

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.

III. Public Docket

A record has been established for this action under docket number 97-61. 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 USEPA, Office of Air & Radiation. The public record is located at the Air Docket, USEPA, MC 6102, 401 M Street, SW., room M 1500, Washington, DC 20460.

Send comments regarding the burden estimate, or any other aspect of this information collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to: Kurt Roos, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Division (6202J), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460, or call (202) 564-9041.

Dated: December 18, 1997.

Paul Stolpman,

Director, Office of Air and Radiation.

[FR Doc. 97-33962 Filed 12-29-97; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5941-8]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Compliance Information Project, EPA ICR No. 1802.01

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit the following proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Compliance Information Project (CIP), EPA ICR 1802.01. 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 February 28, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Office of Planning and Policy Analyses; U.S. EPA; 401 M Street, SW (2201A); Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Stoody, (202) 564-5118 / (202) 501-0701 (fax), Office of Planning and Policy Analysis, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected Entities: State compliance and enforcement personnel, especially field inspectors.

Title: Compliance Information Project (CIP)(EPA ICR No. 1802.01).

Abstract: The Compliance Information Project (CIP) is a new approach under development by the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) to gather and analyze compliance information that is not already routinely collected by EPA and State environmental personnel in evaluating compliance for planning and targeting purposes. The Agency is conducting the CIP to address concerns that our present methods and processes for identifying and using compliance information do not capture, internalize or use all of the compliance information potentially available to the Agency or the States.

The purpose of the CIP is to identify external compliance information which is readily available to the Agency or the States, but uncaptured or unutilized by current systems or methods. Uncaptured and unutilized compliance information is outside, or external to, the present knowledge base. For the purposes of this Project, such unaccounted for compliance information may be referred to as an "information externality." An information externality becomes internalized when EPA or the States collect and use it. Two examples are unutilized studies, reports, or audits produced by States, private parties, or other government agencies, and observations by field personnel which, for one reason or another, escape our traditional methods for collecting and documenting information.

The CIP is designed to channel unidentified or unutilized compliance information to the personnel who design and implement our information, targeting, and planning systems. The Agency will use the CIP to internalize compliance information externalities by collecting and cataloging this information, identifying issues or possible conclusions, and passing the information on to the appropriate

government personnel for further analysis and use. Such compliance information may fill gaps in the Agency's or the States' databases, guide us to previously unidentified compliance problems, enhance our ability to describe our successes, or help us in other ways.

Through the CIP, EPA will collect information in the form of compliance reports, studies and published articles on compliance with Federal environmental statutes. The Agency will also conduct field personnel roundtable interviews in each of the ten EPA Regions, and invite a representative from each State to participate along with Regional personnel. The Agency will provide interview guides to each of the participants in advance of the roundtable. Participants unable to attend the roundtable may respond in writing. Participants attending the roundtable may prepare advance comments and forward them to the CIP staff. Non-Federal respondents may include State compliance and enforcement personnel, especially field inspectors. Responses to the information collection request are voluntary and not required to obtain or retain any benefit. The Agency will not ask for nor collect, as part of this project, references to specific persons, facilities, or cases. The Agency will use information received to make observations and draw inferences where appropriate. The Agency will not, however, conduct a statistical analysis of the results.

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. In any event, EPA is seeking the voluntary participation of State environmental enforcement personnel and has no intention of requiring a State response. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and 48 CFR Chapter 15.

EPA is soliciting 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.

Burden Statement

EPA plans to conduct ten sets of interviews involving non-Federal respondents in the form of roundtables. EPA will contact 50 non-Federal respondents. The interview will place a burden of 16 hours on each respondent and cost in time of \$43 per respondent per hour. Thus, the total expected respondent burden is estimated at 800 hours and \$34,400.

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 respond to a collection of information; search existing data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

Susan O'Keefe,

Deputy Director, Office of Planning and Policy Analysis, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

[FR Doc. 97-33966 Filed 12-29-97; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5941-9]

Proposed Settlement Agreement, Clean Air Act Petition for Review

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of proposed settlement; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 113(g) of the Clean Air Act, as amended ("Act"), 42 U.S.C. 7413(g), notice is hereby given of a proposed settlement agreement, which was filed with the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit by the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") on October 16, 1997, to address a lawsuit filed by the Appalachian Power Company and other electric utilities. *Appalachian Power Company, et al., v. United States Environmental Protection Agency*, No 93-1631. This lawsuit, which was filed pursuant to section 307(b) of the Act, 42

U.S.C. 7607(b), is a petition for review of the modeling assumptions required for existing point source and new or modified point source compliance demonstrations as set forth in Tables 9-1 and 9-2 of the "Guideline on Air Quality Models" (the "Modeling Guidelines") regulations published at 58 FR 38816 (July 20, 1993) and codified in Appendix W of 40 CFR Part 51. The proposed settlement agreement provides that EPA will issue specified guidance on interpretation of parts of the Tables in question and will propose to incorporate that guidance into the Modeling Guideline.

For a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this notice, EPA will receive written comments relating to the proposed settlement agreement from persons who were not named as parties to the litigation in question. EPA or the Department of Justice may withhold or withdraw consent to the proposed settlement agreement if the comments disclose facts or circumstances that indicate that such consent is inappropriate, improper, inadequate, or inconsistent with the requirements of the Act.

A copy of the proposed settlement agreement was filed with the Clerk of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on October 16, 1997. Copies are also available from Phyllis Cochran, Air and Radiation Division (2344), Office of General Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460, (202) 260-7606. Written comments should be sent to Alexander Schmandt at the address above and must be submitted on or before January 29, 1998.

Dated: December 18, 1997.

Scott C. Fulton,

Acting General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 97-33964 Filed 12-29-97; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5941-7]

Proposed Administrative Agreement for Recovery of Past Response Costs Under Section 122(h) of CERCLA

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed settlement.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 122(h) of CERCLA, EPA is proposing to settle a claim under Section 107 of CERCLA for response costs incurred by EPA in

conducting a removal action to address hazardous substances at the Pruitt & Grace Site in Lorain, OH. Mr. Michael Pruitt, the Settling Party, has agreed to reimburse EPA in the amount of \$20,000. EPA today is proposing to approve this settlement offer because it reimburses EPA for costs incurred during the removal action.

DATES: Comments on this proposed settlement must be received on or before January 29, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed settlement are available at the following address for review: (It is recommended that you telephone Mr. Kevin Chow at (312) 353-6181 before visiting the Region 5 Office).

Mr. Kevin Chow (C-14J), Office of Regional Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60604.

Comments on this proposed settlement should be addressed to: (Please submit an original and three copies, if possible) Mr. Kevin Chow (C-14J), Office of Regional Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Kevin Chow, Office of Regional Counsel, at (312) 353-6181.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In response to several hundred deteriorated drums at the Pruitt & Grace Site containing leaking hazardous or ignitable waste and posing a risk of fire or explosion, U.S. EPA undertook actions to minimize the immediate threat, test the materials involved, and properly dispose of the hazardous waste. The Settling Party was an owner and officer of a highway line painting company that operated at the site, and, after ceasing operations, left behind drums of hazardous and flammable waste, primarily paint and solvent waste. The Pruitt & Grace Site is not on the National Priorities List. A 30-day period, beginning on the date of publication, is open pursuant to section 122(i) of CERCLA for comments on this proposed settlement.

Comments should be addressed to Mr. Kevin Chow, Office of Regional Counsel (C-14J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60604.

Kevin C. Chow,

Assistant Regional Counsel.

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