

the **Federal Register** or by other appropriate means, such as on the related collection instrument or form, if applicable. The display of OMB control numbers in certain EPA regulations is consolidated in 40 CFR part 9.

Abstract: Section 103(a) of CERCLA, as amended, requires the person in charge of a facility or vessel to immediately notify the National Response Center (NRC) of a hazardous substance release into the environment if the amount of the release equals or exceeds the substance's reportable quantity (RQ) limit. The RQ of every hazardous substance can be found in Table 302.4 of 40 CFR 302.4.

Section 311 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), as amended, requires the person in charge of a vessel to immediately notify the NRC of an oil spill into U.S. navigable waters if the spill causes a sheen, violates applicable water quality standards, or causes a sludge or emulsion to be deposited beneath the surface of the water or upon adjoining shorelines.

The reporting of a hazardous substance release that is above the substance's RQ allows the Federal government to determine whether a Federal response action is required to control or mitigate any potential adverse effects to public health or welfare or the environment. Likewise, the reporting of oil spills allows the Federal government to determine whether cleaning up the oil spill is necessary to mitigate or prevent damage to public health or welfare or the environment.

The hazardous substance and oil release information collected under CERCLA section 103(a) and CWA section 311 also is available to EPA program offices and other Federal agencies that use the information to evaluate the potential need for additional regulations, new permitting requirements for specific substances or sources, or improved emergency response planning. Release notification information, which is stored in the national Emergency Response Notification System (ERNS) data base, is available to State and local government authorities as well as the general public. State and local government authorities and the regulated community use release information for purposes of local emergency response planning. Members of the general public, who have access to release information through the Freedom of Information Act, may request release information for purposes of maintaining an awareness of what types of releases are occurring in different localities and what actions, if any, are being taken to protect public health and welfare and the

environment. ERNS fact sheets, which provide summary and statistical information about hazardous substance and oil release notifications, also are available to the public. 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.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 4.1 hours per response. 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 which have subsequently changed; 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.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are facilities or vessels that manufacture, process, transport, or otherwise use certain specified hazardous substances and oil.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 25,861.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 106,030 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$3,161,016 includes \$0 annualized capital or O&M costs.

Changes in the Estimates: There is an increase of 7,294 hours in the total estimated burden currently identified in the OMB Inventory of Approved ICR Burdens. This increase is due to EPA's updating of burden estimates for this collection based upon historical information on the number of responses made during the previous three year period. Based upon revised estimates, the number of responses increased from an estimated three year average of 24,082 to 25,861.

Dated: October 18, 2007.

Sara Hisel-McCoy,

Acting Director, Collection Strategies Division.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-AO-2007-0408, FRL-8486-9]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Regulatory Pilot Projects (Renewal); EPA ICR No. 1755.08; OMB Control No. 2010-0026

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that an Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. This is a request to renew an existing approved collection. The ICR, which is abstracted below, describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated burden and cost.

DATES: Additional comments may be submitted on or before November 23, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-AO-2007-0408 to (1) EPA online using www.regulations.gov (our preferred method), by e-mail to oei.docket@epa.gov, or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, OA Docket, EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 2822T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460, and (2) OMB by mail to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gerald Filbin, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, (1807T), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202-566-2182; fax number: 202-566-2220; e-mail address: filbin.gerald@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has submitted the following ICR to OMB for review and approval according to the procedures prescribed in 5 CFR 1320.12.

On June 15, 2007 (72 FR 33218), EPA sought comments on this ICR pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.8(d). EPA received no comments during the comment period. Any additional comments on this ICR should be submitted to EPA and OMB within 30 days of this notice.

EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-AO-2007-0408, which is available for online viewing at www.regulations.gov, or in person viewing at the Office of the Administrator Docket in the EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA/DC Public Reading Room is open from 8 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 the Administrator Docket is 202-566-0219.

Use EPA's electronic docket and comment system at www.regulations.gov to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the docket, and to access those documents in the docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select "docket search," then key in the docket ID number identified above. Please note that EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing at www.regulations.gov as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, Confidential Business Information (CBI), or other information whose public disclosure is restricted by statute. For further information about the electronic docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Title: Regulatory Pilot Projects (Renewal).

ICR numbers: EPA ICR No. 1755.08, OMB Control No. 2010-0026.

ICR Status: This ICR is scheduled to expire on October 31, 2007. Under OMB regulations, the Agency may continue to conduct or sponsor the collection of information while this submission is pending at OMB. 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 title 40 of the CFR, after appearing in the **Federal Register** when approved, are listed in 40 CFR part 9, are displayed either by publication in the **Federal Register** or by other appropriate means, such as on the related collection instrument or form, if applicable. The display of OMB control

numbers in certain EPA regulations is consolidated in 40 CFR part 9.

Abstract: This is an information collection request renewal that will allow for the continued solicitation of proposals for innovative pilot projects and to allow EPA to continue its commitments to monitor the results of previous and ongoing pilot tests of regulatory innovation. The renewal of this ICR is important as it will allow the Agency to measure performance outcomes of regulatory innovation piloting and to assess the broader applicability of those pilot projects. The ICR is also necessary to allow EPA to identify State and Tribal co-regulators as well as additional regulated entities who are interested in partnering with EPA in innovative pilot projects, allowing the Agency to continue its commitment to innovation and regulatory flexibility with facilities, communities, and states in achieving environmental results. The renewal of this ICR will allow EPA to continue to receive and work with project sponsors on proposals for innovation. Responses related to Project XL are voluntary, as are any responses by state environmental agencies to EPA's request for input for the design of the annual competition. States seeking funding for an environmental regulatory innovation project must submit a project proposal in the annual competition (see <http://www.epa.gov/innovation/stategrants>) to receive a grant award and submittal of a proposal does not automatically guarantee an assistance agreement between EPA and a state for the purpose of implementing an innovation project. In requiring the submittal of a proposal in competition, EPA is adhering to its own policies on competition (EPA 5700.7) and performance measurement (EPA 5700.8). Similarly, states implementing innovative regulatory pilot tests in projects funded by a State Innovation Grant are required to report on progress during the operation of a project and to provide a final project report summarizing outcomes and major findings of each project. EPA's policy on performance measurement in assistance agreements is an implementation outcome under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA sections 1115(a)(4) and 1116(c)). EPA's innovation piloting efforts are multi-media in nature and include programs authorized under the full range of authorizing legislation (e.g., the Clean Air Act, section 103(b)(3) (42 U.S.C. 7403(b)(3)) the Clean Water Act, section 104(b)(3) (33 U.S.C. 1254(b)(3)); the Solid Waste Disposal Act, section 8001 (42 U.S.C. 6981); the Toxics Substances

Control Act, section 10 (15 U.S.C. 2609); the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, section 20 (7 U.S.C. 136r); and the Safe Drinking Water Act, sections 1442 (a) and (c) (42 U.S.C. 1(a) and (c)).

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6 hours per response. 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 which have subsequently changed; 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.

Respondents/Affected Entities: States and regulated entities participating in EPA regulatory pilot projects.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1252.

Frequency of Response: Occasionally, quarterly, and/or annually.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 7748 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$331,460. This includes an estimated labor cost of \$331,460 and an estimated cost of \$0 for capital investment or maintenance and operational costs.

Changes in the Estimates: There is an increase of 6,860 hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with that identified in the ICR currently approved by OMB. This increase reflects the need to collect information on project performance and outcomes in the form of quarterly reporting and final project reporting for current and future projects that is not addressed in previous ICRs.

Dated: October 17, 2007.

Sara Hisel-McCoy,

Acting Director, Collection Strategies Division.

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