

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission

[Docket No. RP97-420-000]

Southern Natural Gas Company;  
Notice of Report Following Technical  
Conference

July 22, 1999.

Take notice that on June 30, 1999, in compliance with the schedule established at the April 15, 1999 technical conference held in the above-referenced proceeding, Southern Natural Gas Company (Southern) tendered for filing the results of its working sessions with shippers regarding the use of certain operational flow orders (OFOs) on Southern's system.

Reply comments on Southern's June 30, 1999 filing are due on or before August 2, 1999.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,  
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-19217 Filed 7-27-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AGENCY

[OPPTS-00275; FRL-6091-4]

Toxic Chemical Release Reporting;  
Request for Comment on Renewal  
Information Collection

AGENCY: Environmental Protection  
Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), EPA is seeking public comment and information on the following Information Collection Request (ICR): Toxic Chemical Release Reporting (EPA ICR No. 1363.07, OMB No. 2070-0093). This ICR involves a collection activity that is currently approved and scheduled to expire on April 30, 2000. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection activity and its expected burden and costs. Before submitting this ICR to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval under the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the collection.

**DATES:** Written comments, identified by the docket control number "OPPTS-00275" and administrative record number 214, must be received on or before September 27, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in

person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit III. of the "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION" section of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For general information contact: Christine M. Augustyniak, Associate Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: 202-554-1404; TDD: 202-554-0551; e-mail: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov. For technical information contact: Amy Newman, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: 202-260-1846; Fax: 202-401-8142; e-mail: newman.amy@epa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Does This Notice Apply to Me?**

You may be potentially affected by this notice if you own or operate certain facilities that manufacture, process, or otherwise use certain specified toxic chemicals and chemical categories and are required under section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) to report annually on the environmental releases and transfers of and waste management activities for such chemicals. Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to the following:

Type of Business	Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code
Metal mining	10 (except 1011, 1081, and 1094)
Coal mining	12 (except 1241)
Food	20
Tobacco	21
Textiles	22
Apparel	23
Lumber and wood	24
Furniture	25
Paper	26
Printing/publishing	27
Chemicals	28
Petroleum	29
Rubber and plastics	30
Leather	31
Stone, clay, and glass	32
Primary metals	33
Fabricated metals	34
Machinery (except electrical)	35
Electrical/electronic equipment	36
Transportation equipment	37

Type of Business	Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code
Instruments	38
Miscellaneous manufacturing	39
Electric utilities (limited to facilities that combust coal and/or oil for the purpose of generating electricity for distribution in commerce)	4911, 4931, and 4939
Commercial hazardous waste treatment (limited to facilities regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle C, 42 U.S.C. section 6921 <i>et seq.</i> )	4953
Chemical allied products-wholesale	5169
Petroleum bulk terminals and plants-wholesale	5171
Solvent recovery services (limited to facilities primarily engaged in solvents recovery)	7389

This table is not intended to be exhaustive but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in this table could also be affected. To determine whether you or your business is affected by this action, you should carefully examine the applicability provisions at 40 CFR part 372 and in section 3(a) of the Supporting Statement of the information collection. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the technical person listed in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

**II. How Can I Get Additional  
Information or Copies of This  
Document or Other Support  
Documents?****A. Electronic Availability**

Electronic copies of this ICR are available from the EPA website at the "Federal Register-Environmental Documents" entry for this document under "Laws and Regulations" (<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>). You can follow the menu to find this **Federal Register** notice using the publication date or the

**Federal Register** citation for this notice. Although a copy of the ICR is posted with the **Federal Register** notice, you can also access a copy of the ICR by going directly to <http://www.epa.gov/icr>. You can then follow the menu to locate this ICR by the EPA ICR number, the OMB control number, or the title of the ICR.

#### *B. Fax-on-Demand*

You may request to receive a faxed copy of the ICR by using a faxphone to call 202-401-0527 and selecting item 4068. You may also follow the automated menu.

#### *C. In Person or By Phone*

If you have any questions or need additional information about this notice or the ICR referenced, please contact the person identified in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

In addition, the official record for this notice, including the public version, has been established under docket control number "OPPTS-00275" (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of any electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI), is available for inspection in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, Rm. NE B-607, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC. The Center is open from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number of the Center is 202-260-7099.

### **III. How Can I Respond to This Notice?**

#### *A. How and to Whom Do I Submit the Comments?*

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. Be sure to identify the appropriate docket control number "OPPTS-00275" and administrative record number 214 in your correspondence.

1. *By mail.* Submit written comments to: Document Control Office (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver written comments to: Document Control Office in Rm. G-099, Waterside Mall, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC, Telephone: 202-260-7093.

3. *Electronically.* Submit your comments and/or data electronically by e-mail to: [oppt.ncic@epa.gov](mailto:oppt.ncic@epa.gov). Please note that you should not submit any

information electronically that you consider to be CBI. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comment and data will also be accepted on standard computer disks in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number "OPPTS-00275" and administrative record number 214. Electronic comments on this notice may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

#### *B. How Should I Handle CBI Information That I Want to Submit to the Agency?*

You may claim information that you submit in response to this notice as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must also be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public docket by EPA without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult with the technical person, listed in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

#### *C. What Information is EPA Particularly Interested in?*

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(a) of the PRA, EPA specifically solicits comments and information to enable it to:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility.
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimates of the burdens of the proposed collections of information.
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
4. Minimize the burden of the collections of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated or electronic collection technologies or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

In addition, EPA is requesting comment on two minor changes to Reporting Form R in this ICR. The first change is to section 4.5 of the form, which requests that facilities identify their SIC code. EPA is proposing to add

the term "primary" in the first SIC code box in order to make clear that the first SIC code entered should be the facility's primary SIC code. The Form R instructions directs reporters to enter the primary SIC code first, but this is not clear on the form itself. EPA has found that many facilities do not enter their primary SIC code first even though they are so directed in the instructions. This change should help rectify that problem and enable the Agency to conduct more accurate analyses on an industry sector-specific basis.

The second proposed change is in Section 7A of the Form R: On-site waste treatment methods and efficiency. In order to eliminate the need for facilities to repeat the section 7 data for every waste stream, EPA is proposing to add a column f which asks, "How many individual waste streams does this apply to?" This should slightly reduce the burden of reporting, particularly for the treatment, storage, and disposal facilities.

#### *D. What Should I Consider When I Prepare My Comments for EPA?*

We invite you to provide your views on the various options we propose, new approaches we haven't considered, the potential impacts of the various options (including possible unintended consequences), and any data or information that you would like the Agency to consider during the development of the final action. You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

- Explain your views as clearly as possible.
- Describe any assumptions that you used.
- Provide solid technical information and/or data to support your views.
- If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate.
- Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
- Offer alternative ways to improve the rule or collection activity.
- Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this notice.
- At the beginning of your comments (e.g., as part of the "Subject" heading), be sure to properly identify the document on which you are commenting. You can do this by providing the docket control number assigned to the notice, along with the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation, or by using the appropriate EPA or OMB ICR number.

#### IV. To What Information Collection Activity or ICR Does This Notice Apply?

EPA is seeking comments on the following ICR:

*Title:* Toxic Chemical Release

*Reporting.*

*ICR numbers:* EPA ICR No. 1363.07, OMB No. 2070-0093.

*ICR status:* This ICR is currently scheduled to expire on April 30, 2000. 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 information collections appear on the collection instruments or instructions, in the **Federal Register** notices for related rulemakings and ICR notices, and, if the collection is contained in a regulation, in a table of OMB approval numbers in 40 CFR part 9.

*Abstract:* EPCRA section 313 requires owners or operators of certain facilities that manufacture, process, or otherwise use any of over 600 listed toxic chemicals and chemical categories in excess of applicable threshold quantities to report annually to the Environmental Protection Agency and to the states in which such facilities are located on their environmental releases and transfers of and waste management activities for such chemicals. In addition, section 6607 of the Pollution Prevention Act (PPA) requires that facilities provide information on the quantities of the toxic chemicals in waste streams and the efforts made to reduce or eliminate those quantities.

Annual reporting under EPCRA section 313 of toxic chemical releases and other waste management information provides citizens with a more complete picture of the total disposition of chemicals in their communities and helps focus industries' attention on pollution prevention and source reduction opportunities. EPA believes that the public has a right to know about the disposition of chemicals within communities and the management of such chemicals by facilities in industries subject to EPCRA section 313 reporting. This reporting has been successful in providing communities with important information regarding the disposition of toxic chemicals and other waste management information on toxic chemicals from manufacturing facilities in their areas.

EPA collects, processes, and makes available to the public all of the information collected. The information gathered under these authorities is

stored in a database maintained at EPA and is available through the Internet. This information, commonly known as the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), is used extensively by both EPA and the public sector. Program offices within EPA use TRI data, along with other sources of data, to establish priorities, evaluate potential exposure scenarios, and undertake enforcement activities. Environmental and public interest groups use the data in studies and reports, making the public more aware of releases of chemicals in their communities.

Comprehensive publicly-available data about releases, transfers, and other waste management activities of toxic chemicals at the community level are generally not available, other than under the reporting requirements of EPCRA section 313. Permit data are often difficult to obtain, are not cross-media and present only a limited perspective on a facility's overall performance. With TRI, and the real gains in understanding it has produced, communities and governments know what toxic chemicals industrial facilities in their area release, transfer, or otherwise manage as waste. In addition, industries have an additional tool for evaluating efficiency and progress on their pollution prevention goals.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 372). Respondents may claim all or part of a notice 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.

#### V. What are EPA's Burden and Cost Estimates for This ICR?

Under the PRA, "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. For this collection it 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.

The ICR provides a detailed explanation of this estimate, which is

only briefly summarized in this notice. The annual public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 52.1 hours per response. The following is a summary of the estimates taken from the ICR:

*Respondents/affected entities:* Entities potentially affected by this action are owners or operators of certain facilities that manufacture, process, or otherwise use certain specified toxic chemicals and chemical categories and are required to report annually on the environmental releases and transfers of waste management activities for such chemicals.

*Estimated total number of potential respondents:* 25,159.

*Frequency of response:* Annual.

*Estimated total/average number of responses for each respondent:* 4 (average).

*Estimated total annual burden hours:* 6,133,055 hours.

*Estimated total annual burden costs:* \$417.1 million.

#### VI. Are There Changes in the Estimates from the Last Approval?

The major change from the information collection most recently approved by OMB is a significant decrease in the estimated burden hours to respondents, from an estimated annual total burden of 7,340,524 hours currently approved to an average annual total burden of 6,133,055 hours in this request. This decrease reflects two different adjustments. One, EPA has revised downward its estimates of the number of respondents reporting annually under this information collection, based on experience since the last approval of this collection. Two, EPA has also revised downward the unit burden hour cost for certain facilities that were required for the first time to report due to amendments to the TRI reporting rule, as of the time of the most recent approval of this collection. The burden of complying with TRI reporting is higher in the first year than in subsequent years. The first year of reporting for these facilities was covered by the currently approved ICR. This request covers subsequent year reporting, so the burden for these facilities reflects a decrease from the first year burden hour estimates.

#### VII. What is the 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** notice 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 person listed in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection,  
Information collection requests,  
Reporting and recordkeeping  
requirements.

Dated: July 13, 1999.

**Susan H. Wayland,**

*Acting Assistant Administrator for  
Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.*

[FR Doc. 99-19272 Filed 7-27-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-00272; FRL-6084-1]

### TSCA Existing Chemical Test Rules, Consent Orders, Exemptions and Voluntary Test Data Submissions; Request for Comment on Renewal Information Collection

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 *et seq.*), EPA is seeking public comment and information on the following Information Collection Request (ICR): TSCA Existing Chemical Test Rules, Consent Orders, Exemptions and Voluntary Test Data Submissions (EPA ICR No. 1139.06, OMB No. 2070-0033). This ICR involves a collection activity that is currently approved and scheduled to expire on September 30, 1999. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection activity and its expected burden and costs. Before submitting this ICR to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval under the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the collection.

**DATES:** Written comments, identified by the docket control number "OPPTS-00272" and administrative record number 212, must be received on or before September 27, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit III. of the

"SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION" section of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For general information contact: Christine M. Augustyniak, Associate Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: 202-554-1404; TDD: 202-554-0551; e-mail: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov. For technical information contact: Keith Cronin, Chemical Control Division (7405), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: 202-260-8157; Fax: 202-260-1096; e-mail: cronin.keith@epa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Does This Notice Apply to Me?

You may be potentially affected by this notice if you manufacture, distribute, process, import, use or dispose of chemical substances or mixtures. Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to the following:

Type of Business	Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code
Industrial organic chemicals	2819
Adhesives and sealants	2891
Paints and allied products	2851
Textile goods	2299
Petroleum products	5172

This table is not intended to be exhaustive but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in this table could also be affected. To determine whether you or your business is affected by this action, you should carefully examine the applicability provisions at 40 CFR 790.2 and in section 4(a) of the Supporting Statement of the information collection. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the technical person listed in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

#### II. How Can I Get Additional Information or Copies of This Document or Other Support Documents?

##### A. Electronic Availability

Electronic copies of this ICR are available from the EPA website at the

"Federal Register-Environmental Documents" entry for this document under "Laws and Regulations" (<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>). You can follow the menu to find this **Federal Register** notice using the publication date or the **Federal Register** citation for this notice. Although a copy of the ICR is posted with the **Federal Register** notice, you can also access a copy of the ICR by going directly to <http://www.epa.gov/icr>. You can then follow the menu to locate this ICR by the EPA ICR number, the OMB control number, or the title of the ICR.

##### B. Fax-on-Demand

You may request to receive a faxed copy of the ICR by using a faxphone to call (202) 401-0527 and selecting item 4067. You may also follow the automated menu.

##### C. In Person or By Phone

If you have any questions or need additional information about this notice or the ICR referenced, please contact the person identified in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

In addition, the official record for this notice, including the public version, has been established under docket control number "OPPTS-00272" (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of any electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI), is available for inspection in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, Rm. NE B-607, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC. The Center is open from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number of the Center is 202-260-7099.

#### III. How Can I Respond to This Notice?

##### A. How and to Whom Do I Submit the Comments?

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. Be sure to identify the appropriate docket control number "OPPTS-00272" and administrative record number 212 in your correspondence.

1. *By mail.* Submit written comments to: Document Control Office (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver written comments to: Document Control Office in Rm. G-099, Waterside Mall,