

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 in 40 CFR are listed in 40 CFR part 9.

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: The projected cost for implementing the part 70 program from October 31, 2004, until October 31, 2007, are approximately 5.1 million annual burden hours at an annual cost of approximately 171 million dollars. 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; 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.

The burden hours breakout will be around 1.1 million hours for 112 permitting authorities and about 4 million hours for 17,626 sources. The costs break out to be 40.7 million dollars per year for 112 permitting authorities and 130 million dollars per year for 17,626 sources. During the period of this ICR, permitting authorities (in addition to general administration of the program) primarily will be issuing the remaining permits required by the program (around 1,300), processing revisions for permits that have already been issued, renewing permits whose 5-

year terms will expire, and reviewing semiannual, or more frequent, monitoring reports and annual compliance certifications for issued permits. Sources in the part 70 program primarily will be interacting with the permitting authority on permit issuance, be it an initial permit, renewal permit or permit revision; preparing applications for permit renewal or for revisions, as needed; preparing semiannual, or more frequent, monitoring and deviation reports, and annual compliance certification reports; and carrying out periodic monitoring that was created as a result of the program.

Dated: March 10, 2004.

Richard A. Wayland,

Acting Director, Information Transfer and Program Implementation Division.

[FR Doc. 04-6430 Filed 3-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPT-2003-0004; FRL-7350-3]

Access to Confidential Business Information by Battelle Memorial Institute

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has authorized its contractor Battelle Memorial Institute (BMI), of Columbus, Ohio, access to information which has been submitted to EPA under sections 4, 5, 6, 8(a), 11, and 21 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Some of the information may be claimed or determined to be Confidential Business Information (CBI). **DATES:** Access to the confidential data will occur no sooner than March 30, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colby Lintner, Regulatory Coordinator, Environmental Assistance Division (7408M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Notice Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may, however, be of interest to those persons who are or may be required to conduct testing of chemical substances under TSCA. Since other entities may also be interested, the

Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Get Copies of this Document and Other Related Documents?

1. **Docket.** EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket identification (ID) number OPPT-2003-0004. The official public docket consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received, and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the EPA Docket Center, Rm. B102-Reading Room, EPA West, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The EPA Docket Center Reading Room telephone number is (202) 566-1744 and the telephone number for the OPPT Docket, which is located in EPA Docket Center, is (202) 566-0280.

2. **Electronic access.** You may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the "**Federal Register**" listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, EPA Dockets. You may use EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/> to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B.1. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the appropriate docket ID number.

II. What Action is the Agency Taking?

Under Contract Number EP-W-04-020, BMI of 505 King Avenue, Columbus, OH, will assist EPA in statistical and technical support for the assessment of toxic substances. BMI will also provide statistical, mathematical, high production volume, field data collection and technical analysis support and planning for EPA's Office

of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT) programs, such as Lead Programs and other technology and exposure-related studies.

Under Contract Number EP-W-04-021, BMI of 505 King Avenue, Columbus, OH, will assist EPA in statistical and technical support for the assessment of toxic substances. BMI will also provide statistical, mathematical, field data collection, physical testing, technical analysis support, and planning for OPPT programs, such as Lead Programs and other technology and exposure-related studies.

In accordance with 40 CFR 2.306(j), EPA has determined that under Contract Numbers EP-W-04-020 and EP-W-04-021, BMI will require access to CBI submitted to EPA under sections 4, 5, 6, 8(a), 11, and 21 of TSCA, to perform successfully the duties specified under the contract.

BMI personnel will be given information submitted to EPA under sections 4, 5, 6, 8(a), 11, and 21 of TSCA. Some of the information may be claimed or determined to be CBI.

EPA is issuing this notice to inform all submitters of information under sections 4, 5, 6, 8(a), 11, and 21 of TSCA, that the Agency may provide BMI access to these CBI materials on a need-to-know basis only. All access to TSCA CBI under these contracts will take place at EPA Headquarters and BMI's site located at 505 King Avenue, Columbus, OH. BMI personnel will be required to adhere to all provisions of EPA's *TSCA Confidential Business Information Security Manual*.

Clearance for access to TSCA CBI under Contract Numbers EP-W-04-020 and EP-W-04-021 may continue until March 2, 2009. Access will commence no sooner than March 30, 2004.

BMI personnel have signed nondisclosure agreements and will be briefed on appropriate security procedures before they are permitted access to TSCA CBI.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection,
Confidential business information.

Dated: March 15, 2004.

Brion Cook,

Acting Director, Information Management Division, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

[FR Doc. 04-6432 Filed 3-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6649-8]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Federal Funding, Construction, Operation and Monitoring of the Restoration Project Titled: Mississippi River Reintroduction Into Bayou Lafourche

AGENCY: Region 6 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Issuance of Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: EPA Region 6 is preparing an EIS on the proposed Mississippi River Reintroduction Into Bayou Lafourche project. The proposed project is intended to enhance freshwater flows in Bayou Lafourche to nourish and protect marshes of the Barataria and Terrebonne Basins and meet human water supply needs. EPA has determined that the proposed multiple use and multiple benefit wetlands restoration effort is a Major Federal Action significantly affecting the human environment. The purpose of the EIS is to provide information and analysis for decisions on the project in accordance with the policies and purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA), Pub. L. 101-646, provides funding for projects intended to restore and protect sensitive Louisiana coastal areas and establishes a multi-agency task force to consider, develop, and implement such projects. The Mississippi River Reintroduction Into Bayou Lafourche is one such proposed project. The EPA is designated the Federal member of the CWPPRA Task Force to carry out the project. As proposed, the project would significantly increase the flow of water from the Mississippi River into Bayou Lafourche, historically a natural distributary channel of the River. By human action, the Bayou was cut off from the River with construction of the existing flood protection levee. Over time, it was recognized that precipitation alone into the bayou system was not adequate to meet the human or natural ecosystem needs. The project proposes to significantly increase Mississippi River water flow through a structure constructed through or over the flood protection levee of the River at Donaldsonville, Louisiana. The water would then flow down the bayou

and connected waterways toward the Gulf of Mexico and into adjacent wetlands, increasing input of freshwater, nutrients and some sediments. Portions of the Ascension, Assumption, Lafourche, and Terrebonne Parishes are included in the proposed project area. The proposed project also includes installation of emergency water level management measures in the bayou such as inflatable weirs. Drainage systems associated with the bayou will be analyzed for impacts. Evaluation studies carried out for use in project development included alternative water sources; existing bayou conditions and basic reintroduction scenarios; surveys of elevations and cross-sections; hydrologic modeling of flows and of salinity; baseline ecological field studies; surveys of flora and fauna of bayou; transportation and utilities infrastructure; potential dredging options; value-engineering study; and cost evaluations. Impacts on the natural and the human environment, including economics and culture, will be evaluated in the EIS.

Alternative Actions: The proposed action includes significantly increasing Mississippi River flows into Bayou Lafourche through a head works structure at the head of Bayou Lafourche. Alternatives to be considered include an array of pumping station and siphon configurations, numerous conveyance channel improvements, and, an alternative channel alignment upstream of Donaldsonville. The EPA is seeking public input on the proposed alternatives and any possible new alternatives.

Public Scoping Meetings: The EPA will hold public meetings at several locations along the Bayou to receive public input on the scope of issues to be addressed in the Draft EIS and to identify significant issues associated with the proposed project. Interested individuals, groups, agencies and public officials will be encouraged to participate. Meeting locations and dates include: South Central Plan Commission Building, Gray LA, 6:30 p.m., April 22; Central Catholic High School Gymnasium, Donaldsonville LA, 6:30 p.m., April 26; Larose Civic Center, Larose LA, 6:30 p.m., April 27; Napoleonville Civic Center, Napoleonville LA, 12:30 p.m., April 28; Municipal Auditorium, Thibodaux LA, 6:30 p.m., April 28. Notices will be placed in regional, local and periodic newspapers thirty days in advance. Information will be provided for potential newspaper, public radio and television announcements.