**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**


**Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; State Review Framework**

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency is planning to submit a request to renew an existing approved Information Collection Request (ICR) State Review Framework (EPA ICR No. 2185.05, OMB Control No. 2020–0031) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through December 31, 2013. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before November 12, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OECA–2010–0291, online using www.regulations.gov (our preferred method), or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460.

EPA’s policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**


**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Supporting documents which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting are available in the public docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at www.regulations.gov or in person at the EPA Docket Center, WJC West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW., Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202–566–1744. For additional information about EPA’s public docket, visit http://www.epa.gov/dockets.

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments and information to enable it 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. EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval. At that time, EPA will issue another Federal Register notice to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB.

**Abstract:** The State Review Framework (“Framework”) is an oversight tool designed to assess state performance in enforcement and compliance assurance. The Framework’s goal is to evaluate state performance by examining existing data to provide a consistent level of oversight and develop a uniform mechanism by which EPA Regions, working collaboratively with their states, can ensure that state environmental agencies are consistently implementing the national compliance and enforcement program in order to...
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office announces a public teleconference of the Hydraulic Fracturing Research Advisory Panel to receive written and oral comments from the public on new and emerging information related to hydraulic fracturing and drinking water resources.

**DATES:** The public teleconference will be held on November 20, 2013, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Any member of the public who wants further information concerning the teleconference may contact Mr. Edward Hanlon, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), EPA Science Advisory Board (1400R), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20460; via telephone/voicemail at (202) 564–2134, fax at (202) 565–2098; or email at hanlon.edward@epa.gov. General information concerning the SAB can be found on the EPA Web site at http://www.epa.gov/sab.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background:** The SAB was established pursuant to the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act (ERDDAA), codified at 42 U.S.C. 4365, to provide independent scientific and technical advice to the Administrator on the technical basis for Agency positions and regulations. The SAB is a Federal Advisory Committee chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C., App. 2. The SAB and the SAB Hydraulic Fracturing Research Advisory Panel will comply with all appropriate SAB Staff Office procedural policies. Pursuant to FACA and EPA policy, notice is hereby given that the SAB Hydraulic Fracturing Research Advisory Panel will hold a public teleconference to receive written and oral comments from the public on new and emerging information related to hydraulic fracturing and drinking water resources.

In response to public concern, in August 2010 Congress urged EPA to study the relationship between hydraulic fracturing and drinking water. In March 2013, the SAB Staff Office formed an SAB panel to provide individual expert advice for the EPA’s Office of Research and Development (ORD) on its ongoing research on the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water resources. Information about panel formation and activities can be found at http://www.epa.gov/sabproduct.nsf/02ad90b136fc2fe85256ea04346549/b436304ba804e3f885257a5b005213b?OpenDocument&TableRow=2.0#1.

The Panel held a May 7–8, 2013 meeting in Arlington Virginia where individual members of the Panel provided their individual expert comments on charge questions associated with research described in ORD’s Study of the Potential Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing on Drinking Water Resources: Progress Report, released in December 2012. At the May 2013 meeting, the SAB Staff Office announced there would be opportunity for the public to provide new and emerging information related to hydraulic fracturing to the Panel. The information provided to the Panel will serve as background to assist the Panel in its review of the EPA’s draft report on the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water resources. This report is scheduled for completion in December 2014. The SAB will hold a public teleconference to provide opportunity to receive information from the public.

**Availability of Meeting Materials:** The agenda and other materials in support of the November 20, 2013 teleconference call will be available on the SAB Web site at http://www.epa.gov/sab in advance of the teleconference call.

**Procedures for Providing Public Input:**

Public comment for consideration by EPA’s federal advisory committees and panels has a different purpose from public comment provided to EPA program offices. Therefore, the process for submitting comments to a federal advisory committee is different from the process used to submit comments to an EPA program office.

Federal advisory committees and panels, including scientific advisory committees, provide independent advice to the EPA. Members of the public can submit relevant comments for consideration by the Panel. Input from the public to the SAB will have the most impact if it provides specific scientific or technical information or analysis for the SAB to consider or if it relates to the clarity or accuracy of the technical information.

For the November 20, 2013 telephone conference meeting, members of the public are encouraged to provide written and oral comments on new and emerging information related to hydraulic fracturing and drinking water resources. Members of the public wishing to provide comment should contact the DFO directly.

Oral Statements: Individuals, or individuals or groups requesting an oral presentation at a public teleconference...