

*D. What should I consider as I prepare my comments for EPA?*

1. *Submitting CBI.* Do not submit CBI information to EPA through [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or email. If your comments contain any information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected, please contact the Peer Review Leader listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** to obtain special instructions before submitting your comments.

2. *Tips for preparing your comments.* When preparing and submitting your comments, see the commenting tips at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets/comments.html>.

## II. Background

*A. What is EPA's risk evaluation process for existing chemicals under TSCA?*

The risk evaluation process is the second step in EPA's existing chemical process under TSCA, following prioritization and before risk management. As this chemical is one of the first ten chemical substances undergoing risk evaluation, the chemical substance was not required to go through prioritization (81 FR 91927, December 19, 2016) (FRL-9956-47). The purpose of conducting risk evaluations is to determine whether a chemical substance presents an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment under the conditions of use, including an unreasonable risk to a relevant potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulation. As part of this process, EPA must evaluate both hazard and exposure, not consider costs or other nonrisk factors, use reasonably available information and approaches in a manner that is consistent with the requirements in TSCA for the use of the best available science, and ensure decisions are based on the weight of the scientific evidence.

The specific risk evaluation process that EPA has established by rule to implement the statutory process is set out in 40 CFR part 702 and summarized on EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/risk-evaluations-existing-chemicals-under-tsca>. As explained in the preamble to EPA's final rule on procedures for risk evaluation (82 FR 33726, July 20, 2017) (FRL-9964-38), the specific regulatory process set out in 40 CFR part 702, subpart B will be followed for the first ten chemical substances undergoing risk evaluation to the maximum extent practicable.

In September 2019, EPA published a draft risk evaluation that was subject to peer review and public comment. EPA

reviewed the peer review report from the Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC) and public comments and has supplemented the risk evaluation in response to these comments as appropriate. The public comments and peer review report are in Docket EPA-HQ-OPPT-2019-0238 at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Prior to the publication of the draft risk evaluation, EPA made available the scope and problem formulation, and solicited public input on uses and exposure. EPA's documents and the public comments are in Docket EPA-HQ-OPPT-2019-0238. Additionally, information about the scope, problem formulation, and draft risk evaluation phases of the TSCA risk evaluation for this chemical is available at <https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/risk-evaluation-14-dioxane>.

*B. What is 1,4-dioxane?*

1,4-dioxane is used primarily as a solvent in a variety of commercial and industrial applications like in the manufacture of other chemicals, as a processing aid, a laboratory chemical, and in adhesives and sealants. 2016 CDR data shows that there were two manufacturers producing or importing 1,059,980 pounds of 1,4-dioxane in the U.S. in 2015.

*C. What input came from the public comment and peer review?*

In response to the publication of the draft risk evaluation for 1,4-dioxane, published in September 2019, members of the SACC, as well as public commenters, highlighted potential omissions in the draft evaluation, specifically concerning 1,4-dioxane exposures when present as a by-product in consumer products and potential general population exposure from the ambient surface water pathway. In response, those conditions of use from the presence of 1,4-dioxane as a byproduct in consumer use and products are included in the scope of this supplemental analysis to the draft risk evaluation. Because the analytical approaches to assessing the unreasonable risk associated with these conditions of use mirror those used for the conditions of use evaluated in the September 2019 draft risk evaluation and there is not new or novel scientific information to consider, the Agency determined that additional peer review is not warranted. It is, however, appropriate to seek public comment for the supplemental analysis to the 1,4-dioxane draft risk evaluation that was not part of the original draft risk evaluation.

Additionally, in the September 2019 draft risk evaluation, an ambient water exposure pathway to general population exposure was excluded from the draft risk evaluation mistakenly on the premise that it was addressed by other EPA-administered authorities. In response to comments, EPA did evaluate hazards and exposures to the general population from ambient surface water for all the conditions of use in this supplemental analysis and the draft risk evaluation, and the unreasonable risk determinations for relevant conditions of use account for exposures to the general population via surface water. The exposures to general population via drinking water, ambient air and sediment pathways fall under the jurisdiction of other environmental statutes administered by EPA, *i.e.*, the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*; the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300f *et seq.*; the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*; and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6901 *et seq.*

## III. Request for Comment

The docket associated with this request contains the Supplemental Analysis to the Draft Risk Evaluation, the SACC Peer Review Report, and Supplemental Files to support the Revised Draft Risk Evaluation.

EPA is seeking public comment on, and information relevant to, the Supplemental Analysis to the Draft Risk Evaluation.

**Authority:** 15 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*

**Andrew Wheeler,**  
Administrator.

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## FEDERAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS EXAMINATION COUNCIL

[Docket No. AS20-13]

### Proposed Information Collection Request; Standardized Instructions and Format To Be Used for Interim and Final Progress Reporting

**AGENCY:** Appraisal Subcommittee of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council.

**ACTION:** Request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Appraisal Subcommittee (ASC), as part of continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public, and State and Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a new

proposed information collection. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection unless it displays a currently valid control number issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The ASC is soliciting comment concerning a proposed collection method entitled "ASC Progress Report Standardized Instructions and Format for Interim and Final Progress Reporting." The ASC proposes to collect program progress data from ASC grantees and use this data to ensure grantees are proceeding in a satisfactory manner in meeting the approved goals and purpose of the project. The requirement for grantees to report on performance is OMB grants policy. Specific citations are contained in CFR part 200—Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, And Audit Requirements For Federal Awards.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before January 19, 2021 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** To view the proposed ASC-PR format, see <https://www.asc.gov/Documents/GrantsFundingCorrespondence/PR-FFR%20Reporting%20Instructions%20and%20Form.pdf>. Commenters are encouraged to submit comments by the Federal eRulemaking Portal or email, if possible. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Click on the "Help" tab on the *Regulations.gov* home page to get information on using *Regulations.gov*, including instructions for submitting public comments.
- **E-Mail:** [webmaster@asc.gov](mailto:webmaster@asc.gov). Please include the Docket Number AS20-13 in the subject line.
- **Fax:** (202) 289-4101. Please include the Docket Number AS20-13 in the fax cover sheet.
- **Mail or Hand Delivery/Courier:** Address to Appraisal Subcommittee, Attn: Lori Schuster, Management and Program Analyst, 1325 G Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005.

In general, the ASC will enter all comments received on the Federal eRulemaking (*Regulations.gov*) website without change, including any business or personal information that you provide, such as name and address information, email addresses, or phone numbers. Comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Do not

enclose any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure.

The ASC will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

You may review comments and other related materials that pertain to this rulemaking action by any of the following methods:

- **Viewing Comments Electronically:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Click on the "Help" tab on the *Regulations.gov* home page to get information on using *Regulations.gov*, including instructions for viewing public comments, viewing other supporting and related materials, and viewing the docket after the close of the comment period.
- **Viewing Comments Personally:** You may personally inspect comments at the ASC office, 1325 G Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005. To make an appointment, please call Lori Schuster at (202) 595-7578.
- Once the 60-day comment period is closed, the ASC will post on its What's New page, a link to the comments uploaded to <https://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Maria Brown, Regulatory Affairs Specialist, at (202) 792-1197 or [Maria@asc.gov](mailto:Maria@asc.gov), Appraisal Subcommittee, 1325 G Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The ASC has established new grant-making programs and is responsible for monitoring its grantees on the use of federal funds. The ASC developed this progress report for both interim and final progress reports for grants issued under ASC authority. The progress report will be submitted to the ASC semi-annually as an attachment to the Standard Form 425, *Federal Financial Report*. A draft version of the instructions and format for the reports is posted on the ASC website at <https://www.asc.gov/Documents/GrantsFundingCorrespondence/PR-FFR%20Reporting%20Instructions%20and%20Form.pdf>. The report will benefit award recipients by making it easier for them to administer federal grant and cooperative agreement programs through standardization of the types of information required in progress reports, thereby reducing their administrative effort and costs.

After obtaining and considering public comment, the ASC will prepare the format for final clearance. Comments are invited on: (a) Ways to

enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected from respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (b) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

#### Burden Estimates

*Type of Review:* Regular.  
*Affected Public:* ASC grantees.  
*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 55.  
*Estimated burden per Response:* 1 hour.  
*Frequency of Response:* Twice per year (semi-annual and annual report).  
*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 110 hours.

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By the Appraisal Subcommittee.

**James R. Park,**

*Executive Director.*

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## FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Savings and Loan Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Home Owners' Loan Act (12 U.S.C. 1461 *et seq.*) (HOLA), Regulation LL (12 CFR part 238), and Regulation MM (12 CFR part 239), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a savings and loan holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a savings association.

The public portions of the applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, if any, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank(s) indicated below and at the offices of the Board of Governors. This information may also be obtained on an expedited basis, upon request, by contacting the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank and from the Board's Freedom of Information Office at <https://www.federalreserve.gov/foia/request.htm>. Interested persons may express their views in writing on whether the proposed transaction complies with the standards enumerated in the HOLA (12 U.S.C. 1467a(e)).

Comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the