

secondary (welfare-based) NAAQS for oxides of nitrogen and sulfur.

**DATES:** The “Integrated Science Assessment for Sulfur Oxides—Health Criteria” will be available on or before December 14, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** The “Integrated Science Assessment for Sulfur Oxides—Health Criteria” will be available primarily via the internet on EPA’s Integrated Science Assessment for Sulfur Oxides (Health Criteria) home page at <http://www2.epa.gov/isa/integrated-science-assessment-isa-sulfur-dioxide-health-criteria> or the public docket at <http://www.regulations.gov>, Docket ID: EPA–HQ–ORD–2013–0357. A limited number of CD–ROM copies will be available. Contact Ms. Marieka Boyd by phone: 919–541–0031; fax: 919–541–5078; or email: [boyd.marieka@epa.gov](mailto:boyd.marieka@epa.gov) to request a CD–ROM, and please provide your name, your mailing address, and the document title, “Integrated Science Assessment for Sulfur Oxides—Health Criteria” to facilitate processing of your request.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For technical information, contact Dr. Tom Long, NCEA; phone: 919–541–1880; fax: 919–541–1818; or email: [long.tom@epa.gov](mailto:long.tom@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Information About the Document**

Section 108(a) of the Clean Air Act directs the Administrator to identify certain pollutants which, among other things, “cause or contribute to air pollution which may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health or welfare” and to issue air quality criteria for them. These air quality criteria are to “accurately reflect the latest scientific knowledge useful in indicating the kind and extent of all identifiable effects on public health or welfare which may be expected from the presence of [a] pollutant in the ambient air . . . .” Under section 109 of the Act, EPA is then to establish NAAQS for each pollutant for which EPA has issued criteria. Section 109(d) of the Act subsequently requires periodic review and, if appropriate, revision of existing air quality criteria to reflect advances in scientific knowledge on the effects of the pollutant on public health or welfare. EPA is also required to periodically review and, if appropriate, revise the NAAQS, based on the revised air quality criteria (for more information on the NAAQS review process, see <https://www.epa.gov/naaqs>).

Sulfur oxides are one of six criteria pollutants for which EPA has established NAAQS. Periodically, EPA reviews the scientific basis for these

standards by preparing an ISA (formerly called an Air Quality Criteria Document). The ISA provides a comprehensive review, synthesis, and evaluation of the most policy-relevant science to serve as the scientific foundation for EPA’s review of the current primary NAAQS for SO<sub>x</sub>. The Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC), an independent science advisory committee whose review and advisory functions are mandated by Section 109(d)(2) of the Clean Air Act, is charged (among other things) with independent scientific review of the EPA’s air quality criteria.

On May 10, 2013 (78 FR 27387), EPA formally initiated its current review of the air quality criteria for the health effects of sulfur oxides and the primary (health-based) NAAQS for SO<sub>x</sub>, requesting the submission of recent scientific information on specified topics. EPA held a workshop on June 12–13, 2013, to gather input from invited scientific experts, both internal and external to EPA, as well as from the public, regarding key science and policy issues relevant to the review of the health effects of sulfur oxides and the primary NAAQS for SO<sub>x</sub> (78 FR 27387). These science and policy issues were incorporated in EPA’s “Integrated Review Plan for the Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Sulfur Dioxide” (EPA–452/R–14–007), which was finalized in October 2014 (79 FR 66721) with a prior draft available for public comment (79 FR 14035) and discussion by the CASAC via publicly accessible teleconference consultations (79 FR 16325, 79 FR 30137, 79 FR 34739). On June 23–24, 2014, EPA held a workshop to discuss, with invited internal and external scientific experts, initial draft materials prepared in the development of the ISA (79 FR 33750). EPA considered comments on these draft materials in preparing the first external review draft of the ISA, which was released on November 24, 2015 (80 FR 73183). The first draft ISA was discussed at a public CASAC meeting on January 27–28, 2016 (80 FR 79330). Subsequently, on April 15, 2016, the CASAC provided a consensus letter to the EPA Administrator summarizing their review ([https://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/4620a620d0120f93852572410080d786/8DEC36A7E2A54BA485257F9600667D81/\\$File/EPA-CASAC+2016-002+Unsigned.pdf](https://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/4620a620d0120f93852572410080d786/8DEC36A7E2A54BA485257F9600667D81/$File/EPA-CASAC+2016-002+Unsigned.pdf)). The second draft ISA was then developed with consideration of comments from the CASAC and the public, and includes consideration of scientific studies published through September 2016 (81 FR 89097). The

CASAC panel met at a public meeting on March 20–21, 2017, to review the second draft ISA (82 FR 11449). Subsequently, on June 30, 2017, the CASAC provided a consensus letter for their review to the EPA Administrator ([https://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/4620a620d0120f93852572410080d786/88CD26BC35A8C8688525814F004D86EC/\\$File/EPA-CASAC-17-003.pdf](https://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/4620a620d0120f93852572410080d786/88CD26BC35A8C8688525814F004D86EC/$File/EPA-CASAC-17-003.pdf)). The letters from CASAC, as well as public comments received on the ISA drafts, can be found in Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–ORD–2013–0357.

EPA has considered comments by the CASAC panel and by the public in preparing this final ISA.

Dated: November 29, 2017.

**Tina Bahadori,**

*Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.*

[FR Doc. 2017–26893 Filed 12–12–17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560–50–P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FLR–9971–99–Region 10]

**Proposed Re-Issuance of a General NPDES Permit (GP) for Small Suction Dredges in Idaho**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10.

**ACTION:** Proposed reissuance of a general permit.

**SUMMARY:** The EPA is proposing to reissue a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit (IDG370000) for small suction dredge operations in Idaho (intake nozzle size of 5 inches in diameter or a diametric equivalent or less and with equipment rated at 15 horsepower or less). The current permit established effluent limitations, standards, prohibitions and other conditions on discharges from covered facilities. These conditions are based on existing national effluent guidelines, the state of Idaho’s Water Quality Standards and material contained in the administrative record. The EPA is proposing to retain most conditions of the current General Permit. A description of the basis for the conditions and requirements of the proposed general permit is given in the Fact Sheet. This is also notice of the draft Section 401 Certification provided by the state of Idaho.

**DATES:** Interested persons may submit comments on the proposed reissuance of the general permit to EPA, Region 10 at the address below. Comments must be postmarked by January 29, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the draft General Permit should be sent to Director, Office of Water and Watersheds; USEPA Region 10; 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, OWW-191; Seattle, WA 98101 and may also be submitted by fax to (206) 553-1280 or electronically to [godsey.cindi@epa.gov](mailto:godsey.cindi@epa.gov).

Comments on the draft § 401 Certification should be sent to Nicole Deinarowicz, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, Idaho 83706 or electronically to [Nicole.Deinarowicz@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Nicole.Deinarowicz@deq.idaho.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** These documents may be found on the EPA Region 10 website at [www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/draft-mpdes-general-permit-small-suction-dredge-placer-miners-idaho](http://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/draft-mpdes-general-permit-small-suction-dredge-placer-miners-idaho). Copies of the proposed general permit and Fact Sheet are also available upon request. Requests may be made to Audrey Washington at (206) 553-0523 or to Cindi Godsey at (206) 553-1676. Requests may also be electronically mailed to: [washington.audrey@epa.gov](mailto:washington.audrey@epa.gov), [godsey.cindi@epa.gov](mailto:godsey.cindi@epa.gov), or [peak.tracy@epa.gov](mailto:peak.tracy@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 12866:** This action is not a significant regulatory action and was therefore not submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review.

Dated: December 5, 2017.

**Michael J. Lidgard,**

*Acting Director, Office of Water & Watersheds, Region 10.*

[FR Doc. 2017-26896 Filed 12-12-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[EPA-HQ-OPPT-2015-0437; FRL-9967-78-OEI]

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Safer Choice Product Recognition Program; Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** EPA has submitted the following information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA): "Safer Choice Product Recognition Program" and identified by EPA ICR No. 2302.03 and OMB Control No. 2070-0178. The ICR, which is available in the docket along

with other related materials, provides a detailed explanation of the collection activities and the burden estimate that is only briefly summarized in this document. EPA did not receive any comments in response to the previously provided public review opportunity issued in the **Federal Register** on March 8, 2016 (81 FR 12097). With this submission, EPA is providing an additional 30 days for public review.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before January 12, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPPT-2015-0437, to (1) EPA online using <http://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 and (2) OMB via email to [oir\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oir_submission@omb.eop.gov). Address comments to OMB Desk Officer for EPA.

EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the 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. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be CBI or information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Colby Lintner, Environmental Assistance Division (7408M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; email address: [TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov](mailto:TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Docket:** Supporting documents, including the ICR that explains in detail the information collection activities and the related burden and cost estimates that are summarized in this document, are available in the docket. The docket can be viewed online at <http://www.regulations.gov> or in person at the EPA Docket Center, West William Jefferson Clinton Bldg., Rm. 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>.

**ICR status:** This ICR expires on August 31, 2016. Under PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, 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 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 for certain EPA regulations is consolidated in 40 CFR part 9.

**Abstract:** EPA's Safer Choice program formally recognizes safer products where all ingredients have an environmental and human health profile showing that they are the safest in their functional use class. Under the encouragement of this program, leading companies have made great progress in developing safer, highly effective chemical products. Since the program's inception in 1997, formulators have used the program as a portal to EPA's unique chemical expertise, information resources, and guidance on greener chemistry. Safer Choice program partners enjoy Agency recognition, including the use of the Safer Choice program logo on products with the safest possible formulations. In the future, EPA expects much greater program participation due to rising demand for safer products. This information collection enables EPA to accommodate participation by more than nine formulators each year and to enhance program transparency.

Information collection activities associated with this program will assist the Agency in meeting the goals of the Pollution Prevention Act (PPA) by providing resources and recognition for businesses committed to promoting and using safer chemical products. In turn, the program will help businesses meet corporate sustainability goals by providing the means to, and an objective measure of, environmental stewardship. Investment analysts and advisers seek these types of measures in evaluating a corporation's sustainability profile and investment worthiness. Safer Choice Product Recognition program partnership is an important impetus for prioritizing and completing the transition to safer chemical products. The Safer Choice Product Recognition program is also needed to promote greater use of safer chemical products by companies unaware of the benefits of such a change.

EPA has tailored its request for information, and especially the Safer Choice Product Recognition program application forms, to ensure that the Agency requests only that information essential to verify applicants' eligibility for recognition.

**Respondents/Affected Entities:** Companies engaged in the formulation of end-use, for-sale products that have