

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL_9942-93-OEI]

Cross-Media Electronic Reporting: Authorized Program Revision Approval, State of Louisiana**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces EPA's approval of the State of Louisiana's request to revise its National Primary Drinking Water Regulations Implementation EPA-authorized program to allow electronic reporting.

DATES: EPA's approval is effective May 26, 2016 for the State of Louisiana's National Primary Drinking Water Regulations Implementation program, if no timely request for a public hearing is received and accepted by the Agency.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Seeh, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Information, Mail Stop 2823T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 566-1175, seeh.karen@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 13, 2005, the final Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule (CROMERR) was published in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 59848) and codified as part 3 of title 40 of the CFR. CROMERR establishes electronic reporting as an acceptable regulatory alternative to paper reporting and establishes requirements to assure that electronic documents are as legally dependable as their paper counterparts. Subpart D of CROMERR requires that state, tribal or local government agencies that receive, or wish to begin receiving, electronic reports under their EPA-authorized programs must apply to EPA for a revision or modification of those programs and obtain EPA approval. Subpart D provides standards for such approvals based on consideration of the electronic document receiving systems that the state, tribe, or local government will use to implement the electronic reporting. Additionally, § 3.1000(b) through (e) of 40 CFR part 3, subpart D provides special procedures for program revisions and modifications to allow electronic reporting, to be used at the option of the state, tribe or local government in place of procedures available under existing program-specific authorization regulations. An application submitted under the subpart D procedures must show that the state, tribe or local government has sufficient legal authority to implement the

electronic reporting components of the programs covered by the application and will use electronic document receiving systems that meet the applicable subpart D requirements.

On February 8, 2016, the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (LDHH) submitted an application titled Compliance Monitoring Data Portal for revision to its EPA-approved drinking water program under title 40 CFR to allow new electronic reporting. EPA reviewed LDHH's request to revise its EPA-authorized program and, based on this review, EPA determined that the application met the standards for approval of authorized program revision set out in 40 CFR part 3, subpart D. In accordance with 40 CFR 3.1000(d), this notice of EPA's decision to approve Louisiana's request to revise its Part 142—National Primary Drinking Water Regulations Implementation program to allow electronic reporting under 40 CFR part 141 is being published in the **Federal Register**.

LDHH was notified of EPA's determination to approve its application with respect to the authorized program listed above.

Also, in today's notice, EPA is informing interested persons that they may request a public hearing on EPA's action to approve the State of Louisiana's request to revise its authorized public water system program under 40 CFR part 142, in accordance with 40 CFR 3.1000(f). Requests for a hearing must be submitted to EPA within 30 days of publication of today's **Federal Register** notice. Such requests should include the following information:

- (1) The name, address and telephone number of the individual, organization or other entity requesting a hearing;
- (2) A brief statement of the requesting person's interest in EPA's determination, a brief explanation as to why EPA should hold a hearing, and any other information that the requesting person wants EPA to consider when determining whether to grant the request;
- (3) The signature of the individual making the request, or, if the request is made on behalf of an organization or other entity, the signature of a responsible official of the organization or other entity.

In the event a hearing is requested and granted, EPA will provide notice of the hearing in the **Federal Register** not less than 15 days prior to the scheduled hearing date. Frivolous or insubstantial requests for hearing may be denied by EPA. Following such a public hearing, EPA will review the record of the hearing and issue an order either

affirming today's determination or rescinding such determination. If no timely request for a hearing is received and granted, EPA's approval of the State of Louisiana's request to revise its part 142—National Primary Drinking Water Regulations Implementation program to allow electronic reporting will become effective 30 days after today's notice is published, pursuant to CROMERR section 3.1000(f)(4).

Matthew Leopard,*Director, Office of Information Collection.*

[FR Doc. 2016-09576 Filed 4-25-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-9945-70-OA]

Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Committee**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) gives notice of a meeting of the Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Committee (FRRCC). The FRRCC is a policy-oriented committee that provides policy advice, information, and recommendations to the EPA Administrator on a range of environmental issues and policies that are of importance to agriculture and rural communities.

The purpose of this meeting is to draft and review recommendations regarding how EPA can best create a framework for facilitating collaborative and innovative partnerships, building upon existing resource protection efforts to promote soil health, particularly as it relates to water and air and to adaptation of a changing climate.

DATES: The Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Committee will hold an open meeting on Wednesday, May 25, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. and Thursday, May 26, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at EPA One Potomac Yard, 2777 Crystal Dr., Arlington VA, 22202, Room 4370/80 fourth floor. The meeting is open to the public, with limited seating on a first-come, first-served basis.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donna Perla, Acting Designated Federal Officer, perla.donna@epa.gov, 202-564-0184, U.S. EPA, Office of the Administrator (1101A), Room 2415,

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.,
Washington, DC 20460.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Requests to make brief oral comments or provide written statements to the FRRCC should be sent to Donna Perla, Acting Designated Federal Officer, at the contact information above. All requests must be submitted no later than May 18, 2016, at the contact information above.

Meeting Access: For information on access or services for individuals with disabilities, please contact Donna Perla at 202-564-0184 or perla.donna@epa.gov. To request accommodation of a disability, please contact Donna Perla, preferably at least 10 days prior to the meeting, to give EPA as much time as possible to process your request.

Dated: April 19, 2016.

Donna Perla,

Acting Designated Federal Officer.

[FR Doc. 2016-09733 Filed 4-25-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OW-2016-0150; FRL-9945-67-OW]

General Permit for Ocean Disposal of Marine Mammal Carcasses

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed general permit.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposes to issue a general permit to authorize any officer, employee, agent, department, agency, or instrumentality of federal, state, tribal, or local unit of government, as well as any Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program (MMHSRP) Stranding Agreement Holder, and any Alaska Native subsistence user to transport from the United States and dispose of marine mammal carcasses in ocean waters. EPA's purpose in proposing a general permit is to expedite required authorizations that otherwise currently require the issuance of an emergency permit for the ocean disposal of marine mammal carcasses. EPA also proposes permit terms that would apply for at sea disposal of marine mammal carcasses generally by governmental entities (and MMHSRP Agreement Holders), as well as by Alaska Native subsistence users based on circumstances specific to the remote locations of such disposals. The EPA invites public comment on all aspects of this proposed general permit.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before June 27, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2016-0150, to the *Federal eRulemaking Portal*: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or withdrawn. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.* on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <http://www2.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brian Rappoli, Ocean and Coastal Protection Division, Office of Water, 4504T, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202-566-1548; fax number: 202-566-1546; email address: rappoli.brian@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

The proposed general permit would apply to any officer, employee, agent, department, agency, or instrumentality of federal, state, tribal, or local unit of government, as well as any MMHSRP Stranding Agreement Holder, and any Alaska Native subsistence user that transports from the United States and disposes of marine mammal carcasses in ocean waters.

B. What should I consider as I prepare my comments for EPA?

1. *Submitting CBI.* Do not submit this information to EPA through www.regulations.gov or email. Clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. For CBI information in a disk or CD ROM that you mail to EPA, mark the outside of the disk or CD ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or

CD ROM the specific information that is claimed as CBI). In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

2. *Tips for Preparing Your Comments.* When submitting comments, remember to:

- Identify the rulemaking by docket number and other identifying information (subject heading, **Federal Register** date and page number).
- Follow directions—The agency may ask you to respond to specific questions or organize comments by referencing a Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part or section number.
- Explain why you agree or disagree; suggest alternatives and substitute language for your requested changes.
- Describe any assumptions and provide any technical information and/or data that you used.
- If you estimate potential costs or burdens, explain how you arrived at your estimate in sufficient detail to allow for it to be reproduced.
- Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns, and suggest alternatives.
- Explain your views as clearly as possible, avoiding the use of profanity or personal threats.
- Make sure to submit your comments by the comment period deadline identified.

II. Federal Law and International Conventions

The EPA proposes general terms of authorization under Title I of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA), sometimes referred to as the Ocean Dumping Act, for the ocean disposal of the marine mammal carcasses. The term "marine mammal" would mean any mammal that is morphologically adapted to the marine environment (including sea otters and members of the orders Sirenia, Pinnipedia, and Cetacea), or primarily inhabits the marine environment (*e.g.*, polar bears). Other than Alaska Native subsistence users, EPA does not anticipate that ocean disposal would be necessary for marine mammal carcasses except in unusual circumstances, such as (1) beached whale carcasses and (2) after mass strandings of other marine mammals.

Transportation for the purpose of disposal of any material in the ocean requires authorization under the