants Program Information Collection Request, EPA ICR No. 0827.06, OMB Control Number 2040-0027, current expiration date March 31, 2003.

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 September 11, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Gajindar Singh, Office of Wastewater Management, Mail Code 4204M, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the ICR without charge by writing to the preceding address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gajindar Singh, Telephone Number: (202) 564-0634, Facsimile Number: (202) 501-2396, e-mail: singh.gajindar@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments: Comments shall be submitted to Gajindar Singh, Mail Code 4204M, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Wastewater Management, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. Commenters who want EPA to acknowledge receipt of their comments should enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. Comments may also be submitted electronically to singh.gajindar@epa.gov or faxed to (202) 501-2396.

Electronic comments must be submitted as a Corel Word Perfect or Word file. Electronic comments must be identified by the use of words

“Construction Grants Program Comments.” No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in Corel Word Perfect or Word file. The record for this proposed ICR renewal has been established in the Office of Wastewater Management, Municipal Assistance Branch, and includes supporting documentation. It does not include any information claimed as CBI. The record is available for inspection from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays, at the Municipal Assistance Branch, 1201 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20004. For access to the docket materials, please call (202) 564-0634 to schedule an appointment.

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are States which administer elements of the construction grants program under a delegation agreement with EPA and municipalities which receive construction grants from EPA.

Title: Construction Grants Program Information Collection Request, OMB Control No. 2040-0027, EPA ICR No. 0827.06, expiring 3/31/2003.

Abstract: The purpose of this ICR is to revise and extend the current clearance for the collection of information under the EPA Construction Grants Program, 40 CFR part 35, subpart I, and Title II of the Clean Water Act (CWA). While the Construction Grants Program is being phased out and replaced by the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) program, collection activities for the Construction Grants Program must continue until program completion. The program includes reporting, monitoring, and program requirements for municipalities and States.

In order to obtain a construction grant, a municipality must submit information describing the project and its ability to manage it. Municipal managers use the information to plan, design, build, operate, and maintain treatment works that protect public health and the environment. In addition, the appropriate State or EPA Regional office reviews the information to determine if the project is necessary, reasonable, in accordance with sound planning principles, and a prudent use of Federal funds.

EPA collects information from the State to meet statutory and administrative program management requirements. Under this ICR, the only requirement for States is the listing of projects for funding in priority order. State program managers would develop this type of list for their own administrative needs. EPA reviews the information to determine if the State's

program meets CWA requirements and evaluates the effectiveness of the State's program management. Under Title II, construction grant programs may be administered by EPA or delegated States. The requirements for the construction grants program are at 40 CFR part 35, subpart I, and Title II of the CWA. These provisions require grantees to submit information to EPA or delegated States, and also require States that award construction grants to submit information to EPA. Authority for collecting this information comes from the Construction Grants Information Collection Request (OMB No. 2040-0027, ICR 0827.06).

EPA is currently phasing out the Construction Grants Program. The program is being replaced by the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) Program (Title VI of the Clean Water Act). Established in the 1987 amendment to the CWA, the SRF program provides a continuous source of funding for publicly owned treatment works (POTWs). Because most States are now funding construction projects through the SRF program rather than the Construction Grants Program, the burden associated with the Construction Grants Program has decreased significantly.

The information collection activities described in this ICR are authorized under Section 205(g) of the Clean Water Act as amended, and under 40 CFR part 35 subpart I. The requested information provides the minimum data necessary for the Federal government to maintain appropriate fiscal accountability for use of construction grant funds. The information is also needed to assure an adequate management overview of those State project review activities that are most important to fiscal and project integrity, design performance, Federal budget control, and attainment of national goals.

Managers at the State and Federal levels both rely on the information described in this ICR. State managers rely on the information for their own program and project administration. Federal managers rely on this information to assess, control, and predict the impacts of the construction grants program on the Federal Treasury. Federal managers also use this information to respond to OMB and Congressional requests and to maintain fiscal accountability. In addition, builders of wastewater treatment plants may use the information discussed in this ICR.

EPA is also revising ICR for Construction Grants Delegation to

States, OMB Control No. 2040-0095. First **Federal Register** notice for this ICR was published on July 5, 2002.

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 part 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: Respondents: States and municipalities.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 30.

Frequency of Response: Variable.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 26,558 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: \$0.0.

Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, 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: July 25, 2002.

Jane S. Moore,

Deputy Director, Office of Wastewater Management.

[FR Doc. 02-19799 Filed 8-9-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7257-5]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Emergency Planning and Release Notification Requirements Under Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Sections 302, 303, and 304

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 continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Emergency Planning and Release Notification Requirements (EPCRA sections 302, 303, and 304), EPA ICR Number 1395.05, OMB Control Number 2050-0092, expiring January 31, 2003. 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 October 11, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office, Mailcode 5104A, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington DC 20004. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the ICR without charge by contacting the person in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sicy Jacob, 202-564-8019, fax no. 202-564-8233, or e-mail:

jacob.sicy@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are those which have a threshold planning quantity of an extremely hazardous substance (EHS) listed in 40 CFR part 355, appendix A and those which have a release of any of the EHS above a reportable quantity. Entities more likely to be affected by this action may include chemical, non-chemical manufacturers, retailers, petroleum refineries, utilities, *etc.*

Title: Emergency Planning and Release Notification Requirements under Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Sections 302, 303, and 304, OMB Control No. 2050-0092, EPA ICR No. 1395.05.

Abstract: The authority for these requirements is sections 302, 303, and 304 of the Emergency Planning and

Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), 1986 (42 U.S.C. 11002, 11003, and 11004). EPCRA established broad emergency planning and facility reporting requirements. Section 302 requires facilities to notify their state emergency response commission (SERC) that the facility is subject to emergency planning. This activity has been completed; only new facilities are subject to this requirement. Section 303 requires the local emergency planning committees (LEPCs) to prepare emergency plans for facilities that are subject to section 302. This activity has been also completed; this ICR only covers any updates needed for these emergency response plans. Section 304 requires facilities to report to SERCs and LEPCs releases in excess of the reportable quantities listed for each extremely hazardous substance (EHS). This ICR also covers the notification and the written follow-up required under this section.

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.

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