

Alvin Hall,
*Director, Management Analysis and Services
 Office, Centers for Disease Control and
 Prevention.*
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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
 HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and
 Prevention**

[60Day-04-04KL]

**Proposed Data Collections Submitted
 for Public Comment and
 Recommendations**

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call 404-498-1210 or send comments to Seleda Perryman, CDC Assistant Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS-E11, Atlanta, GA 30333 or send an e-mail to omb@cdc.gov.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information

is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Environmental Health Specialists Network (EHS-Net)—New—National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

CDC is requesting OMB approval for a data collection system that will assist public health officials to better identify and assess environmental factors contributing to foodborne outbreaks and the prevention efforts needed to reduce or ameliorate these events. The Environmental Health Specialists Network (EHS-Net) Environmental Evaluation System data collection is a standardized survey instrument developed by CDC in collaboration with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the EHS-Net participating

states—California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Minnesota, New York, Oregon, and Tennessee. The instrument is for use in non-regulatory environmental evaluations. It has been pilot tested in the EHS-Net states.

The eight states in the pilot testing phase used the EHS-Net survey instrument to collect environmental information from two groups of restaurants: those associated with foodborne outbreaks and those that were not. The survey instrument collects information about the restaurant's food safety policies and procedures and also includes direct observations of food preparation and handling practices, and food worker behaviors.

CDC will evaluate the data collected in these eight pilot states to further refine and improve the EHS-Net data collection instrument and methodology. Once this evaluation is completed, the EHS-Net data collection instrument and methodology will be made available to all public health officials in the United States who wish to use the system to identify and assess environmental factors in food establishments that contribute to foodborne illness; and to evaluate the effectiveness of existing prevention measures including food-handling practices, policies, and other control measures. There are no costs to respondents.

Respondents	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total annual burden (in hours)
One Public Health Official per State	50	56	6	16,800
Total	50	16,800

Dated: October 1, 2004.
Alvin Hall,
*Director, Management Analysis and Services
 Office, Centers for Disease Control and
 Prevention.*
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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
 HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and
 Prevention**

[60Day-04-0624]

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 Recommendations**

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