

essential in ensuring that EPA makes sound decisions.

OPPT is required, through statute, to consider the economic impacts of actions taken to control the manufacture, distribution, processing, use, or disposal of chemical substances or mixtures that present unreasonable risks of injury to human health or the environment. OPPT uses cost-benefit analyses to determine that a proposed regulatory action maximizes the net benefits to society when compared to the alternatives. Given the record regarding the lack of publicly available information on many chemicals, and other situations that arise during the course of determining regulatory options, an information collection activity often is required to collect the needed data. OPPT and other EPA staff then use these data to evaluate the regulatory options available, to determine the impact of a specific program, or to develop non-regulatory, voluntary options.

Responses to this collection of information are voluntary.

**Burden Statement:** The annual public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response for an estimated 4,000 respondents making one or more submissions of information. These estimates include 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 these regulations are displayed in 40 CFR Part 9.

**Respondents/Affected Entities:** Entities potentially affected by this action are persons in the United States who manufacture, distribute, process, import, use or dispose of chemical substances or mixtures.

**Estimated No. of Respondents:** 4,000.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** 6,000 hours.

**Frequency of Collection:** On occasion.

### Changes in Burden Estimates

There is no change in the total estimated respondent burden as compared with that identified in the information collection request most recently approved by OMB.

According to the procedures prescribed in 5 CFR 1320.12, EPA has submitted this ICR to OMB for review and approval. Any comments related to the renewal of this ICR should be submitted within 30 days of this notice, as described above.

Dated: July 29, 1998.

**Richard T. Westlund,**

*Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.*

[FR Doc. 98-20773 Filed 8-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6135-2]

#### Toxic Chemicals; PCB Notification and Manifesting; Submission of ICR No. 1446.06 to OMB; Agency Information Collection Activities

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of submission to OMB.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) entitled: "PCB Notification and Manifesting of PCB Waste Activities, and Records of PCB Storage and Disposal," [EPA ICR No. 1446.06; OMB Control No. 2070-0112] has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval pursuant to the OMB procedures in 5 CFR 1320.12. The ICR, which is abstracted below, describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated cost and burden.

The Agency is requesting that OMB renew for 3 years the existing approval for this ICR, which is scheduled to expire on September 30, 1998. A

**Federal Register** notice announcing the Agency's intent to seek the renewal of this ICR and the 60-day public comment opportunity, requesting comments on the request and the contents of the ICR, was issued on May 21, 1998 (63 FR 27952). EPA did not receive any comments on this ICR during the comment period.

**DATES:** Additional comments may be submitted on or before September 3, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY CONTACT:** Sandy Farmer at EPA by

phone on (202) 260-2740, by e-mail: "farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov," or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr/icr.htm> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1446.06.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments, referencing EPA ICR No. 1446.06 and OMB Control No. 2070-0112, to the following addresses:

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regulatory Information Division (Mailcode: 2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460

And to:

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Review Requested:** This is a request to renew a currently approved information collection pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12.

**ICR Numbers:** EPA ICR No. 1446.06; OMB Control No. 2070-0112.

**Current Expiration Date:** Current OMB approval expires on September 30, 1998.

**Title:** PCB Notification and Manifesting of PCB Waste Activities, and Records of PCB Storage and Disposal.

**Abstract:** Section 6(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) directs EPA to regulate the marking, disposal, manufacturing, processing, distribution in commerce, and use of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). EPA has promulgated rules prescribing methods for disposal of PCBs and criteria for the storage and handling of PCBs prior to disposal. These regulations require persons who own or operate equipment containing PCBs, or persons who own and operate facilities that store or dispose of PCB waste, to maintain records and submit certain reports, including third-party notifications, on the handling and disposition of such PCBs and PCB Items. This ICR addresses the burden associated with such recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 761). Respondents may claim all or part of a notice confidential. EPA will disclose information that is covered by a claim of confidentiality only to the extent permitted by, and in accordance with, the procedures in TSCA section 14 and 40 CFR part 2.

**Burden Statement:** The annual public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to range between approximately 1 hour and 428 hours per response, depending upon the

category of respondent, for an estimated 50,955 respondents making one or more submissions of information annually. These estimates include 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 these regulations are displayed in 40 CFR Part 9.

**Respondents/Affected Entities:** Entities potentially affected by this action are persons who own or operate equipment containing PCBs or who own or operate PCB storage and disposal facilities.

**Estimated No. of Respondents:** 50,995.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** 175,453 hours.

**Frequency of Collection:** Annually and/or on occasion, depending upon the specific reporting or recordkeeping requirement involved.

#### Changes in Burden Estimates

There is a minor decrease (from 175,648 hours to 175,453 hours) in the total estimated respondent burden as compared with that identified in the information collection request most recently approved by OMB. This reduction reflects EPA's experience with the reporting requirements associated with this information collection over the last three years, specifically decreases in the annual number of notifications of PCB activity and in the number of third-party notifications.

According to the procedures prescribed in 5 CFR 1320.12, EPA has submitted this ICR to OMB for review and approval. Any comments related to the renewal of this ICR should be submitted within 30 days of this notice, as described above.

Dated: July 29, 1998.

**Richard T. Westlund,**

Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 98-20774 Filed 8-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6135-3]

### Toxic Chemicals; Asbestos Abatement Worker Protection; Submission of ICR No. 1246.06 to OMB; Agency Information Collection Activities

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of submission to OMB.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) entitled: Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements for Asbestos Abatement Worker Protection [EPA ICR No. 1246.06; OMB Control No. 2070-0072] has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval pursuant to the OMB procedures in 5 CFR 1320.12. The ICR, which is abstracted below, describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated cost and burden.

The Agency is requesting that OMB renew for 3 years the existing approval for this ICR, which is scheduled to expire on August 31, 1998. A **Federal Register** notice announcing the Agency's intent to seek the renewal of this ICR and the 60-day public comment opportunity, requesting comments on the request and the contents of the ICR, was issued on May 21, 1998 (63 FR 27952). EPA did not receive any comments on this ICR during the comment period.

**DATES:** Additional comments may be submitted on or before September 3, 1998.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY

**CONTACT:** Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone on (202) 260-2740, by e-mail: "farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov," or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr/icr.htm> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1246.06.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments, referencing EPA ICR No. 1246.06 and OMB Control No. 2070-0072, to the following addresses:

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regulatory Information Division (Mailcode: 2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460.

And to:

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Review Requested:** This is a request to renew a currently approved information collection pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12.

**ICR Numbers:** EPA ICR No. 1246.06; OMB Control No. 2070-0072.

**Current Expiration Date:** Current OMB approval expires on August 31, 1998.

**Title:** Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements for Asbestos Abatement Worker Protection.

**Abstract:** EPA's asbestos worker protection rule (40 CFR 763 subpart G) is designed to provide occupational exposure protection to state and local government employees who are engaged in asbestos abatement activities in states that do not have state plans approved by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The rule provides protection for public employees not covered by the OSHA standard from the adverse health effects associated with occupational exposure to asbestos.

This rule requires state and local governments to monitor employee exposure to asbestos, take action to reduce exposure, to monitor employee health, train employees about asbestos hazards, and provide employees with information about exposures to asbestos and the associated health effects. The rule also requires state and local governments to notify EPA before commencing any asbestos abatement project. State and local governments must maintain medical surveillance and monitoring records and training records on their employees, must establish a set of written procedures for respirator programs and must maintain procedures and records of respirator fit tests. EPA will use the information to monitor compliance with the asbestos worker protection rule.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 763, subpart G). Respondents may claim all or part of a notice confidential. EPA will disclose information that is covered by a claim of confidentiality only to the extent permitted by, and in accordance with, the procedures in TSCA section 14 and 40 CFR part 2.

**Burden Statement:** The annual public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately 22.7 hour per response for an estimated 2,080 respondents making one or more submissions of information. These estimates include 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