

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[SFUND-2005-0003, FRL-7984-4]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Brownfields Program Revitalization Grantee Reporting, EPA ICR Number 2104.01, OMB Control Number 2050-0192

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 continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This is a request to renew an existing approved collection. This ICR is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2006. 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 December 16, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing docket ID number SFUND-2005-0003, to EPA online using EDOCKET (our preferred method), by e-mail to superfund.docket@epa.gov, or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, OSWER Docket, 5202T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stacy Swartwood, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER), Office of Brownfields Cleanup and Redevelopment (OBCCR) 5105T, U.S. EPA Headquarters, Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 566-1391; fax number: (202) 566-2757; e-mail address: swartwood.stacy@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID number SFUND-2005-0003, which is available for public viewing at the OSWER 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 OSWER Docket is (202) 566-0276. 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 comment 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 www.epa.gov/edocket.

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are states, tribes, local governments, and certain non-governmental organizations that apply for and receive grants from EPA to support the assessment, cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields properties.

Title: Brownfields Program—Grant Reporting Information Collection Request.

Abstract: The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (Pub. L. 107-118) ("the Brownfields Amendments") was signed into law on January 11, 2002. The Act amends the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended, and authorizes EPA to award grants to

States, tribes, local governments, and other eligible entities to assess and clean up brownfields sites. Under the Brownfields Amendments, a brownfields site means real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. For grant funding purposes, EPA uses the term "brownfields property(ies)" synonymously with the term "brownfields sites." The Brownfields Amendments authorize EPA to award several types of grants to eligible entities on a competitive basis.

Under subtitle A of the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, States, tribes, local governments, and other eligible entities can receive assessment grants to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning and community involvement related to brownfields properties; cleanup grants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfields properties; grants to capitalize revolving loan funds and provide subgrants for cleanup activities; and job training grants to support the creation and implementation of environmental job training and placement programs. Under subtitle C of the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, State and tribes can receive grants to establish and enhance their response programs. The grants support activities necessary to establish or enhance four elements of state and tribal response programs and to meet the public record requirements under the statute. The four elements include: (a) Timely survey and inventory of brownfield sites in the State or in the tribal land; (b) oversight and enforcement authorities or other mechanisms and resources; (c) mechanisms and resources to provide meaningful opportunities for public participation; and (d) mechanisms for approval of a cleanup plan and verification and certification that cleanup is complete. States and tribes that receive funding under subtitle C must establish a public record system during the grant funding period unless an adequate public record system is already established.

Grant recipients have general reporting and record keeping requirements as a condition of their grant that result in burden. A portion of this reporting and record keeping burden is authorized under 40 CFR parts 30 and 31 and identified in the EPA's general grants ICR (OMB Control Number 2030-0020). EPA requires Brownfields program grant recipients to

maintain and report additional information to EPA on the uses and accomplishments associated with the funded brownfields activities. EPA uses several forms to assist grantees in reporting the information and to ensure consistency of the information collected. EPA uses this information to meet Federal stewardship responsibilities to manage and track how program funds are being spent, to evaluate the performance of the Brownfields Cleanup and Redevelopment Program, to meet the Agency's reporting requirements under the Government Performance Results Act, and to report to Congress and other program stakeholders on the status and accomplishments of the grants program.

This ICR addresses the burden imposed on grant recipients that are associated with those reporting and recordkeeping requirements that are specific to grants awarded under the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. This ICR renewal modifies the annual reporting and recordkeeping burden under the previous ICR. The modified burden reflects an increase in the number of respondents subject to the reporting and recordkeeping requirements, and improvements to the reporting forms based on EPA's experience implementing the grant program. Specifically, subtitle C grant recipients are now subject to the reporting and recordkeeping requirements previously established for subtitle A grant recipients. By using the same form to report information on grant activities, EPA is adopting a streamlined approach that avoids potential confusion among grant recipients and allows the Agency to collect and report program information consistently across all brownfields grants. EPA is also modifying the reporting form to simplify and clarify the reporting requirements, which will improve the accuracy of information reported and minimize the burden to grant recipients.

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: The annual reporting and record keeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 hours per response for job training grant recipients. The annual reporting and record keeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.25 hours per response for subtitle A assessment, cleanup, and revolving loan fund grant recipients and subtitle C grant recipients.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 294.

Frequency of Response: Bi-annual for subtitle C grant recipients; quarterly for subtitle A grant recipients.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 8,683.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$260,648

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: September 13, 2005.

Linda Garczynski,

Director, Office of Brownfields Cleanup and Redevelopment, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7984-2]

Science Advisory Board Staff Office; Scientific and Technological Achievement Awards Review Panel (FY2006-FY2009) Request for Nominations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office is requesting nominations for experts to serve on a SAB Scientific and Technological Achievement Awards (STAA) Review Panel (FY2006-FY2009). This Panel reviews peer-reviewed publications from EPA scientists and makes recommendations for awards.

DATES: Nominations should be submitted by November 7, 2005 per instructions below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any member of the public wishing further information regarding this Notice and Request for Nominations may contact Ms. Vivian Turner, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), SAB Staff Office, by telephone/voice mail at (202) 343-9697; by fax at (202) 233-0643 or via e-mail at turner.vivian@epa.gov. General information concerning the EPA Science Advisory Board can be found at the EPA SAB Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has established the STAA to honor and recognize EPA employees who have made outstanding contributions to science and technology through publication in peer-reviewed journals. EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) has requested the SAB to review the nominated scientific publications. Accordingly, the SAB Staff Office, under the auspices of the SAB, is forming a new panel to review the nominated publications. The SAB is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended (5 U.S.C. App.). The Panel will comply with the provisions of FACA and SAB procedural policies, including the SAB process for panel formation described in the *Overview of the Panel Formation Process at the Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board*, which can found on the SAB Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/ecm02003.pdf>. The Panel will hold a closed meeting to develop award recommendations.