ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY


Information Collection Request Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and Revised Asbestos Model Accreditation Plans (Renewal)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (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): Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and Revised Asbestos Model Accreditation Plans (EPA ICR No. 1365.11, OMB Control No. 2070–0091). This is a request to renew the approval of an existing ICR, which is currently approved through August 31, 2018. EPA received six comments in response to the previously provided public review opportunity issued in the Federal Register of January 2, 2018, which have been addressed in the ICR that is being submitted to OMB, a copy of which is available in the docket. With this submission to OMB, EPA is providing an additional 30 days for public review and comment.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before September 24, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID Number EPA–HQ–OPPT–2017–0319, to both EPA and OMB, either by submission or by other appropriate means, such as on the related collection display of OMB control numbers for 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: The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires local education agencies (LEAs) to conduct inspections, develop management plans, and design or conduct response actions with respect to the presence of asbestos-containing materials in school buildings. AHERA also requires states to develop model accreditation plans for persons who perform asbestos inspections, develop management control plans, and design or conduct response actions. This information collection addresses the burden associated with recordkeeping requirements imposed on LEAs by the asbestos in schools rule, and reporting and recordkeeping requirements imposed on states and training providers related to the model accreditation plan rule.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR parts 763, Subpart B). Respondents may claim all or part of a document confidential. EPA will disclose information that is covered by a claim of confidentiality only to the extent...
permitted by, and in accordance with, the procedures in TSCA section 14 and 40 CFR part 2.

Form Numbers: None.

Respondents/affected entities: Local education agencies (LEAs, e.g., elementary or secondary public school districts or a private school or school system); asbestos training providers to schools and educational systems; state education departments or commissions; or state public health departments or commissions.

Respondent’s obligation to respond: Mandatory (40 CFR part 763, Sub part E).

Estimated number of respondents: 133,214 (total).

Frequency of response: On occasion.

Total estimated burden: 2,554,913 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b)

Total estimated cost: $97,276,877 (per year), which includes $0 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

Changes in the Estimates: There is an increase of 67,509 hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. This increase reflects a change in the methodology to calculate the number of schools with friable asbestos-containing materials (ACM); a revision to the life span of schools using average functional age to determine the remaining life of school buildings; and a change in the rate of removal of friable ACM. This change is an adjustment, and is discussed in more detail in the ICR Supporting Statement.

Courtney Kerwin,
Director, Collection Strategies Division.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–9982–68–Region 3]

Anacostia River Watershed: Data Solicitation in Support of Revising Total Maximum Daily Loads for Debris, Floatables, Trash

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Solicitation for data.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking readily available data and information on debris, floatables, and/or trash (hereafter referred to as “trash”) in the Anacostia River watershed for use in the development of a total maximum daily load (TMDL). The Anacostia River watershed covers portions of the District of Columbia and Prince George’s and Montgomery Counties in Maryland. A map of the Anacostia River watershed is available from EPA Region 3’s website at: https://www.epa.gov/tmdl/impaired-waters-and-tmdls-region-3.

DATES: Data submissions to EPA must be received by, or postmarked on or before, October 23, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Data submissions should be sent to Ms. Jillian Adair, Water Protection Division (3WP30), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 3, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103–2029, or by electronic mail to adair.jillian@epa.gov.

Electronic mail submissions including body text and attachments are limited to 25 megabytes. In addition, EPA cannot receive electronic mail attachments in ZIP format (.zip). For additional information on submission formats, visit EPA Region 3’s website at: https://www.epa.gov/tmdl/impaired-waters-and-tmdls-region-3.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information, contact Jillian Adair at (215) 814–5713 or adair.jillian@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires that each State identify those waters (called “water quality-limited segments”) for which existing technology-based pollution controls are not stringent enough to attain or maintain State water quality standards and for which total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) must be prepared. A TMDL is an estimate of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can assimilate without violating water quality standards. This total load includes pollutants that come from end-of-pipe dischargers, stormwater runoff, surface runoff from non-permitted areas (i.e. agriculture, open areas, forest, etc.), as well as a “margin of safety”, which accounts for uncertainties in the estimated load. TMDLs are important because they provide a framework to achieve water quality standards in a watershed. TMDLs inform other federal and state programs of the necessary pollutant reductions needed by source to achieve water quality standards.

On September 21, 2010, EPA approved a trash TMDL for the Anacostia River submitted jointly by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the District of Columbia Department of Energy and the Environment (DOEE). The TMDL report can be accessed at: http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Water/TMDL/ApprovedFinalTMDLs/Pages/tmdl_final_anacostia_trash.aspx.

On September 19, 2016, the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia seeking vacatur of EPA’s approval [Civil Action No. 16–1861 (JDB)]. The Court ruled in favor of NRDC on March 30, 2018 and directed EPA to develop or approve replacement TMDLs. In light of the Court’s Order, EPA is working with MDE and DOEE to determine the appropriate direction to take with developing new or revised TMDLs. An evaluation of data that has become available since approval of the original TMDLs will provide valuable insights into this determination.

EPA would appreciate your assistance in obtaining all readily available data and other information that would benefit the development of TMDLs for trash impairments in the Anacostia River watershed. Please consider these points in responding to this solicitation:

• Any studies, surveys or other statistically significant information on the quantities of trash that would interfere with the general population’s use and enjoyment of the river for purposes such as swimming, boating and fishing. This data call is not intended as a user survey, and accordingly, EPA is not seeking the subjective views of individuals at this time.

• Documents or datasets that provide information regarding water quality conditions and sources associated with quantities of trash in the water. Potentially relevant data sources include: trash monitoring data, trash clean-up data, trash remediation project data, municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) annual reports, etc. EPA is also interested in any other information data providers believe might be relevant.

• Trash data can be accounted for through measurements of weight, volume, count, or other appropriate measure. While EPA acknowledges that photographs may document the presence of trash, photographs are less useful for quantifying trash. Accordingly, EPA discourages submission of photographs as a method of quantifying trash extent and impairment.

• Please limit data submissions to only the waterbodies within the Anacostia River watershed for the period of August 2009 through present. If data collection efforts are currently underway, EPA would also appreciate an accounting of what is being collected and when it may become publicly available.

• Data and reports delivered in electronic format are preferred, as available. Specifically, datasets in Excel