

cases may file written comments on the application within ten days of publication of this Notice or the date of receipt of actual notice, whichever

occurs first. All such comments shall be filed with the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Department of Energy, Washington, D.C. 20585-0107.

Dated: January 15, 1998.

**George B. Breznay,**

*Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals.*

# LIST OF CASES RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

[Week of November 17 through November 21, 1997]

Date	Name and location of applicant	Case No.	Type of submission
11/17/97 .....	Tod Rockefeller Carlsbad, New Mexico.	VFA-0351	Appeal of an Information Request Denial. IF GRANTED: The October 14, 1997 Freedom of Information Request Denial issued by the Albuquerque Operations Office would be rescinded, and Tod Rockefeller would receive access to certain DOE information.
11/18/97 .....	INEEL Research Bureau, Troy, Idaho	VFA-0352	Appeal of an Information Request Denial. IF GRANTED: The October 24, 1997 Freedom of Information Request Denial issued by the Richland Operations Office would be rescinded, and INEEL Research Bureau would receive access to certain DOE information.
11/18/97 .....	Personnel Security Hearing .....	VSO-0184	Request for Hearing under 10 CFR Part 710. IF GRANTED: An individual employed by a contractor of the Department of Energy would receive a hearing under 10 CFR Part 710.
11/18/97 .....	Thomas T. Tiller, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.	VWA-0018	Request for Hearing under DOE Contractor Employee Protection Program. IF GRANTED: A hearing under 10 CFR Part 708 would be held on the complaint of an individual that reprisals were taken against him by management officials of Wackenhut Services, Inc. as a consequence of having disclosed safety/health concerns.
11/20/97 .....	Information Focus on Energy, Gaithersburg, Maryland.	VFA-0353	Appeal of an Information Request Denial. IF GRANTED: The November 3, 1997 Freedom of Information Request Denial issued by the Office of the Inspector General would be rescinded, and Information Focus on Energy, Inc. would receive access to certain DOE information.
11/20/97 .....	Personnel Security Hearing .....	VSO-0185	Request for Hearing under 10 CFR Part 710. IF GRANTED: An individual employed by a contractor of the Department of Energy would receive a hearing under 10 CFR Part 710.
11/20/97 .....	William H. Payne, Albuquerque, New Mexico.	VFA-0354	Appeal of an Information Request Denial. IF GRANTED: The Albuquerque Operations Office would be required to issue a determination under the Freedom of Information Act and William H. Payne would receive access to certain DOE information.
11/21/97 .....	Homesteaders ASC/Pajarito Plat, Los Alamos, New Mexico.	VFA-0355	Appeal of an Information Request Denial. IF GRANTED: The October 20, 1997 Freedom of Information Request Denial issued by Albuquerque Operations Office would be rescinded, and Homesteaders Association of the Pajarito Plateau would receive access to certain DOE information.

[FR Doc. 98-1796 Filed 1-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5953-9]

### Agency Information Collection Activities up for Renewal: Facility Ground-Water Monitoring Requirements; Proposed Collection; Comment Request

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that EPA is planning to submit the following continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Facility Ground-Water Monitoring Requirements, EPA ICR #959.09; OMB Control Number 2050-0033; expiration

5/31/98. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before March 27, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters must send an original and two copies of their comments referencing docket number F-98-GWIP-FFFFF to: RCRA Docket Information Center, Office of Solid Waste (5305G), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters (EPA, HQ), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460. Hand deliveries of comments should be made to the Arlington, VA, address below. Comments may also be submitted electronically through the Internet to: rcradocket@epamail.epa.gov. Comments in electronic format should also be identified by the docket number F-98-GWIP-FFFFF. All electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

Commenters should not submit electronically any confidential business

information (CBI). An original and two copies of CBI must be submitted under separate cover to: RCRA CBI Document Control Officer, Office of Solid Waste (5305W), U.S. EPA, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460.

Public comments and supporting materials are available for viewing in the RCRA Information Center (RIC), located at Crystal Gateway I, First Floor, 1235 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. The RIC is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. To review docket materials, it is recommended that the public make an appointment by calling 703-603-9230. The public may copy a maximum of 100 pages from any regulatory docket at no charge. Additional copies cost \$0.15/page. The index and some supporting materials are available electronically.

The ICR is available on the Internet. Follow these instructions to access the information electronically:

**WWW:** <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/correctiveaction>

**FTP:** <ftp://ftp.epa.gov>

*Login:* anonymous

*Password:* your Internet address

Files are located in /pub/epaoswer

The official record for this action will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into paper form and place them in the official record, which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing.

EPA responses to comments, whether the comments are written or electronic, will be in a notice in the **Federal Register**. EPA will not immediately reply to commenters electronically other than to seek clarification of electronic comments that may be garbled in transmission or during conversion to paper form, as discussed above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For general information, contact the RCRA Hotline at 800 424-9346 or TDD 800 553-7672 (hearing impaired). In the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, call 703 412-9810 or TDD 703 412-3323.

For more detailed information on specific aspects of this rulemaking, contact Hugh Davis, Office of Solid Waste 5303W, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460, (703) 308-8633, or davis.hugh@epamail.epa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Affected entities:* Entities potentially affected by this action are those which own or operate surface impoundments, waste piles, land treatment units, and landfills which manage hazardous waste regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

*Title:* Facility Ground-Water Monitoring Requirements, EPA ICR #959.09; OMB Control Number 2050-0033; expiration date 5/31/98.

*Abstract:* Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA) creates a comprehensive program for the safe management of hazardous waste. Section 3004 of RCRA requires owners and operators of facilities that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste to comply with standards established by EPA that are "necessary to protect human health and the environment." Section 3005 provides for implementation of these standards under permits issued to owners and operators by EPA or authorized States. Section 3005 also allows owners and operators of facilities in existence when the regulations came into effect to comply with applicable notice requirements to operate until a permit is issued or denied. This statutory authorization to operate prior to permit determination is commonly known as "interim status." Owners and operators of interim status facilities also

must comply with standards set under Section 3004.

EPA promulgated ground-water monitoring standards for interim status facilities in 1980 (45 FR 33154 May 19, 1980), codified in 40 CFR Part 265, Subpart F, and for permitted facilities in 1982 (47 FR 32274 July 26, 1982), codified in 40 CFR Part 264, Subpart F. Both sets of standards establish programs for protecting ground water from releases of hazardous wastes from land disposal facilities with regulated units (these include surface impoundments, waste piles, land treatment units, and landfills).

The ground-water monitoring requirements for regulated units follow a tiered approach whereby releases of hazardous contaminants are first detected, then confirmed, and, if necessary, are required to be cleaned up. Each of these tiers requires collection and analysis of groundwater samples. Owners or operators that conduct groundwater monitoring are required to report information to the oversight agencies on releases of contaminants and to maintain records of ground-water monitoring data at their facilities. The goal of the ground-water monitoring program is to prevent and quickly detect releases of hazardous contaminants to groundwater, and to establish a program whereby any contamination is expeditiously cleaned up.

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 for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR Part 9 and 48 CFR Chapter 15.

The EPA would like to solicit comments 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.

*Burden Statement:* For both permitted and interim status land disposal facilities, the estimated total annual hour burden for this information collection is 196,363 hours. The estimated total annual cost burden for this information collection is \$67,303,862, which includes labor, capital, operations and maintenance, and purchased service costs. For 623 permitted land disposal facilities, the annual reporting hour burden is estimated to average 112.4 hours per response, and the annual record keeping hour burden is estimated to average 26.0 hours per response, regardless of whether the facility is performing detection monitoring, compliance monitoring or corrective action. For 1,024 interim status land disposal facilities, the annual reporting hour burden is estimated to average 74.7 hours per response, and the annual record keeping hour burden is estimated to average 32.8 hours per response. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Dated: January 20, 1998.

**Matthew Hale,**

*Acting Director, Office of Solid Waste.*

[FR Doc. 98-1759 Filed 1-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5953-8]

### Notice of Information Collection Activities; Detailed Industry Questionnaire: Phase II Cooling Water Intake Structures

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection activities.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C.