

(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 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: It is estimated that approximately 80 regulating agencies and/or departments and inter-tribal consortia may voluntarily agree to nominate employees to receive federal inspector credentials and submit information on the training experiences of each inspector. EPA estimates that participating regulating agencies and/or departments and/or inter-tribal consortia may need to spend 45 minutes to complete the form (30 minutes of staff time and 15 minutes of a supervisor's time) for each affected employee. EPA is estimating that each agency, on average, may nominate 2 inspectors for authorization to receive federal credentials. Therefore, a total of 120 person hours within the regulating agencies and/or departments and/or inter-tribal consortia may be expended to provide EPA with the training experiences. This burden hour estimate translates to a cost of \$32.66 per each of the 80 regulating agency and/or department and/or inter-tribal consortia that voluntarily completes the background information form for two inspectors and a total cost of \$2,612.80. The costs to the regulating agencies and/or departments and/or inter-tribal consortia were calculated based on labor rates of \$17.48 per hour, plus \$30.34 supervisory time from the United States of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics, March 1998, Table 4: Employment Costs of State and Local Government. 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; collect, validate, and verify 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: March 17, 2000.

Michael Stahl,

Acting Director Office of Compliance.

[FR Doc. 00-8154 Filed 3-31-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-U

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6570-6]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Guidance Manual and Example NPDES Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that the following proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval:

Guidance Manual and Example NPDES Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, ICR 1937.01. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection request and its expected burden and cost.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before May 3, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the ICR contact Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260-2740, by email at farmer.sandy@epa.gov, or download a copy of the ICR off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1937.01. For technical questions about the ICR contact Charlotte White by telephone: (202) 260-8559.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* Guidance Manual and Example NPDES Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (EPA ICR No. 1937.01). This is a new collection.

Abstract: This information collection burden is a result of EPA's issuance of guidance concerning permits issued to concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), which are point sources subject to permitting under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). Also affected by the permit guidance provisions are NPDES-authorized States implementing the NPDES permitting program for CAFOs. The animal livestock industry is shifting toward larger facilities and increased

potential for water quality impacts. To help address the potential and actual impacts on water quality, the manual provides guidance for permitting agencies regarding the development of effective NPDES permits for CAFOs. Although the guidance does not increase the number of CAFOs subject to permitting under the NPDES permitting program, it recommends the development of a comprehensive nutrient management plan (CNMP) as a special condition of NPDES permits issued to CAFOs. This proposed ICR covers the development of the CNMP, which includes soil and manure sampling; reporting of CNMP development to the permitting authority; and other reporting and record keeping activities that are not described in the current NPDES program guidance for CAFOs. When CNMPs are part of the NPDES permit, the collection of information requirements of the CNMP are mandatory. EPA has authority to undertake the information collection activities under section 308 of the Clean Water Act and under Title 33, sections 1311, 1318, and 1342 of the United States Code. Components of a CNMP typically include: manure handling and storage, land application of manure, land management, recordkeeping, and other utilization options. EPA believes this CNMP will reduce the potential impact that changes in the industry will have on water quality. CNMP data will be used by EPA and States to develop permits, used by the regulated facilities to ensure appropriate land application, and used by the compliance monitoring and enforcement personnel to document NPDES permit compliance. The guidance also recommends that the permittee maintain records concerning manure generation and disposition, and summarize this information on an annual reporting form. Under the guidance, the permittee would also be asked to certify that the facility's CNMP reflects current conditions. EPA needs this information to more fully and effectively implement the requirements of the Clean Water Act, which prohibits the discharge of pollutants from point sources—including discharges from CAFOs—to waters of the United States without an NPDES permit.

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 **Federal Register** document required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d),

soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on November 19, 1999 (64 FR 63312); no comments were received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and record keeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 81 hours per response for CAFO respondents and 2,200 hours for States. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose and provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to: (1) review instructions; (2) 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; (3) adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; (5) search data sources; (6) complete and review the collection of information; and (7) transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Concentrated animal feeding operations, EPA, and NPDES-authorized States implementing the NPDES permitting program for CAFOs.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,529 per year.

Frequency of Response: CAFOs have one time CNMP record keeping and reporting requirements and annual certification reporting requirements. States have annual record keeping requirements.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 983,205 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden (non-labor costs): \$665,373.

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 1937.01 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Information, Collection Strategies Division (2822), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460;
and

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: March 28, 2000.

Oscar Morales,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

[FR Doc. 00-8153 Filed 3-31-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-U

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6566-1]

New Jersey State Prohibition on Marine Discharges of Vessel Sewage; Receipt of Petition and Tentative Determination

Notice is hereby given that a petition dated June 28, 1999 was received from the State of New Jersey requesting a determination by the Regional Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), pursuant to Section 312(f) of Public Law 92-500, as amended by Public Law 95-217 and Public Law 100-4 (the Clean Water Act), that adequate facilities for the safe and sanitary removal and treatment of sewage from all vessels are reasonably available for the waters of the Shrewsbury River, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey.

This petition was made by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) in cooperation with the North Coast Regional Environmental Planning Council (NCREPC), New Jersey Marine Sciences, Marine Trades Association of New Jersey, Monmouth County Planning Board, Monmouth County Environmental Council and Monmouth County Board of Health. Members of the NCREPC include the Borough of Eatontown, the Borough of Fair Haven, the Borough of Little Silver, the City of Long Branch, the Borough of Monmouth Beach, the Borough of Oceanport, the Borough of Red Bank, the Borough of Rumson, the Borough of Sea Bright, the Borough of Shrewsbury, the Township of Shrewsbury, the Borough of Tinton Falls, and the Borough of West Long Branch. Upon receipt of an affirmative determination in response to this petition, NJDEP would completely prohibit the discharge of sewage, whether treated or not, from any vessel in Shrewsbury River in accordance with Section 312(f)(3) of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR 140.4(a).

The Shrewsbury River is located in Monmouth County, New Jersey, and is part of the Atlantic Coastal Drainage Basin. The Shrewsbury River drains approximately 27 square miles of urban/suburban residential development and agricultural lands. The Shrewsbury River runs easterly from Eatontown, Tinton Falls, and West Long Branch,

New Jersey and then joins the Navesink River and empties into Sandy Hook Bay. The proposed No Discharge Area (NDA) would include the navigable waters of the Shrewsbury River and all its tributaries downstream to the point where the Route 36 Bridge crosses the river. The eastern boundary of the NDA is a line from Lat./Long. 73°58'45", 40°22'40" to Lat./Long. 73°58'58", 40°23'04". The western boundary of the NDA is at Lat./Long. 74°06'48", 40°19'12".

Information submitted by the State of New Jersey and the Shrewsbury Regional Environmental Planning Council states that there are six existing pump-out facilities at five different locations available to service vessels which use the Shrewsbury River. Atlantis Yacht Club, located at 66 River Avenue, Monmouth Beach, operates a stationary pumpout. The pumpout is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. beginning April until October and is operated by the marina staff. A \$5.00 fee is charged for the use of the pumpout. Carriage House Marina, located at 1200 Ocean Avenue, Sea Bright, operates a stationary pumpout and a portable pumpout. The pumpouts are available from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. beginning May until October and is operated by the marina staff. A fee of \$5.00 is charged for the use of the pumpout. Channel Club Marina, located at Channel Drive, Monmouth Beach, operates a stationary pumpout. The pumpout is available from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. beginning May until October and is operated by the marina staff. No fee is charged for use of the pumpout. Navesink Marina, located at 1410 Ocean Avenue, Sea Bright, operates a stationary pumpout. The pumpout is available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. beginning April until October and is operated by the marina staff. A \$5.00 fee is charged for the use of the pumpout. Oceanport Landing, located at 417 River Street, Oceanport, operates a portable pumpout. The pumpout is available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. beginning April until September and is operated by the marina staff. A \$5.00 fee is charged for use of the pumpout. In the case of slip holders and residents of Oceanport, the \$5.00 fee is waived. None of the facilities have draft restrictions which would exclude boats access to the pumpouts.

Vessel waste generated from the pumpout facilities within the proposed NDA is discharged into municipal sewer lines and is conveyed to the Northeast Monmouth Regional Sewage Authority (NJPDES Permit No. NJ0024520) at 1 Highland Avenue in Monmouth Beach for treatment.