Transportation conformity is required by Clean Air Act section 176(c). The EPA’s conformity rule requires that transportation plans, transportation improvement programs, and projects conform to SIPs and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they conform. Conformity to a SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the NAAQS.

The criteria by which we determine whether any SIP’s MVEBs are adequate for conformity purposes are outlined in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 40 CFR 93.118(4), which was promulgated on August 15, 1997. We have further described our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP MVEBs in our final rule dated July 1, 2004, and we used the information in these resources in making our adequacy determination. Please note that an adequacy review is separate from the EPA’s completeness review and should not be used to prejudge EPA’s ultimate action on the SIP. Even if we find a budget adequate, the SIP could later be disapproved. Pursuant to 40 CFR 93.104(e), within 2 years of the effective date of this notice, the metropolitan planning organizations in the San Joaquin Valley and the U.S. Department of Transportation will need to demonstrate conformity to the new MVEBs if the demonstration has not already been made. For demonstrating conformity to the MVEBs in this plan, the motor vehicle emissions from implementation of the transportation plan should be projected consistently with the budgets in this plan, i.e., by taking each county’s emissions results from EMFAC2014 and then rounding each county’s emissions up to the nearest tenth of a ton.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 et. seq.


Deborah Jordan,
Acting Regional Administrator, Region IX.

[FR Doc. 2017–13658 Filed 6–28–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: Gasoline Volatility

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: Gasoline Volatility (EPA ICR No. 1367.11, OMB control No. 2060–0178), to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through August 31, 2017. 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 August 28, 2017.


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: James W. Caldwell, Compliance Division, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Mail Code 6405A, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 343–9303; fax number: (202) 343–2802; email address: caldwell.jim@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTAL 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 https://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 specifically solicits 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.

Abstract: Gasoline volatility, as measured by Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) in pounds per square inch (psi), is controlled during the summer ozone season (June 1 to September 15) in order to minimize evaporative hydrocarbon emissions from motor vehicles. RVP is subject to a federal standard of 7.8 psi or 9.0 psi, depending on location. The addition of ethanol to gasoline increases the RVP by about 1 psi. Gasoline that contains between nine and 10 volume percent ethanol is provided a 1.0 psi waiver such that the RVP may be up to 8.8 psi or 10.0 psi for a federal standard of 7.8 psi or 9.0 psi respectively. As an aid to industry compliance and EPA enforcement, the product transfer document (PTD), which is prepared by the gasoline producer or importer and which accompanies a shipment of gasoline containing ethanol, is required by regulation to contain a legible and conspicuous statement that the gasoline contains ethanol and the percentage concentration of ethanol. This is intended to deter the mixing within the gasoline.

1 See 62 FR 43780 (August 15, 1997).
2 See 60 FR 40004 (July 1, 2004).
3 See 73 FR 4419 (January 24, 2008).
4 See 69 FR 40004 (July 1, 2004).
distribution system, particularly in retail storage tanks, of gasoline containing between nine and 10 volume percent ethanol with gasoline which does not contain ethanol in that range. Such mixing would likely result in a gasoline which is in violation of its RVP standard. Also, a party seeking a testing exemption for research on gasoline that is not in compliance with the applicable volatility standard must submit certain information to EPA. EPA has additional PTD requirements for gasoline containing ethanol at 40 CFR 80.1503. Those requirements are covered in a separate ICR.

Form Numbers: None.

Respondents/affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are those who produce or import gasoline containing ethanol, or who wish to obtain a testing exemption.

Respondent’s obligation to respond: Mandatory per 40 CFR 80.27(d) and (e).

Estimated number of respondents: 2,000.

Frequency of response: On occasion.

Total estimated burden: 12,330 hours per year. Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1220.3(b).

Total estimated cost: $1.1 million, includes $20 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

Changes in Estimates: There is no change in the hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. The use of ethanol in gasoline has remained stable.


Byron J. Bunker,
Director, Compliance Division, Office of Transportation and Air Quality.

[FR Doc. 2017–13675 Filed 6–28–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY


Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; ICR Supporting Statement Information Collection Request for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program (Renewal)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR). "ICR Supporting Statement Information Collection Request for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program (Renewal)" (EPA ICR No. 0229.22, OMB Control No. 2040–0004) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection. This is a proposed revision of the ICR which is currently approved through December 31, 2017. 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.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 28, 2017.


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:
Amelia Letnes, State and Regional Branch, Water Permits Division, OWM Mail Code: 4203M, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564–5627; fax number: (202) 564 9544; email address: letnes.amelia@epa.gov

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 https://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 https://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: This consolidated ICR calculates the burden and costs associated with the NPDES program, identifies the types of activities regulated under the NPDES program, describes the roles and responsibilities of state governments and the Agency, and presents the program areas that address the various types of regulated activities. It is a revision of the Information Collection Request for the NPDES Program (OMB Control Number: 2040–0004; EPA ICR Number: 0229.21; expiration date 12/31/2017) submitted to OMB in December 2015 that consolidated the burden and costs associated with activities previously reported in 11 NPDES program or NPDES-related ICRs administrated by EPA’s Water Permits Division. This renewal documents the addition, into the consolidated NPDES ICR, of the burden and costs for seven more NPDES programs, which were previously contained in separate ICRs as listed below:

• Consolidated Animal Sectors (OMB Control No. 2040–0250; EPA ICR Number 1989.09; Expiration date—5/31/2019)
• Pesticide Applicators (OMB Control No. 2040–0284; EPA ICR Number 2397.02; Expiration date—3/31/2019)
• National Pretreatment Program (OMB Control No. 2040–0009; EPA ICR Number 0002.15; Expiration date—4/30/2019)
• Cooling Water Intake Structures Phase I—New Facilities (OMB Control No. 2040–0241; EPA ICR Number 1973.06; Expiration date—11/30/2019)
• Cooling Water Intake Structures at Phase III Facilities (OMB Control No. 2040–0284; EPA ICR Number 2397.02; Expiration date—3/31/2019)