

Any comments related to this ICR should be submitted to EPA and OMB within 30 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.

ICR Title: Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements for Allegations of Significant Adverse Reactions to Human Health or the Environment (TSCA Section 8(c)).

ICR Status: This is a request to renew an existing approved collection. This ICR is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2005. Under OMB regulations, the Agency may continue to conduct or sponsor the collection of information while this submission is pending at OMB.

Abstract: TSCA section 8(c) requires companies that manufacture, process, or distribute chemicals to maintain records of significant adverse reactions to health or the environment alleged to have been caused by such chemicals. Since section 8(c) includes no automatic reporting provision, EPA can obtain and use the information contained in company files only by inspecting those files or requiring reporting of records that relate to specific substances of concern. Therefore, under certain conditions, and using the provisions found in 40 CFR part 717, EPA may require companies to report such allegations to the Agency.

EPA uses such information on a case-specific basis to corroborate suspected adverse health or environmental effects of chemicals already under review by EPA. The information is also useful to identify trends of adverse effects across the industry that may not be apparent to any one chemical company.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR

717). Respondents may claim all or part of a notice as CBI. EPA will disclose information that is covered by a CBI claim only to the extent permitted by, and in accordance with, the procedures in 40 CFR part 2.

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 title 40 of the CFR, after appearing in the **Federal Register**, are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and included on the related collection instrument or form, if applicable.

Burden Statement: The total annual public burden for this collection of information is estimated to be about 24,550 hours, with the burden ranging between 15 minutes and 8 hours per response depending upon the type(s) of activity that a respondent must complete. Burden is 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.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are companies that manufacture, process, import, or distribute in commerce chemical substances or mixtures.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Estimated total/average number of responses for each respondent: 1.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 13,445.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 24,548 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Labor Costs: \$1,232,417.

Changes in Burden Estimates: There is a decrease of 5,391 hours (from 29,939 hours to 24,548 hours) in the total estimated respondent burden compared with that identified in the information collection request most recently approved by OMB. This decrease is an adjustment and is based on several factors that are described in detail in the ICR.

Dated: August 9, 2005.

Oscar Morales,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

[FR Doc. 05-22033 Filed 11-3-05; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OA-2005-0004, FRL-7993-8]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Focus Groups as Used by EPA for Economics Projects, EPA ICR Number 2205.01

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 proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This is a request for a new collection. 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 January 3, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing docket ID number OA-2005-0004, to EPA online using EDOCKET (our preferred method), by e-mail oei.docket@epa.gov, or by mail to: Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Office of Environmental Information, Mail Code 2822T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nathalie Simon, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Mail Code 1809T, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202-566-2347; fax 202-566-2363; e-mail address: simon.nathalie@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID number OA-2005-0004, which is available for public viewing at the Office of Environmental Information (OEI) Docket in the EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Avenue, 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 Office of Environmental Information (OEI) Docket is (202) 566-1752. 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, confidential business information (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 <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>.

Title: Focus Groups as used by EPA for Economics Projects.

Abstract: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking approval for a generic information collection request (ICR) for the conduct of focus groups and protocol interview (hereafter jointly referred to as focus groups) related to economics projects. Over the next three years, the Agency anticipates embarking on a number of survey development efforts associated with a variety of economics projects including those related to valuation of ecosystems, children's health risks, improvements to coastal waters, and invasive species to name a few. Focus groups are an important part of any survey development process, allowing for researchers to directly gauge what specific issues are important to the public and providing a means for explicitly testing draft survey materials. Through these focus groups, the Agency will be able to gain a more in-depth understanding of the public's attitudes, beliefs, motivations and feelings regarding specific issues and will provide valuable information regarding the quality of draft survey instruments.

The information collected in the focus groups will be used to develop and improve economics-related surveys. To the extent that these surveys are ultimately successfully administered, they will serve to expand the Agencies understanding of benefits and costs of a variety of actions and could provide the means to quantitatively assess the effects of others. Participation in the focus groups will be voluntary and the identity of the participants will be kept confidential.

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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 only burden imposed by the focus group interviews on respondents will be the time required to participate in the focus groups and answer the associated questions. The Agency estimates that for economics projects anticipated over the next three years, 1758 participants will be needed to participate in 188 focus groups. In most cases, the anticipated length of the focus groups is 2.0 hours per participant, with the average length per focus group equal to 2.4 hours. Based on an average hourly rate of \$25.87^a (including employer costs of all employee benefits), the Agency expects that the average per-respondent cost for the focus groups will be \$62.09 and the corresponding one-time total cost to all respondents will be \$109,151 (see table below). Since this information collection is voluntary and does not involve any special equipment, respondents will not incur any capital or operation and maintenance (O&M) costs.

TABLE.—ESTIMATED BURDEN TO PARTICIPANTS

| Office | Topics to include | Number of focus groups | Number of participants per focus group | Average length of focus group |
|---|---|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| Office of Policy Economics and Innovation ... | Valuation of Improvements to Coastal Water; Valuation of Children's Health Risk, Ecological Valuation, etc. | 48 | 9 | 2 |
| Office of Research and Development | Valuation of environmental improvements; ecosystem services, etc. | 70 | 9 | 2.1 |

^a Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Civilian workers, total compensation, March 2005 (<http://stats.bls.gov/news.release/eccec.t02.htm>).

TABLE.—ESTIMATED BURDEN TO PARTICIPANTS—Continued

| Office | Topics to include | Number of focus groups | Number of participants per focus group | Average length of focus group |
|--|--|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| Office of Air and Radiation. Office of Radiation and Indoor Air | Environmental management of asthma; Indoor air quality management in schools and large buildings, etc. | 6 | 20 | 4 |
| Office of Transportation and Air Quality | Encouraging fuel efficiency through labeling (Smartway brand), etc. | 4 | 9 | 2 |
| Office of Water | Invasive species prevention; Great Lakes, etc. | 60 | 9 | 3 |
| Total | | 188 | *1758 | **2.4 |

Total needed for all focus groups [sum[col (3)(4)]].

**Average time for all focus groups [cols. (3)*(5)/188].

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: September 26, 2005.

Al McGartland,

Office Director, National Center for Environmental Economics, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation.

[FR Doc. 05-22035 Filed 11-3-05; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6669-1]

Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared pursuant to the Environmental Review Process (ERP), under section 309 of the Clean Air Act and section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at 202-564-7167.

An explanation of the ratings assigned to draft environmental impact

statements (EISs) was published in FR dated April 1, 2005 (70 FR 16815).

Draft EISs

EIS No. 20050220, ERP No. D-FHW-L40227-WA, Interstate 90 Snoqualmie Pass East Project, Proposes to Improve a 15-mile Portion of I-90 from Milepost 55.10 in Hyak to Milepost 70.3 New Easton, Funding, U.S. Army COE Section 404 Permit and NPDES Permit, Kittitas County, WA.

Summary: EPA has environmental objections about the proposed project primarily related to the adequacy of the ecological connectivity options presented. EPA notes that no preferred alternative was selected and the most substantial environmental issues relate to the No Action Alternative and Ecological Connectivity Improvement Package C. Rating EO2.

EIS No. 20050354, ERP No. D-UAF-E11057-00, Shaw Air Base Airspace Training Initiative (ATI), 20th Fighter Wing Proposal to Modify the Training Airspace Overlying Parts, South Carolina and Georgia

Summary: EPA expressed concern about airspace management/configuration/access around existing civilian airports in Georgia and ongoing coordination with the public regarding noise issues. Mitigation of some of the specific impacts can be accomplished via structuring the various training scenarios and modifying the proposed airspace to further avoid/minimize impacts around civilian airports. Rating EC1.

EIS No. 20050368, ERP No. D-IBR-G28013-NM, Carlsbad Project Water Operations and Water Supply Conservation, Changes in Carlsbad Project Operations and Implementation of Water Acquisition Program, U.S. COE Section 404

Permit, NPDES, Eddy, De Baca, Chaves, and Guadalupe Counties, NM.

Summary: EPA had no objection to the selection of the preferred action. Rating LO.

Final EISs

EIS No. 20050344, ERP No. F-NRC-F06025-WI, Generic—License Renewal for Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, Supplement 23 to NUREG-1437 (TAC Nos. MC2049 and MC2050), Lake Michigan, Manitowoc County, WI.

Summary: EPA continues to express concerns about the adequacy and clarity of the radiological impact assessments and risk estimates.

EIS No. 20050373, ERP No. F-COE-H39012-MO, Howard Bend Floodplain Area Study, Improvements for Future Land, Future Road, and Stormwater Management, Missouri River Flood Developments, U.S. Army COE Section 10 and 404 Permits, St. Louis County, MO.

Summary: EPA continued to express concerns about the cumulative effects analysis, including uncertainty over the potential for development within the levee-protected area and the reliance on potentially outdated FEMA profiles that may underestimate impacts.

EIS No. 20050376, ERP No. F-COE-G32057-TX, Cedar Bayou Navigation Channel (CBNC) Improvement Project, Implementation, Near Baytown in Harris and Chambers Counties, TX.

Summary: No comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

EIS No. 20050419, ERP No. F-AFS-J65441-MT, Middle East Fork Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project, Implementation of Three Alternatives, Bitterroot National Forest, Sula Ranger District, Ravalli County, MT.