

be available in the public docket. Although identified as an item in the official docket, information claimed as CBI, or whose disclosure is otherwise restricted by statute, is not included in the official public docket, and will not be available for public viewing in EDOCKET. For further information about the electronic docket, see EPA's **Federal Register** notice describing the electronic docket at 67 *FR* 38102 (May 31, 2002), or go to <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>.

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are manufacturing, mining, and electric utility operations.

Title: *Pilot Test of the Pollution and Abatement Costs and Expenditures (PACE) Survey.*

Abstract: The Pollution Abatement Costs and Expenditures (PACE) Survey was conducted by the U.S. Bureau of the Census annually between 1973 and 1994 (excluding 1987) and again in 1999. This pilot test is to evaluate a revised PACE survey instrument which will be reinstated in 2006.

The data from the PACE Survey are mainly used by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to better satisfy legislative and executive requirements to track the costs of regulatory programs and to provide aggregate national statistics on costs and expenditures for pollution abatement activities. Other users of these aggregate data include trade associations, manufacturers, marketing and research companies, universities, financial and environmental institutions, other federal agencies, state and local governments, and environmental reporters.

This information collection request is to conduct a pilot of the redesigned survey instrument being considered for use in reinstating the annual PACE Survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census. The survey collects information on facility-specific costs and expenditures for pollution abatement activities among manufacturing, mining, and electric utility facilities. Pollution abatement includes treatment, recycling, waste disposal, pollution prevention, and other pollution management activities such as monitoring and testing and record-keeping and reporting.

Participation in the pilot test of the PACE survey will be voluntary. The findings from the pilot test will be used to develop the final version of the survey that will be required by law (Title 13, U.S. Code). The survey responses from the pilot test will only be used to validate the redesigned survey instrument.

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 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 public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 4.5 hours per response.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1000.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 4500 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.

Dated: August 5, 2004.

Al McGartland,

Director, National Center for Environmental Economics, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation.

[FR Doc. 04-19048 Filed 8-18-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OARM-2004-0001, FRL-7809-9]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; General Administrative Requirements for Assistance Programs, EPA ICR Number 0938.09, OMB Control Number 2030-0020

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 a proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This is a request for a new collection. 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 18, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing docket ID number OARM-2004-0001, to EPA online using EDOCKET (our preferred method), by e-mail to oei.docket@epa.gov, or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Information Docket-Mail Code 2822IT, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marguerite Pridgen, Office of Grants and Debarment, Mail Code 3903R, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564-5308; fax number: (202) 565-2470; e-mail address: pridgen.marguerite@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID number OARM-2004-0001, which is available for public viewing at the Office of Environmental Information Docket in the EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the Office of Environmental Information Docket is (202) 566-1752. An electronic version of the public docket is available through

EPA Dockets (EDOCKET) at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>. Use EDOCKET to obtain a copy of the draft collection of information, submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the docket ID number identified above.

Any comments related to this ICR should be submitted to EPA within 60 days of this notice. EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing in EDOCKET as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, CBI, or other information whose public disclosure is restricted by statute. When EPA identifies a comment containing copyrighted material, EPA will provide a reference to that material in the version of the comments that is placed in EDOCKET. The entire printed comment, including the copyrighted material, will be available in the public docket. Although identified as an item in the official docket, information claimed as CBI, or whose disclosure is otherwise restricted by statute, is not included in the official public docket, and will not be available for public viewing in EDOCKET. For further information about the electronic docket, see EPA's **Federal Register** notice describing the electronic docket at 67 FR 38102 (May 31, 2002), or go to <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>.

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are non-profit organizations applying for EPA assistance awards, including grants and cooperative agreements.

Title: General Administrative Requirements For Assistance Programs.

Abstract: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is establishing procedures for assessing administrative capability of non-profit organizations applying for EPA assistance agreements. Under the new procedures, EPA will require non-profit applicants recommended for award to complete a checklist entitled "EPA Administrative Capability Questionnaire" and return it to EPA with supporting documentation. The responses to the form will be a basis for assessing administrative capability and deciding whether to make awards to the non-profit applicant. Applicants that provide information that demonstrates they are administratively capable will be "certified" for a specified period (e.g., four years) and therefore, would not have to resubmit the questionnaire and supporting documents during that

time unless administrative management issues arise before the certification period has ended. This Notice invites comments on the proposed data collection effort.

In applying for a non-construction, discretionary grant from EPA, each applicant is currently required to complete and submit Standard Form (SF) series forms SF 424, SF 424A, and SF 424B. By signing the SF 424B, "Assurances—Non-Construction Programs," the applicant is assuring compliance with various statutory and regulatory requirements (40 CFR Part 30—Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Non-Profit Organizations) and is assuring that it "[h]as the * * * institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application." Despite this assurance of administrative and programmatic capability, EPA's Office of the Inspector General and Office of Grants and Debarment within EPA's Office of Administration and Resources Management have documented numerous instances of non-profit recipients that have inadequate administrative systems to manage EPA funds or lack the capability to successfully perform the project scope of work.

Recognizing that it is preferable to address such issues before, rather than after an assistance agreement is awarded, EPA is prescribing uniform pre-award procedures for evaluating the administrative and programmatic capability of non-profit applicants. Specifically, EPA will require that non-profit applicants recommended for award complete a checklist entitled "EPA Administrative Capability Questionnaire" and return it to the designated EPA office with supporting documentation. Note that much of the information to be collected in the proposed questionnaire is currently being collected from assistance agreement recipients during EPA's post-award monitoring activities (ref.: OMB 2030-0020, Expiration date 12/31/05). In addition, 40 CFR Part 30 currently requires non-profit organizations that receive EPA assistance agreements to maintain documentation supporting their administrative capability.

For purposes of this Notice, EPA uses the term "administrative capability" to mean the capability of an applicant to develop and implement administrative systems required by 40 CFR Part 30, including systems related to financial

management, property management, procurement standards and financial reporting and record-keeping.

As part of its pre-award procedures, EPA is considering whether to collect information on programmatic capability from non-profit organizations that apply for non-competitive grants. For purposes of this Notice, EPA uses the term "programmatic capability" to mean the technical capability of an applicant to successfully carry out a project, taking into account factors such as past performance on similar projects, prior experience, timely progress reporting, the qualifications of key personnel and allocation of roles and responsibilities for proper project management, and the adequacy of equipment, resources and facilities.

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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 EPA estimates the average annual reporting burden for non-profit applicants recommended for award to complete the "Administrative Capability Questionnaire" to be 2 hours. In the first year of the new pre-award procedures, EPA will only require non-profit applicants recommended for new assistance awards of greater than \$100,000 to provide this information. The estimated applicant pool for these awards is 210, which results in a burden of 420 hours (210 × 2 hours). In subsequent years, EPA may require all non-profit applicants recommended for new awards to provide this information. Based on a total non-profit applicant

pool of approximately 700, the resultant burden would be 1400 hours (700 X 2).

The EPA estimates the average annual reporting burden for non-profit applicants recommended for award to provide programmatic capability information to be 6 hours. The Agency also estimates that 35% of the 700 new awards to non-profit organizations—245 awards—would be made non-competitively. The resultant burden would be 1470 hours (245 x 6 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.

Dated: August 13, 2004.

Howard Corcoran,

Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Administration and Resources Management.

[FR Doc. 04-19049 Filed 8-18-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7803-3]

Sixth Meeting of the World Trade Center Expert Technical Review Panel and 9/11 World Trade Center Dust Health Effects Conference to Continue Evaluation on Issues Relating to Impacts of the Collapse of the World Trade Center Towers

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The World Trade Center Expert Technical Review Panel (or WTC Technical Panel) will hold its sixth meeting intended to provide for greater input from individuals on ongoing efforts to monitor the situation for New York residents and workers impacted by the collapse of the World Trade Center. The panel members will help guide the EPA's use of the available exposure and health surveillance databases and registries to characterize any remaining

exposures and risks, identify unmet public health needs, and recommend any steps to further minimize the risks associated with the aftermath of the World Trade Center attacks. The panel will meet several times over the course of approximately two years. These panel meetings will be open to the public, except where the public interest requires otherwise. Information on the panel meeting agendas, documents (except where the public interest requires otherwise), and public registration to attend the meetings will be available from an Internet web site. EPA has established an official public docket for this action under Docket ID No. ORD-2004-0003.

DATES: The sixth meeting of the WTC Technical Panel will be held on September 13, 2004, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time. On-site registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Also, on September 12, 2004, EPA, in collaboration with the New York University Environmental Lung Health Center/Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, New York University Department of Environmental Medicine, Fire Department of New York, and Mt. Sinai Department of Community and Preventative Medicine, will co-sponsor a 9/11 World Trade Center Dust Health Effects Conference from 12 noon to 5 p.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time. This will be a comprehensive health symposium entailing multidisciplinary research on the health effects of the World Trade Center disaster.

ADDRESSES: The WTC Technical Panel meeting on September 13 will be held at St. John's University, Saval Auditorium, 101 Murray Street (between Greenwich Street and West Side Highway), New York City (Manhattan). The auditorium is located on the second floor of the building and is handicap accessible. A government-issued identification (e.g., driver's license) is required for entry. The 9/11 World Trade Center Dust Health Effects Conference on September 12 will be held at the Rosenthal Pavilion in the New York University Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For WTC Technical Panel meeting information, registration and logistics, please see the panel's Web site <http://www.epa.gov/wtc/panel> or contact ERG at (781) 674-7374. The meeting agenda and logistical information will be posted on the Web site and will also be available in hard copy. For further information regarding the WTC Technical Panel, contact Ms. Lisa

Matthews, EPA Office of the Science Advisor, telephone (202) 564-6669 or e-mail: matthews.lisa@epa.gov. For further information regarding the 9/11 World Trade Center Dust Health Effects Conference on September 12, please see the web site <http://www.med.nyu.edu/pulmonary> or contact Mr. Derek Grimes, Senior Research Coordinator, NYU School of Medicine, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, at (212) 263-2315.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. WTC Technical Panel Meeting Information

Eastern Research Group, Inc., (ERG), an EPA contractor, will coordinate the WTC Technical Panel meeting. To attend the panel meeting as an observer, please register by visiting the web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/wtc/panel>. You may also register for the meeting by calling ERG's conference registration line between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. EDT at (781) 674-7374 or toll free at 1-800-803-2833, or by faxing a registration request to (781) 674-2906 (include full address and contact information). Pre-registration is strongly recommended as space is limited, and registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline for pre-registration is September 8, 2004. Registrations will continue to be accepted after this date, including on-site registration, if space allows. There will be a limited time at the meeting for oral comments from the public. Oral comments will be limited to five (5) minutes each. If you wish to make a statement during the observer comment period, please check the appropriate box when you register at the web site. Please bring a copy of your comments to the meeting for the record or submit them electronically via e-mail to meetings@erg.com, subject line: WTC.

II. Background Information

Immediately following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on New York City's World Trade Center, many federal agencies, including the EPA, were called upon to focus their technical and scientific expertise on the national emergency. EPA, other federal agencies, New York City, and New York State public health and environmental authorities focused on numerous cleanup, dust collection, and ambient air monitoring activities to ameliorate and better understand the human health impacts of the disaster. Detailed information concerning the environmental monitoring activities that were conducted as part of this response is available at the EPA Response to 9-