

will be collecting are available in the public docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at [www.regulations.gov](http://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:** Section 6(a)(2) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) requires pesticide registrants to submit information to the Agency which may be relevant to the balancing of the risks and benefits of a pesticide product. The statute requires the registrant to submit any factual information that it acquires regarding adverse effects associated with its pesticidal products, and it is up to the Agency to determine whether or not that factual information constitutes an unreasonable adverse effect. In order to limit the amount of less meaningful information that might be submitted to the Agency, the EPA has limited the scope of factual information that the registrant must submit. The Agency's regulations at 40 CFR part 159 provide a detailed description of the reporting obligations of registrants under FIFRA section 6(a)(2).

**Form Numbers:** None.

**Respondents/affected entities:** Entities potentially affected by this ICR include

anyone who holds or has ever held a registration for a pesticide product issued under FIFRA Section 3 or 24(c). The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) is 325300 (Pesticide, Fertilizer and Other Agricultural Chemical Manufacturing).

**Respondent's obligation to respond:** Mandatory (FIFRA 6(a)(2)).

**Estimated number of respondents:** 1,452 (total).

**Frequency of response:** On occasion.

**Total estimated burden:** 301,118 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b).

**Total estimated cost:** \$19,999,815 (per year).

**Changes in Estimates:** There is an increase of 71,778 hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. This increase is due to the expectation that the number of responses will increase by 16% from 93,000 in the last ICR approval to approximately 108,000 for this ICR renewal. The increase is due to EPA's revised expectations regarding the number of incident reports that will be submitted to the Agency, which reflects historical information on the number of responses received. The increase in the number of incident reports has also prompted the need for additional information discussed in section 4 of the supporting statement. Since the last ICR was approved, the EPA has found it necessary to request additional data in certain subject areas under 40 CFR 159. First, due to a significant increase in the number of adverse incidents for spot-on domestic animal pet products from several registrants, EPA began requiring more standardized post-market surveillance reporting on adverse effects and submission of sales information, so the Agency can better evaluate incident rates. Second, the Agency requested additional information from the registrant of an herbicide to help explain circumstances for incidents of alleged tree and plant damage. Finally, new concerns about neonicotinoid pesticides and the loss of bee colonies led to EPA's request for more documentation from registrants for these products.

**Next Step in the Process for this ICR:** 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 pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12. EPA will issue another **Federal Register** document pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(a)(1)(iv) to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB. If you have any

questions about this ICR or the approval process, please contact the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**Authority:** 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Dated: January 11, 2018.

**Charlotte Bertrand,**

*Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.*

[FR Doc. 2018-02547 Filed 2-7-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-ORD-2005-0530; FRL-9974-07-OEI]

### Information Collection Request Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Application for Reference and Equivalent Method Determination (Renewal)

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has submitted an information collection request (ICR), "Application for Reference and Equivalent Method Determination (Renewal)" (EPA ICR No. 0559.13, OMB Control No. 2080-0005) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through February 28, 2018. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on September 6, 2017 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. A fuller description of the ICR is given below, including its estimated burden and cost 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.

**DATES:** Additional comments may be submitted on or before March 12, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-ORD-2005-0530, to (1) EPA online using [www.regulations.gov](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 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:**

Robert W. Vanderpool, Environmental Protection Agency, Exposure Methods and Measurements Division, Air Quality Branch, Mail Drop D205-03, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711; telephone number: 919-541-7877; fax number: 919-541-4848; email address: [Vanderpool.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Vanderpool.Robert@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

[www.regulations.gov](http://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>.

*Abstract:* To determine compliance with the NAAQS, State air monitoring agencies are required to use, in their air quality monitoring networks, air monitoring methods that have been formally designated by the EPA as either reference or equivalent methods under EPA regulations at 40 CFR part 53. A manufacturer or seller of an air monitoring method (e.g., an air monitoring sampler or analyzer) that seeks to obtain such EPA designation of one of its products must carry out prescribed tests of the method. The test results and other information must then be submitted to the EPA in the form of an application for a reference or equivalent method determination in accordance with 40 CFR part 53. The EPA uses this information, under the provisions of Part 53, to determine whether the particular method should be designated as either a reference or equivalent method. After a method is designated, the applicant must also maintain records of the names and mailing addresses of all ultimate purchasers of all analyzers or samplers sold as designated methods under the method designation. If the method designated is a method for fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and coarse particulate matter (PM<sub>10-2.5</sub>), the applicant must also submit a checklist

signed by an ISO-certified auditor to indicate that the samplers or analyzers sold as part of the designated method are manufactured in an ISO 9001-registered facility. Also, an applicant must submit a minor application to seek approval for any proposed modifications to previously designated methods. Submission of some information that is claimed by the applicant to be confidential business information may be necessary to make a reference or equivalent method determination. The confidentiality of any submitted information identified as confidential business information by the applicant will be protected in full accordance with 40 CFR part 53.15 and all applicable provisions of 40 CFR part 2.

*Form numbers:* None.

*Respondents/affected entities:* Private manufacturers.

*Respondent's obligation to respond:* Required to obtain the benefit of EPA designation under 40 CFR part 53.

*Estimated number of respondents:* 22 (total).

*Frequency of response:* On occasion.

*Total estimated burden:* 7492 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b).

*Total estimated cost:* \$687,044 (per year), includes \$140,121 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

*Changes in the estimates:* There is no change in the hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB.

**Courtney Kerwin,**

*Director, Regulatory Support Division.*

[FR Doc. 2018-02542 Filed 2-7-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-9974-22-OECA]

**National Environmental Justice Advisory Council; Notification of Public Teleconference and Public Comment**

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

**ACTION:** Notification of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby provides notice that the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) will meet on the dates and times described below. This meeting is open to the public.

Members of the public are encouraged to provide comments relevant to the specific issues being considered by the NEJAC. For additional information about registering to attend the meeting or to provide public comment, please see "REGISTRATION" under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. Due to a limited number of telephone lines, attendance will be on a first-come, first served basis. Pre-registration is required.

**DATES:** The NEJAC will host a public teleconference meeting on Thursday, March 8, 2018, starting at 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time. The meeting discussion will focus on several topics including, but not limited to, the discussion and deliberation of draft reports from the NEJAC Youth Perspectives on Climate Change Workgroup and the NEJAC Environmental Justice and Water Infrastructure Finance and Capacity Work Group.

Public comment period relevant to the specific issues being considered by the NEJAC (see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**) is scheduled for Thursday, March 8, 2018, starting at 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time. Members of the public who wish to participate during the public comment period are highly encouraged to pre-register by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time on March 5, 2018.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions or correspondence concerning the public teleconference meeting should be directed to Karen L. Martin, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, by mail at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW (MC2201A), Washington, DC 20460; by telephone at 202-564-0203; via email at [martin.karenl@epa.gov](mailto:martin.karenl@epa.gov); or by fax at 202-564-1624. Additional information about the NEJAC is available at <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/national-environmental-justice-advisory-council>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Charter of the NEJAC states that the advisory committee "will provide independent advice and recommendations to the Administrator about broad, crosscutting issues related to environmental justice. The NEJAC's efforts will include evaluation of a broad range of strategic, scientific, technological, regulatory, community engagement and economic issues related to environmental justice."

**Registration**

Registration for the March 9, 2018, public meeting teleconference option will be processed at <https://nejac-public-teleconference-march-8-2018.eventbrite.com>. Pre-registration is required. Registration for the March 8,