

effect of the dumping on esthetic, recreational, or economic values; land-based alternatives to ocean dumping; and the adverse effects of the dumping on other uses of the ocean. The Ocean Dumping Criteria are codified in 40 CFR parts 227–228. To meet U.S. reporting obligation under the London Convention, an international treaty on ocean dumping, EPA also reports some of this information in the annual United States Ocean Dumping Report.

EPA uses ocean dumping information to make decisions regarding whether issue, deny, as well as to impose conditions on ocean dumping permits issued by EPA in order to ensure consistency with the Ocean Dumping Criteria. EPA uses monitoring and reporting data from permittees to assess compliance with ocean dumping permits, including associated monitoring activities.

Form numbers: None.

Respondents/affected entities:

Respondents/affected entities may include any private person or entity, or state, local, or foreign governments.

Respondent's obligation to respond:

Required to obtain or retain a benefit, specifically permit authorization and/or compliance with permits required under MPRSA sections 102 and 104, 33 U.S.C. 1402 & 1404, and implementing regulations at 40 CFR parts 220–229.

Estimated number of respondents: 2,768 respondents per year.

Frequency of response: The frequency of response varies for application and reporting requirements for different permits. Other than the general permit for transportation and disposal of vessels, response is required once for each permit application, whether a single notification to EPA or a permit application. Depending on the type of MPRSA permit, a permit application would be required prior to expiration if the permittee seeks re-issuance: General permit (once every seven years), special permit (once every three years), and research permit (once every 18 months).

Total estimated burden: The public reporting and recordkeeping burdens for this collection of information are estimated to be 3,497 hours per year. Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.3(b).

Total estimated cost: Annual costs are estimated to be \$380,376, which includes \$184,503 for labor and \$195,874 for capital or operation & maintenance costs.

Changes in estimates: There is no significant increase in the burden. There is an increase of 1 hour in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. This increase is due to a change in the program requirements and

reflects updated reporting burden estimates. Specifically, since the issuance of the current ICR, EPA issued an additional general permit under the MPRSA for the transport and disposal of marine mammal carcasses in ocean waters under specified conditions. The estimates in the supporting information reflect the increase associated with the general permit, which was published in the **Federal Register** on December 6, 2016 [81 FR 87928].

Dated: September 27, 2018.

John Goodin,

Acting Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds.

[FR Doc. 2018–21750 Filed 10–4–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OW–2018–0594; FRL–9985–17–OW]

Request for Nominations of Drinking Water Contaminants for the Fifth Contaminant Candidate List

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requesting nominations of chemical and microbial contaminants that are not currently regulated, for possible inclusion on the fifth drinking water Contaminant Candidate List. The EPA requests that nominations include information showing the nominated contaminant is known or anticipated to occur in public water systems and indicating the nominated contaminant may require regulation due to the potential for adverse effects on the health of persons.

DATES: Nominations must be received on or before December 4, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OW–2018–0594, to the *Federal eRulemaking Portal*: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. You may also submit comments by mail or hand delivery to: Water Docket, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code: 2822T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460.

Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or withdrawn. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>. More information about comment submissions and CBI specific to the nomination process is included in Section III of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this notice and/or inquiries regarding the EPA's fifth drinking water Contaminant Candidate List (CCL 5) nominations, please contact Kesha Forrest, Standards and Risk Management Division, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564–3632; email address: forrest.kesha@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

This notice does not impose any requirements on anyone; it only requests nominations for the drinking water Contaminant Candidate List (CCL) and provides information on how the public can submit nominations to the EPA.

B. How can I get copies of this document and other related information?

The EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OW–2018–0594. Publicly available docket materials are accessible either electronically through <http://www.regulations.gov> or in hard copy at the Water Docket in the EPA Docket Center (see the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice).

II. Background

A. What is the CCL?

The CCL is a list of contaminants that are currently not subject to any proposed or promulgated national primary drinking water regulations, that are known or anticipated to occur in public water systems, and which may require regulation under the Safe

Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The EPA uses this list of unregulated contaminants to prioritize research and data collection efforts to help the Agency determine whether to regulate a specific contaminant. The SDWA requires that the EPA publish the CCL every five years (SWDA § 1412(b)(1)). The EPA is also required to consult with the scientific community, including the Science Advisory Board, and provide notice and opportunity for public comment prior to publication of the final CCL.

The SDWA also requires the EPA to determine whether to regulate at least five contaminants from the CCL every five years (SWDA § 1412(b)(1)). To regulate a contaminant, the SDWA specifies the EPA must determine that:

1. The contaminant may have an adverse effect on the health of persons;

2. The contaminant is known to occur, or there is a substantial likelihood that the contaminant will occur, in public water systems with a frequency and at levels of public health concern; and

3. In the sole judgment of the Administrator, regulation of such contaminant presents meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction for persons served by public water systems.

B. What contaminants were listed on the previous Contaminant Candidate List?

The fourth CCL (CCL 4) was published on November 17, 2016 (81 FR 81099). CCL 4 included 97 chemicals or chemical groups and 12 microbial contaminants. The list includes, among others, chemicals used in commerce, pesticides, biological toxins, disinfection byproducts, pharmaceuticals, and waterborne pathogens. The list of contaminants included on CCL 4, and other information regarding the CCL, can be found on the internet at <https://www.epa.gov/ccl> and in the **Federal Register** notice for the final CCL 4 (81 FR 81099, November 17, 2016).

C. Why is the EPA soliciting contaminant nominations?

The EPA is conducting an evaluation of potential contaminants for inclusion on the draft CCL 5. The EPA is requesting public nominations for contaminants that are not currently regulated, to ensure that contaminants that may not be typically identified as part of the EPA's CCL process are considered. The National Academy of Sciences (NAS, 2001) and National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC, 2004) recommended to the EPA that the CCL be a data-driven, step-wise approach to classifying

contaminants. These experts also recognized the importance of providing an additional pathway for the public to identify new and emerging contaminants for the EPA to further evaluate. A public nomination process allows the EPA to consider new and emerging contaminants that might not otherwise be considered because new information may exist that the EPA is unaware of and/or the information may not have been widely reported or recorded.

III. The EPA CCL Nomination Process

This contaminant nomination process is the first opportunity for the public to make nominations for contaminants to be considered for the CCL 5. The EPA will also accept nominations during the notice and comment period following the EPA's publication of the draft CCL 5 in the **Federal Register**.

A. How can stakeholders, agencies, industry, and the public nominate contaminants for the CCL 5?

Interested parties can nominate chemicals, microbes, or other materials for consideration on the CCL 5 by sending information electronically through <http://www.regulations.gov>, by mail, or by hand delivery (see the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice). Do not submit confidential business information (CBI) to the EPA through <http://www.regulations.gov> or email. Submit comments that contain CBI only by mail or hand delivery, and clearly mark the part of or all the information that you claim to be CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes information claimed as CBI, a non-CBI copy of the comment that *does not* contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in the *Code of Federal Regulations* at 40 CFR part 2.

When submitting a nomination, it is preferred that the nominators include a name, affiliation, phone number, mailing address, and email address; however, this information is not required and nominations can be submitted anonymously. The nominator should also address the following questions for each contaminant nominated to the CCL:

1. What is the contaminant's name, CAS number, and/or common synonym (if applicable)? Please do not nominate a contaminant that is already subject to a national primary drinking water regulation.

2. What are the data that you believe support the conclusion that the

contaminant is known or anticipated to occur in public water systems? For example, provide information that shows measured occurrence of the contaminant in drinking water or measured occurrence in sources of drinking water or provide information that shows the contaminant is released in the environment or is manufactured in large quantities and has a potential for contaminating sources of drinking water. Please provide the source of this information with complete citations for published information (*i.e.*, author(s), title, journal, and date) or contact information for the primary investigator.

3. What are the data that you believe support the conclusion that the contaminant may require regulation? For example, provide information that shows the contaminant may have an adverse health effect on the general population or that the contaminant is potentially harmful to subgroups that comprise a meaningful portion of the population (such as children, pregnant women, the elderly, individuals with a history of serious illness, or others). Please provide the source of this information with complete citations for published information (*i.e.*, author(s), title, journal, and date) or contact information for the primary investigator.

B. How do I submit nominations in hard copy?

You may submit nominations by mail or hand delivery. To allow full consideration of your nomination, please ensure that your nominations are received or postmarked by midnight December 4, 2018. The address for submittal of nominations by mail or hand delivery is listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document.

C. What will happen to my nominations after I submit them?

The EPA will evaluate the information available for the nominated contaminants to determine the appropriateness of inclusion on the CCL 5. The EPA does not intend to respond to the nominations directly or individually. The EPA will summarize the nominations received when the draft CCL 5 list is published in the **Federal Register**.

IV. References

- Copies of these documents are found at <http://www.regulations.gov>, Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2018-0594.
- NAS 2001. National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council. 2001. *Classifying Drinking Water Contaminants for Regulatory Consideration*. National Academy Press. Washington, DC. Available at <http://books.nap.edu/books/0309074088/html/>

index.html.

NDWAC 2004. National Drinking Water Advisory Council. National Drinking Water Advisory Council Report on the CCL Classification Process to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, May 18, 2004. Available at <https://www.epa.gov/ccl/national-drinking-water-advisory-council-report-ccl-classification-process>.

Dated: September 27, 2018.

David P. Ross,

Assistant Administrator, Office of Water.

[FR Doc. 2018-21748 Filed 10-4-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-9985-16-Region 4]

Public Water System Supervision Program Revision for the State of North Carolina

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of intended approval.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the State of North Carolina is revising its approved Public Water System Supervision Program. North Carolina has adopted drinking water regulations for the Revised Total Coliform Rule. EPA has determined that North Carolina's regulations are no less stringent than the federal rule and the revision otherwise meets applicable Safe Drinking Water Act requirements. Therefore, EPA intends to approve this revision to the State of North Carolina's Public Water System Supervision Program.

DATES: Any interested person may request a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be submitted by November 5, 2018, to the Regional Administrator at the EPA Region 4 street address shown below. The Regional Administrator may deny frivolous or insubstantial requests for a hearing. However, if a substantial request for a public hearing is made by November 5, 2018, a public hearing will be held. If no timely and appropriate request for a hearing is received and the Regional Administrator does not elect to hold a hearing on his own motion, this determination shall become final and effective on November 5, 2018. Any request for a public hearing shall include the following information: the name, address, and telephone number of the individual, organization, or other entity requesting a hearing; a brief statement of the requesting person's interest in the Regional Administrator's determination and a brief statement of

the information that the requesting person intends to submit at such hearing; and the signature of the individual making the request, or, if the request is made on behalf of an organization or other entity, the signature of a responsible official of the organization or other entity.

ADDRESSES: Documents relating to this determination are available for inspection between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (excluding legal holidays) at the following offices: Public Water Supply Section, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, 512 North Salisbury Street, Archdale Building, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604; and the Drinking Water Section, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, 61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dale Froneberger, EPA Region 4, Drinking Water Section, by mail at the Atlanta street address given above, by telephone at (404) 562-9446, or by email at froneberger.dale@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The State of North Carolina has submitted a request that EPA approve a revision to the State's Safe Drinking Water Act Public Water System Supervision Program to include the authority to implement and enforce the Revised Total Coliform Rule. For the request to be approved, EPA must find the state regulations codified at Title 15A NCAC Subchapter 18C to be no less stringent than the federal rule codified at 40 CFR part 141. EPA reviewed North Carolina's application using the federal statutory provisions (Section 1413 of the Safe Drinking Water Act), federal regulations (at 40 CFR parts 141 and 142), state regulations, state policies and procedures for implementing the rule, regulatory crosswalk, and EPA regulatory guidance to determine whether the request for revision is approvable. EPA determined that the North Carolina regulations are no less stringent than the corresponding federal rule and the revision otherwise meets applicable Safe Drinking Water Act requirements. Therefore, EPA intends to approve this revision. If EPA does not receive a timely and appropriate request for a hearing and the Regional Administrator does not elect to hold a hearing on his own motion, this approval shall become final and effective on November 5, 2018.

Authority: Section 1413 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (1996), and 40 CFR part 142.

Dated: September 25, 2018.

Onis "Trey" Glenn, III,

Regional Administrator, Region 4.

[FR Doc. 2018-21752 Filed 10-4-18; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OPPT-2017-0586; FRL-9983-38]

A Working Approach for Identifying Potential Candidate Chemicals for Prioritization; Notice of Availability

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the availability of a document: *A Working Approach for Identifying Potential Candidate Chemicals for Prioritization*. The document lays out EPA's near-term approach for identifying potential chemicals for prioritization, the initial step in evaluating the safety of existing chemicals under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The document also includes a longer-term risk-based approach for considering the larger TSCA active chemical universe. EPA is opening a public docket to accept comments on this approach, which will inform a public meeting to be held in early 2019. This docket will remain open until November 15, 2018. In a related but separate action, EPA is opening 74 public dockets, one for each of the 73 remaining chemicals on the 2014 Update to the TSCA Work Plan for Chemical Assessments that have not received manufacturer requests for EPA evaluation and an additional general docket for chemicals not on the Work Plan. These dockets will be open until December 1, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For technical information on A Working Approach for Identifying Potential Candidate Chemicals for Prioritization document contact: Susanna Blair, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 564-4371; email address: susanna.blair@epa.gov.

For general information contact: The TSCA-Hotline, ABVI-Goodwill, 422 South Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14620; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; email address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: