

comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 29, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing docket ID number OW-2004-0009, to EPA online using EDOCKET (our preferred method), by email to OW-Docket@epa.gov, or by mail to: Water Docket, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 4101T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460, Attention Docket ID No. OW-2004-0009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard P. Naylor, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, (4606M), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202.564.3847; fax number: 202.564.3755; e-mail address: naylor.richard@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID number OW-2004-0009, which is available for public viewing at the Water Docket in the EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the Water Docket is (202) 566-2426. An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA Dockets (EDOCKET) at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>. Use EDOCKET to obtain a copy of the draft collection of information, submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the docket ID number identified above.

Any comments related to this ICR should be submitted to EPA within 60 days of this notice. EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing in EDOCKET as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, CBI, or other information whose public disclosure is restricted by statute. When EPA identifies a comment containing copyrighted material, EPA will provide a reference to that material in the version of the comment that is placed in EDOCKET. The entire printed comment, including the copyrighted material, will

be available in the public docket. Although identified as an item in the official docket, information claimed as CBI, or whose disclosure is otherwise restricted by statute, is not included in the official public docket, and will not be available for public viewing in EDOCKET. For further information about the electronic docket, see EPA's **Federal Register** notice describing the electronic docket at 67 *FR* 38102 (May 31, 2002), or go to www.epa.gov/edocket.

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are new and existing public water systems (PWS), primacy agencies, and EPA.

Title: Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products, Chemical and Radionuclides Rules (Renewal).

Abstract: The Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products, Chemical and Radionuclides Rules ICR examines PWS, primacy agency and EPA burden and costs for recordkeeping and reporting requirements in support of the chemical regulations. These activities which have recordkeeping and reporting requirements that are mandatory for compliance with 40 CFR parts 141 and 142 include the following chemical regulations: Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (Stage 1 DBPR), Chemical Phase Rules (Phases II/III/V), Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR), Lists 1 and 2, 1976 Radionuclides Rule and 2000 Radionuclides Rule, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Rule, Disinfectant Residual Monitoring and Associated Activities under the Surface Water Treatment Rule, Arsenic Rule, Lead and Copper Rule (LCR). Future chemical-related rulemakings, such as Radon and the Stage 2 DBPR, will be added to this ICR after the regulations are finalized and the initial, rule-specific, ICRs have expired. 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 in 40 CFR are listed in 40 CFR part 9.

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: The estimated annual burden hours for the Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts, Chemical, and Radionuclides Rules ICR are 6,428,593 hours. The estimated average burden hours per response is 0.4 hours. The proposed frequency of response varies by requirement (e.g., monthly, quarterly, annually). The estimated average number of responses per respondent is 109. The estimated number of likely respondents annually is 161,274. The total annualized capital/startup costs are \$6.9 million. The estimated annual cost for operation and maintenance is \$187.4 million.

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: April 23, 2004.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

[FR Doc. 04-9867 Filed 4-29-04; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OW-2004-0008, FRL-7655-7]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Microbial Rules (Renewal), EPA ICR Number 1895.03, OMB Control Number 2040-0205

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit a continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This is a request to renew an existing approved collection. This ICR is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2004. 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 June 29, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing docket ID number OW-2004-0008, to EPA online using EDOCKET (our preferred method), by email to OW-Docket@epa.gov, or by mail to: Water Docket, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 4101T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460, Attention Docket ID No. OW-2004-0008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard P. Naylor, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, (4606M), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564-3847; fax number: (202) 564-3755; email address: naylor.richard@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID number OW-2004-0008, which is available for public viewing at the Water Docket in the EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the Water Docket is (202) 566-2426. An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA Dockets (EDOCKET) at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>. Use EDOCKET to obtain a copy of the draft collection of information, submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the docket ID number identified above.

Any comments related to this ICR should be submitted to EPA within 60 days of this notice. EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing in

EDOCKET as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, CBI, or other information whose public disclosure is restricted by statute. When EPA identifies a comment containing copyrighted material, EPA will provide a reference to that material in the version of the comment that is placed in EDOCKET. The entire printed comment, including the copyrighted material, will be available in the public docket. Although identified as an item in the official docket, information claimed as CBI, or whose disclosure is otherwise restricted by statute, is not included in the official public docket, and will not be available for public viewing in EDOCKET. For further information about the electronic docket, see EPA's **Federal Register** notice describing the electronic docket at 67 FR 38102 (May 31, 2002), or go to www.epa.gov/edocket.

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are new and existing public water systems (PWS), primacy agencies, and EPA.

Title: Microbial Rules (Renewal).

Abstract: The Microbial Rules ICR examines PWS, primacy agency and EPA burden and costs for recordkeeping and reporting requirements in support of microbial contaminant-associated rulemakings. These activities which have recordkeeping and reporting requirements that are mandatory for compliance with 40 CFR parts 141 and 142 include the following rules addressing microbial contaminants: Surface Water Treatment Rule, Total Coliform Rule, Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, Filter Backwash Recycling Rule and Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule. As new regulations addressing microbial contaminants are published, EPA will amend the Microbial Rules ICR to include the burden for these new rules upon expiration of the original stand-alone ICRs. Proposed new regulations include Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR), and the Ground Water Rule (GWR). 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 in 40 CFR are listed in 40 CFR part 9.

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: The estimated annual burden hours for the Microbial Rules ICR are 8,560,996 hours. The estimated average burden hours per response is .77 hours. The proposed frequency of response varies by requirement (e.g., monthly, quarterly, annually). The estimated average number of responses per respondent is 69.1. The estimated number of likely respondents annually is 161,274. The total annualized capital/startup costs are \$22.7 million. The estimated annual cost for operation and maintenance is \$71.2 million. 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: April 23, 2004.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

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