

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY CALL: Sandy Farmer at EPA, (202) 260-2740, and refer to EPA ICR No. 1541.05.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: NESHA: Benzene Waste Operations (OMB Control No. 2060-0183; EPA ICR No. 1541.05) expiring 8/31/96. This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Any facility which manages a waste containing benzene must maintain records and submit reports to the Agency. There is a tiered threshold for burden. Facilities managing waste containing less than 1 megagram of benzene must simply certify to that affect and maintain documentation to support their finding. Facilities managing more than 1 megagram and less than 10 megagrams of benzene-containing waste must prepare an initial certification, test annually to verify that their waste stream still falls within this range and maintain documentation to support these findings. Facilities managing more than 10 megagrams of waste must submit quarterly and annual reports documenting the results of continuous monitoring. The Agency uses this information to determine compliance and to select plants or processes for inspection.

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 Notice required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on 5/29/96 (61 FR 26901); no comments were received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 71 hours per response. 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: Chemical plants, petroleum refineries, coke by-product recovery plants, and commercial treatment, storage, and disposal facilities.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 240.

Frequency of Response: quarterly, annually.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 17,028 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: \$0.

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. 1541.05 and OMB Control No. 2060-0183 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OPPE 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: July 31, 1996.

Joseph Retzer,
Director, Regulatory Information Division.
[FR Doc. 96-20245 Filed 8-7-96; 8:45 am]
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[FRL-5547-8]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review; Renewal Request for OMB No. 2070-0143

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that the Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances has forwarded the Information Collection Request (ICR) entitled: Alternate Threshold for Low Annual Reportable Amounts; Toxic Chemical Release Reporting (EPA ICR #1704.03; OMB Approval #2070-0143), which is abstracted below, to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument. The Agency is

requesting the renewal of the existing approval, which is scheduled to expire on September 30, 1996. A Federal Register notice proposing this submission and providing 60 days for public comment on the request and the contents of this ICR was issued on May 15, 1996 (61 FR 24488). EPA only received one comment during the comment period, which expressed support for the maintenance of the Alternate Reporting Threshold, urging OMB to promptly approve the renewal request in order to ensure its continued availability.

DATES: Any comments must be submitted to the addresses listed below on or before September 9, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY CALL: Sandy Farmer at EPA, 202-260-2740, and refer to EPA ICR No. 1704.03.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the burden estimate, or any other aspect of the information collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the following addresses: Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Information Policy Branch (2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460, with a copy also sent to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 1704.03 and OMB Control No. 2070-0143 in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Review Requested: This is a request to renew a currently approved information collection.

ICR Numbers: EPA ICR No. 1704.03 and OMB No. 2070-0143.

Current Expiration Date: Current OMB approval expires on September 30, 1996.

Title: Alternate Threshold for Low Annual Reportable Amounts; Toxic Chemical Release Reporting.

Abstract: This information collection request (ICR) covers the public reporting and recordkeeping requirements associated with toxics release inventory (TRI) reporting based on an alternate threshold for facilities with low amounts of chemicals in waste, under section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA) (42 U.S.C. 11023(f)(2)).

Section 313 of EPCRA requires certain facilities manufacturing, processing, or otherwise using listed toxic chemicals in excess of the applicable threshold quantities to report their environmental releases of such chemicals annually. Each covered facility must file a separate Form R for each listed chemical

manufactured, processed or otherwise used in excess of the reporting thresholds established in section 313(f)(1). EPA has authority to revise these threshold amounts pursuant to section 313(f)(2); however, such revised threshold amounts must obtain reporting on a substantial majority of total releases of the chemical at all facilities subject to section 313. A revised threshold may be based on classes of chemicals or categories of facilities. Section 328 provides EPA with general rulemaking authority to develop regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of the Act.

EPA has established an alternate threshold for those facilities with low amounts of a listed toxic chemical in wastes. A facility that meets the current section 313 reporting thresholds, but estimates that the total amount of the chemical in total waste does not exceed 500 pounds per year, can take advantage of an alternate manufacture, process or otherwise use threshold of 1 million pounds per year, for that chemical, provided that certain conditions are adhered to. The amounts in total waste are the combined total of amounts released at the facility, treated at the facility (as represented by amounts destroyed or converted by treatment processes), recovered at the facility as a result of recycling operations, combusted for the purpose of energy recovery at the facility, and transferred from the facility to off-site locations for the purpose of recycling, energy recovery, treatment, or disposal.

Each qualifying facility that chooses to apply the revised manufacture, process or otherwise use threshold must file an annual certification statement in lieu of a complete Form R. This annual certification is submitted to both the EPCRA reporting center and the designated state recipient in the same manner that the Form R is submitted. The annual certification provides a signed statement that the sum of the amount of the TRI chemical in wastes did not exceed 500 pounds for this reporting year, and that the chemical was manufactured, processed, or otherwise used in an amount not exceeding 1 million pounds during this reporting year.

The primary function served by the certification statement is to satisfy the statutory requirement to maintain reporting on a substantial majority of releases for all listed chemicals. Without the certification statement, users of TRI data would have no access to any information on these chemicals. The certification statement can also be considered a de facto range report that indicates that the sum of amounts of the

chemical in waste did not exceed 500 pounds, which can be useful to any party interested in amounts being handled at a particular facility or for broader statistical purposes. Additionally, the certification statement provides compliance monitoring and enforcement programs along with other interested parties a means to track chemical management activities and verify overall compliance with the rule.

This ICR is similar to the one previously approved by OMB, but has been amended slightly to reflect TRI delisting actions that have occurred since the last ICR and which impact the estimated number of potential certifications. To date, EPA has either completely removed or modified the listing for 7 chemicals. This reduces the number of certification statements estimated by approximately 12 percent compared to the previous ICR for the alternate threshold, which acts to reduce the estimated burden for this data collection.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 34.5 hours per response. This estimate 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. No person is 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 displayed in 40 CFR Part 9.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Chemical facilities that manufacture, process or otherwise use certain toxic chemicals and which are required, under EPCRA section 313, to report annually to EPA their environmental releases of such chemicals.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 10,257

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 709,784 hours.

Frequency of Collection: Annual.

Dated: July 31, 1996.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

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[FRL-5549-3]

Retrofit/Rebuild Requirements for 1993 and Earlier Model Year Urban Buses; Public Review of a Notification of Intent to Certify Equipment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of agency receipt of a notification of intent to certify equipment and initiation of 45 day public review and comment period.

SUMMARY: The Agency has received a notification of intent to certify urban bus retrofit/rebuild equipment pursuant to 40 CFR Part 85, Subpart O. Pursuant to § 85.1407(a)(7), today's Federal Register notice summarizes the notification below, announces that the notification is available for public review and comment, and initiates a 45-day period during which comments can be submitted. The Agency will review this notification of intent to certify, as well as comments received, to determine whether the equipment described in the notification of intent to certify should be certified. If certified, the equipment can be used by urban bus operators to reduce the particulate matter of urban bus engines.

The Engine Control Systems Ltd. (ECS) notification of intent to certify, as well as other materials specifically relevant to it, are contained in category XIV-A of Public Docket A-93-42, entitled "Certification of Urban Bus Retrofit/Rebuild Equipment". This docket is located at the address below.

Today's notice initiates a 45 day period during which the Agency will accept written comments relevant to whether or not the equipment included in this notification of intent to certify should be certified. Comments should be provided in writing to Public Docket A-93-42, Category XIV-A, at the address below. An identical copy should be submitted to Anthony Erb, also at the address below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before September 23, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Submit separate copies of comments to each of the two following addresses:

1. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Public Docket A-93-42 (Category XIV-A), Room M-1500, 401 M Street S.W., Washington, DC 20460.
2. Anthony Erb, Engine Compliance Programs Group, Engine Programs and Compliance Division (6405J), 401 "M" Street S.W., Washington, DC 20460.

The ECS notification of intent to certify, as well as other materials specifically relevant to it, are contained