

from the facilities to the information-gathering questionnaire. Each facility's weight in the analysis would dictate the probability that its surface impoundment characteristics would be selected in a Monte-Carlo analytical framework; model inputs that tend to correlate (e.g., hydrogeological settings and waste types) would be linked so that each model run reflects situations that could actually occur. With this framework, the specific combinations of model inputs that relate to high-risk situations (e.g., a certain chemical managed in a surface impoundment of a particular design, operated in a certain way, or located in a specific type of setting) can be identified as "risk drivers." Facility identities will not be part of the final results. Second, in the background document to the February 10, 1998 **Federal Register** document, EPA stated incorrectly that the threshold for determining risks of concern would be "if an individual's probability of developing cancer due to an exposure to the constituent in question is estimated to be in the range of 1 in 10,000 * * *." In fact, EPA stated in the April 30, 1997 peer review of the study methodology that an individual cancer risk in the range of 1×10^{-5} , or 1 in 100,000, would be of concern. The 1 in 100,000 level is the intended threshold for which the study is attempting to estimate risks.

Responding to both the "screener" questionnaire and the larger information-gathering questionnaire will be mandatory, under the authority of RCRA sections 3004(g)(10) and 3007(a). Respondents can claim their responses as RCRA Confidential Business Information (CBI). 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 February 10, 1998 (63 FR 6752); 7 comments were received. EPA's responses to these comments are available in the docket for this notice.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 84.5 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: 2100.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 2100.

Frequency of Response: 1.
Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 14528 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: \$10,794.

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. 1841.01 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OP Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460 (or E-Mail Farmer.Sandy@epamail.epa.gov); 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 16, 1998.

Richard T. Westlund,
Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6128-1]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Evaluation of the Burden of Waterborne Disease Within Communities in the United States

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: Evaluation of the burden of waterborne disease within communities in the United States. **EPA ICR Number:** 1727.02. **OMB Control Number:** 2080-0050. Current expiration date: July 31, 1998. 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 August 24, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260-2740, by E-mail at farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov, or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1727.02.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Evaluation of the burden of waterborne disease within communities in the United States (OMB Control Number: 2080-0050, EPA ICR Number: 1727.02) expiring July 31, 1998. This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The proposed study will be conducted by the Epidemiology and Biomarkers Branch, Human Studies Division, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, Office of Research and Development, U.S. EPA. Participation in this collection of information is strictly voluntary. The Branch will conduct a feasibility study of water utilities and a health study of individuals served by targeted drinking water utilities.

Drinking water utilities serving populations greater than 15,000 will be asked to provide information on the utility and results of monitoring activities. The information will be used to assess the feasibility of conducting an environmental health study to evaluate the burden of water-borne disease in the community it serves. A utility representative will be interviewed to gather information on: miles of distribution pipe, storage capacity, quantity of source water, the availability of the previous year's monitoring records, and the utilities' willingness to participate. The water utility will provide annual reports describing the monthly mean and range: water temperature, turbidity, particle counts, pH, color, total and fecal coliforms, heterotrophic plate count, total organic carbon, chlorine residual (free and total), total organic halides, total

trihalomethanes, total haloacetic acids, viruses, *Giardia*, and *Cryptosporidium*.

In the health studies, approximately 1000 households will be randomly selected from each community. Eligibility for households to participate will include residence of one or more children between the ages of two and ten years as children are the most sensitive population for illnesses of interest. We expect that each household has, on the average 2.2 members for a total of approximately 2200 individuals participating in each study. Demographic information and a short health history will be requested from household members at the beginning of each study. A representative from each household will be asked to fill out a monthly health questionnaire for each family member for a total of eighteen months. The monthly health information requested includes a checklist for upper respiratory illness, gastrointestinal illness, fever, and severity of illness. Care will be taken to maintain participant confidentiality; this work is mandated by the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996.

The information will be used to estimate the burden of waterborne disease in communities within the United States (US). Health data obtained from the household checklists will be compared with the corresponding monitoring data at the water utility to determine whether any increase in symptoms is associated with higher levels of contaminants. Overall illness rates will be measured. Specific relationships between microorganisms and disease may be developed by linking microorganisms found in the water with those found in symptomatic people.

The information is being collected as part of a research program to support the Office of Water in estimating the burden of waterborne disease in the US as mandated under the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, section 1458. This study will also provide information on the level of disease associated with microorganisms found in the drinking water. The information could potentially be used by other laboratories in the Office of Research and Development such as the National Risk Management Laboratory (Cincinnati) and the National Exposure Research Laboratory (Cincinnati). The information may also be used in comparison analyses by scientists in government or academia who are conducting similar types of studies. There is no maintenance of records required under this ICR. 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 2/5/98 (63 FR 5947-5949); two comments were received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5.77 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: Utilities serving more than 15,000 population or individuals living within a community served by the utility.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1400.

Frequency of Response: Varies.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 8,080 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. 1727.02 and OMB Control No. 2080-0050 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 17, 1998.

Richard T. Westlund,

Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6128-2]

Technical Workshop on Exposure-Duration and Toxicity Relationships

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: EPA is announcing a meeting organized and convened by Eastern Research Group, Inc., a contractor to EPA's Risk Assessment Forum, for external scientific peer consultation on the relationship of exposure-duration and toxicity. The meeting is being held to discuss methods under development or currently in use by EPA to characterize exposure-duration relationships and to explore how to model these relationships with respect to risk assessment.

DATES: The meeting will begin on Wednesday, August 5, 1998 at 8:30 a.m. and end on Thursday, August 6, 1998 at 5:00 p.m. Members of the public may attend as observers.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Crystal City, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202. Since seating capacity is limited, please contact Eastern Research Group, Inc., Tel.: (781) 674-7374, or E-mail confmail@erg.com, by July 27, 1998 to attend the meeting as an observer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical inquiries, contact Dr. Gary Kimmel, U.S. EPA, Office of Research and Development (8623-D) U.S. EPA, 401 M Street S.W., Washington DC., 20460. Tel.: (202) 564-3308.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Current risk assessment procedures are typically based on overall daily exposure levels, and tend to emphasize effects resulting from continuous exposures over a lifetime. This basis is widely recognized to be an oversimplification, and there has been an increasing realization that exposures are more likely to be experienced as bursts or spikes, or intermittent exposures of varying levels. The complexities of exposure effects on toxic responses require consideration of the entire exposure profile, including the timing, duration, and intermittent nature of exposures reflecting realistic scenarios encountered in practical