

Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6197-9]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Proposed Collection; Small System Survey

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 Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Small System Survey, ICR #1863.01. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before January 6, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260-2740, by email at farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov, or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1863.01.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Small System Survey, ICR #1863.01. This is a new collection.

Abstract: The Environmental Protection Agency has developed three interrelated Supplemental Surveys as part of an ongoing, scientific research and information collection program associated with the 1996 Information Collection Rule (ICRule) that supports drinking water regulation development. The overall objective of this research and information collection program is to provide a sound scientific and technical basis for generating and evaluating strategies for reducing risks associated with microbial pathogens and disinfection byproducts in the US drinking water supply.

EPA must conduct a Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) for the upcoming Stage 2 Long Term Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR) and Stage 2 Disinfectant and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (Stage 2 DBPR) and

that evaluates the potential impacts on all system sizes. This rule is scheduled for promulgation in May 2002. A major regulatory option being considered is to target treatment for protozoa as a means for controlling not only protozoa but other waterborne pathogens. Therefore, a critical element of the RIA is a characterization of the national distribution of protozoa in source waters for all size systems. Additional data are needed to better characterize these distributions because: (1) the ICRule only targets systems serving 100,000 people or more, (2) the ICRule protozoa method exhibits low recovery and a high detection limit, and (3) limited data are available for systems serving less than 100,000. As these protozoan concentration estimates are inputs to the Regulatory Impact Analysis for this next phase of rulemaking, the Regulatory Impact Analysis may underestimate the level of treatment required for protozoa removal along with the resulting cost impacts of this rule.

To address these remaining data needs, EPA has developed and funded the ICRule Supplemental Surveys. Although the existing ICRule method remains available for possible use in these surveys, a key component of the Supplemental Surveys will be reliance upon a new analytical method, Method 1622, to measure *Cryptosporidium* and potentially *Giardia* concentrations. Because of its anticipated higher recovery rate and lower detection limit, Method 1622 is expected to provide a more accurate estimate of *Cryptosporidium* concentrations in source waters. The Supplemental Surveys will focus on gathering and analyzing data from a subset of large, medium and small systems. Today's notice focuses on the information collection burden associated with small systems only. The burden associated with the large and medium surveys was covered under the Information Collection Request for the 1996 ICRule.

Participation in the Small System Supplemental Surveys will be voluntary. As is appropriate in survey design, the size of the initial sampling list (a simple random sample) will be large enough to allow for some expected declinations. Forty small systems will participate in the survey and will sample twice a month during a 12 month monitoring period. The first monthly sample event will include protozoa (*Cryptosporidium* and potentially *Giardia*), bacterial samples (total coliform and *E. coli* or fecal coliform), wet chemistry samples (total organic carbon (TOC), alkalinity, UV254, bromide and ammonia), and water quality parameters (turbidity, pH

and temperature). The second monthly sample event will include protozoa, bacterial samples, and water quality parameters. Twenty percent of the sample events will collect an additional raw water sample for use as a matrix spike to assess how the water matrices may be affecting method performance. Additional parameters that will be measured during the matrix spike events include dissolved organic carbon (DOC), total suspended solids (TSS), total dissolved solids (TDS) and conductivity.

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 6/24/98 (63 FR 34379); 1 set of comments was received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and record keeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 32 hours per utility. An additional 40 hrs are attributed to the recruitment portion of this survey where 200 utilities will be asked to complete a reply form (at 0.2 hours per utility to complete the form) and from those 200 utilities, 40 will be selected to participate in the survey. 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.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Public water systems serving less than 10,000 people.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200.

Frequency of Response: 2 per month.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 1320 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: \$55,000.00.

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. 1863.01 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OP Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, SW, 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: November 30, 1998.

Richard T. Westlund,

Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 98-32414 Filed 12-4-98; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6198-2]

Notice of Public Meetings on Drinking Water Issues

Notice is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is holding a public meeting on December 15 and 16, 1998 at the Park Hyatt Hotel, 24th and M Street, NW., Washington DC for the purpose of information exchange with stakeholders on issues related to the development of regulations to control microbial pathogens and disinfection byproducts in drinking water, including a Stage 2 Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Rule and a Long-term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule. The meeting will start at 9:00 AM on

December 15 and will adjourn on December 16 at 3:30 PM. The meeting will provide: (1) A review of the Stage 1 Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Rule and the Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule; (2) an overview of the Information Collection Rule and research supporting the drinking water rules; (3) an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss the issues and process for completing the Stage 2 deliberations; and (4) an opportunity to discuss schedules for subsequent meetings.

EPA is inviting all interested members of the public to participate in the meeting. As with all previous meetings in this series, to the extent that space is available, EPA is instituting an open door policy to allow any member of the public to attend any of the meetings for any length of time. Approximately 50 seats will be available for the public. Seats will be available on a first-come, first served basis.

For additional information about the meeting, please contact Ephraim King or Mike Cox of EPA's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water at (202) 260-7575 or by e-mail at cox.michael@epamail.epa.gov.

Dated: December 1, 1998.

Elizabeth Fellows,

Acting Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

[FR Doc. 98-32413 Filed 12-4-98; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF-848; FRL-6047-2]

Notice of Filing of Pesticide Petitions

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initial filing of pesticide petitions proposing the establishment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities.

DATES: Comments, identified by the docket control number PF-848, must be received on or before January 6, 1999.

ADDRESSES: By mail submit written comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticides Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person bring comments to: Rm. 1132, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by following the instructions under "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION." No confidential business information should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as "Confidential Business Information" (CBI). CBI should not be submitted through e-mail. Information marked as CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. All written comments will be available for public inspection in Rm. 1132 at the address given above, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The product manager listed in the table below:

Product Manager	Office location/telephone number	Address
Mary Waller (PM 21)	Rm. 247, CM #2, 703-308-9354, e-mail: waller.mary@epamail.epa.gov .	1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA
Cynthia Giles-Parker (PM 22).	Rm. 247, CM #2, 703-305-7740, e-mail: giles-parker.cynthia@epamail.epa.gov .	Do.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has received pesticide petitions as follows proposing the establishment and/or amendment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities under section 408 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Comestic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a. EPA has determined that these petitions contain data or information regarding

the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2); however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

The official record for this notice of filing, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice of filing

under docket control number [PF-848] (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official