

significant financial and environmental benefits. Americans, with the help of ENERGY STAR, prevented 210 million metric tons of GHG emissions in 2011 alone—equivalent to the annual emissions from 41 million vehicles—and reduced their utility bills by \$23 billion.

EPA first developed energy efficiency guidelines for new homes in 1995. ENERGY STAR's existing homes effort was rolled out in 2000 to promote cost-effective upgrades in the existing homes market. Both of these efforts promote cost effective, whole house energy efficiency improvements that are independently verified by third parties. Through 2011 there have been more than 1.3 million ENERGY STAR certified new homes built in the U.S., and more than 50,000 existing homes have been improved through the whole house retrofit program, Home Performance with ENERGY STAR.

Since participation in the ENERGY STAR program is voluntary, organizations are not required to submit information to EPA. Information received to date has been submitted voluntarily to EPA and is not of a confidential nature. EPA has developed this ICR to obtain authorization to collect information from the public, including businesses, for the following activities:

**ENERGY STAR Partnership and Related Activities:** An organization interested in joining ENERGY STAR as a partner is asked to submit a partnership agreement establishing its commitment to ENERGY STAR. Partners agree to undertake efforts such as educating their staff and the public about their partnership with ENERGY STAR, developing and implementing a plan to improve energy performance in homes, and highlighting achievements utilizing the ENERGY STAR brand.

**Evaluation:** Partners and other program participants are asked to periodically submit information to EPA as needed to assist in evaluating ENERGY STAR's effectiveness in helping organizations promote energy efficiency in homes, to assess partners' level of interest and ability in promoting ENERGY STAR in the residential sector, and to determine the impact that ENERGY STAR has on residential energy use and the supply and demand for energy-efficient homes and home improvement products and services.

**Periodic Reporting:** Partners are asked to submit information to EPA periodically to assist EPA in tracking and measuring progress in building and promoting ENERGY STAR certified homes and installing and promoting energy-efficient improvements. This

includes submitting quarterly updates on partners' level of activity in certifying new homes for the ENERGY STAR label and activity in improving the energy efficiency of existing homes under Home Performance with ENERGY STAR and ENERGY STAR's HVAC Quality Installation program.

**ENERGY STAR Awards:** Each year, partners are eligible for an ENERGY STAR award, which recognizes organizations demonstrating outstanding support in promoting ENERGY STAR. This award program provides partners public recognition and market differentiation. An application form is submitted to EPA by partners interested in being eligible for an award.

**Burden Statement:** The annual burden for joining ENERGY STAR and conducting related activities is estimated to range from about 1 to 40 hours per respondent. This includes time for preparing and submitting the Partnership Agreement and related information, if requested. However, the majority of this time is for verification organization partners to verify that site-built, modular, and manufactured homes meet specified energy efficiency standards. The annual burden for partner evaluations is estimated to be about 15 minutes per respondent. This includes time for responding to EPA's questions posed during a phone interview or other method. The annual burden for quarterly reporting is estimated to be about 75 hours per respondent. This includes time for submitting specified information to EPA on a quarterly basis. The annual burden for the annual awards is estimated to be about 13 hours per respondent. This includes time for preparing and submitting the application materials and, if requested, an annual report.

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 which have subsequently changed; 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 the Agency's estimate, which is only briefly summarized here:

*Estimated total number of potential respondents:* 56,000.

*Frequency of response:* Once, quarterly, annually, and occasionally.

*Estimated total annual burden hours:* 180,958.

*Estimated total annual costs:* \$10.9 million. This includes an estimated cost of approximately \$10.9 million for labor and \$17,000 for capital investment, operation and maintenance.

#### **Are there changes in the estimates from the last approval?**

The burden estimates presented in this notice are from the last approval. EPA is currently evaluating and updating these estimates as part of the ICR renewal process. EPA will discuss its updated estimates, as well as changes from the last approval, in the next **Federal Register** notice to be issued for this renewal.

#### **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. At that time, 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 technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Dated: August 13, 2012.

**Elizabeth Craig,**

*Director, Climate Protection Partnerships Division.*

[FR Doc. 2012-20512 Filed 8-20-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**[EPA-HQ-RCRA-2012-0187; FRL-9522-1]**

### **Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; General Hazardous Waste Facility Standards (Renewal)**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document

announces that an Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. This is a request to renew an existing approved collection. The ICR, which is abstracted below, describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated burden and cost.

**DATES:** Additional comments may be submitted on or before September 20, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-RCRA-2012-0187, to (1) EPA, either online using [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (our preferred method), by email to [rcra-docket@epa.gov](mailto:rcra-docket@epa.gov), or by mail to: RCRA Docket (28221T), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20460; and (2) OMB, by mail to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Norma Abdul-Malik, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 703-308-8753; fax number: 703-308-8617; email address: [abdul-malik.norma@epa.gov](mailto:abdul-malik.norma@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EPA has submitted the following ICR to OMB for review and approval according to the procedures prescribed in 5 CFR 1320.12. On April 5, 2012 (77 FR 20623), EPA sought comments on this ICR pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.8(d). EPA received one comment, which has been addressed in the ICR. Any additional comments on this ICR should be submitted to EPA and OMB within 30 days of this notice.

EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID No EPA-HQ-RCRA-2012-0187, which is available for online viewing at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), or in person viewing at the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Docket in the EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW., Washington, DC. The EPA/DC 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 RCRA Docket is (202) 566-0270.

Use EPA's electronic docket and comment system at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the docket, and

to access those documents in the docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select "docket search," then key in the docket ID number identified above. Please note that EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) 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. For further information about the electronic docket, go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

**Title:** General Hazardous Waste Facility Standards (Renewal).

**ICR numbers:** EPA ICR No. 1571.10, OMB Control No. 2050-0120.

**ICR Status:** This ICR is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2012. Under OMB regulations, the Agency may continue to conduct or sponsor the collection of information while this submission is pending at OMB. 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** when approved, are listed in 40 CFR part 9, are displayed either by publication in the **Federal Register** or by other appropriate means, such as on the related collection instrument or form, if applicable. The display of OMB control numbers in certain EPA regulations is consolidated in 40 CFR part 9.

**Abstract:** Section 3004 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended, requires that the EPA develop standards for hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDFs) as may be necessary to protect human health and the environment. Subsections 3004(a)(1), (3), (4), (5), and (6) specify that these standards include, but not be limited to, the following requirements:

- Maintaining records of all hazardous wastes identified or listed under subtitle C that are treated, stored, or disposed of, and the manner in which such wastes were treated, stored, or disposed of;
- Operating methods, techniques, and practices for treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste;
- Location, design, and construction of such hazardous waste treatment, disposal, or storage facilities;
- Contingency plans for effective action to minimize unanticipated damage from any treatment, storage, or

disposal of any such hazardous waste; and

- Maintaining or operating such facilities and requiring such additional qualifications as to ownership, continuity of operation, training for personnel, and financial responsibility as may be necessary or desirable.

The regulations implementing these requirements are codified in 40 CFR parts 264 and 265. The collection of this information enables EPA to properly determine whether owners/operators or hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities meet the requirements of Section 3004(a) of RCRA.

**Burden Statement:** The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 359 hours per response. The annual public reporting burden is estimated to average 293 hours per respondent, and the annual public recordkeeping burden is estimated to average 66 hours per respondent. 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 which have subsequently changed; 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:** Businesses and other for-profits, as well as State, Local, and Tribal governments.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 1,872.

**Frequency of Response:** On occasion.

**Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden:** 672,417 hours.

**Estimated Total Annual Cost:** \$40,676,696 which includes \$40,143,171 annualized labor costs and \$533,525 annualized capital or O&M costs.

**Changes in the Estimates:** There is an increase of 94,036 hours in the total estimated burden currently identified in the OMB Inventory of Approved ICR Burdens. The reason for this increase is

the inclusion of State Agency hours in this renewal.

John Moses,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

[FR Doc. 2012-20506 Filed 8-20-12; 8:45 am]

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0227; FRL 9521-6]

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Servicing of Motor Vehicle Air Conditioners (Renewal)

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)(44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that an Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. This is a request to renew an existing approved collection. The ICR, which is abstracted below, describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated burden and cost.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before September 20, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0227, to (1) EPA online using [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (our preferred method), by email to [a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov](mailto:a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov), or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Air Docket, Mailcode: 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460, and (2) OMB by mail to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sally Hamlin, Stratospheric Protection Division, Office of Air and Radiation, Mail Code 6205J, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 343-9711; fax number: (202) 343-2338; email address: [Hamlin.Sally@epa.gov](mailto:Hamlin.Sally@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EPA has submitted the following ICR to OMB for review and approval according to the procedures prescribed in 5 CFR 1320.12. On May 4, 2012 (77 FR 26544), EPA sought comments on this ICR pursuant

to 5 CFR 1320.8(d). EPA received no comments. Any additional comments on this ICR should be submitted to EPA and OMB within 30 days of this notice.

EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0227, which is available for online viewing at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), or in person viewing at the Air Docket in the EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA/DC 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 Air Docket is 202-566-1742.

Use EPA's electronic docket and comment system at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the docket, and to access those documents in the docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select "docket search," then key in the docket ID number identified above. Please note that EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) 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. For further information about the electronic docket, go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

**Title:** Servicing of Motor Vehicle Air Conditioners (Renewal).

**ICR numbers:** EPA ICR No. 1617.07, OMB Control No. 2060-0247.

**ICR Status:** This ICR is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2012. Under OMB regulations, the Agency may continue to conduct or sponsor the collection of information while this submission is pending at OMB. 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** when approved, are listed in 40 CFR part 9, are displayed either by publication in the **Federal Register** or by other appropriate means, such as on the related collection instrument or form, if applicable. The display of OMB control numbers in certain EPA regulations is consolidated in 40 CFR part 9.

**Abstract:** Section 609 of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (Act) provides

general guidelines for motor vehicle air conditioning (MVAC) refrigerant handling and MVAC servicing. It states that "no person repairing or servicing motor vehicles for consideration may perform any service on a motor vehicle air conditioner involving the refrigerant for such air conditioner without properly using approved refrigerant recovery and/or recovery and recycling equipment (hereafter referred to as "refrigerant handling equipment") and no such person may perform such service unless such person has been properly trained and certified."

In 1992, EPA developed regulations under section 609 (57 FR 31242) that were codified at 40 CFR part 82, subpart B. Descriptions of the recordkeeping and reporting requirements mandated by section 609 and delineated in the CFR are summarized below.

**Approved Refrigerant Handling Equipment:** In accordance with Section 609(b)(2)(A), 40 CFR 82.36 requires that refrigerant handling equipment be certified by EPA or independent standards testing organization.

**Approved independent standards testing organizations:** Section 609(b)(2)(A) of the Act requires independent laboratory testing of refrigerant handling equipment to be certified by EPA. Independent laboratories must submit an application. EPA does not anticipate that any new organizations will apply to EPA in the future to become approved independent standards testing organizations. Therefore, related annual hours and costs have been eliminated.

**Technician training and certification:** According to Section 609(b)(4) of the Act, automotive technicians are required to be trained and certified in the proper use of approved refrigerant handling equipment. Programs that perform technician training and certification activities must apply to the EPA for approval by submitting verification that its program meets EPA standards. The information requested is used by the EPA to guarantee a degree of uniformity in the testing programs for motor vehicle service technicians. The Agency requires that each approved technician certification program conducts periodic reviews and updates of test material, submitting a written summary of the review and program changes to EPA every two years.

**Certification, reporting and recordkeeping:** To facilitate enforcement under Section 609, EPA has developed several recordkeeping requirements. All required records must be retained on-site for a minimum of three years, unless otherwise indicated.