

Please provide your name, title, affiliation, mailing address, the industry(ies) you work with (natural gas, oil, electric, and hydropower), voice and fax telephone numbers, and your Internet e-mail address if you have one. Companies or organizations with more than one representative may consolidate the notifications if they provide the information for each attendee.

Persons wishing to make comments or presentations at the conference should submit a request for time and the topic(s) they want to address to: Brooks Carter, (202) 501-8145, FAX: (202) 208-2425, brooks.carter@ferc.fed.us.

The Commission staff will determine the format and time limit for presentations based on the number of requests we receive. Companies are encouraged to coordinate with their respective industry associations to consolidate formal presentations as much as possible.

If there is sufficient interest from those outside the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, the Capitol Connection may broadcast the conference LIVE via satellite for a fee. If there is interest in the Washington, D.C. area for this program or you need more information about the national broadcast, please call Shirley Al-Jarani or Julia Morelli at the Capitol Connection (703-993-3100) by October 15, 1998. In addition, National Narrowcast Network's Hearing-On-The-Line service covers all FERC meetings live by telephone so that interested persons can listen at their desks, from their homes, or from any phone, without special equipment. Billing is based on time on-line. Call 202-966-2211 for further details.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-24119 Filed 9-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6158-4]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Revisions to the Underground Injection Control Regulations for Class V Injection Wells—Options 1 and 2

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 following Information Collection Requests (ICRs) have been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Revisions to the Underground Injection Control Regulations for Class V Injection Wells—Options 1 and 2. The ICRs describe the nature of the information collection requirements contained in the proposed rule titled Revisions to the Underground Injection Control Regulations for Class V Injection Wells published in the **Federal Register** on July 29, 1998 (63 FR 40586) and their expected burden and cost; where appropriate, includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 9, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send comments on the ICRs to the Director, OP Regulatory Information Division; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2137); 401 M St., S.W.; Washington, DC 20460; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th St., NW, Washington, DC 20503, marked "Attention: Desk Officer for EPA." Include the ICR numbers (1873.01 and 1874.01) in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robyn Delehanty, Underground Injection Control Program, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (mailcode 4606), EPA, 401 M Street, SW, Washington DC, 20460. Phone: 202-260-1993. E-mail: delehanty.robyn@epamail.epa.gov.

COPIES OF THE ICRS MAY BE OBTAINED

FROM: 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. 1873.01 and 1874.01.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Revisions to the Underground Injection Control Regulations for Class V Injection Wells—Options 1 and 2 (EPA ICR No. 1873.01 and 1874.01). This is a new collection.

Abstract: In the UIC Class V Rule published on July 29, 1998, EPA proposed to establish additional federal requirements for UIC Class V injection wells in Source Water Protection Areas (SWPAs) that pose a high risk to underground sources of drinking water. The proposed rule would require owners and operators of Class V industrial waste disposal wells in ground water-based SWPAs to either close their wells or meet primary drinking water standards at the point of injection. The proposal included the co-proposal of two options for Class V motor vehicle waste disposal wells: (1)

Ban Class V motor vehicle waste disposal wells in delineated ground water-based source water protection areas; and, (2) Ban Class V motor vehicle waste disposal wells in these SWPAs but allow owners and operators to apply for a waiver if they can demonstrate that they meet primary drinking water standards at the point of injection. The proposal would also prohibit large-capacity cesspools in ground water-based source water protection areas. In the case of closing Class V wells, the proposed rule does not require Primacy States to collect pre-closure notification. EPA believes that states may already have or could develop, another or a better mechanism that they prefer. However, because some states may require pre-closure notifications, the burden to states for information collection have been included.

The proposed regulation was designed with minimal new reporting requirements. These requirements fall into two major scenarios depending on which option is selected for final rule promulgation: (1) Pre-closure notification for all three well types, or (2) pre-closure notification for owners/operators of industrial wells and cesspools as well as pre-closure notification and/or waiver applications for automotive facilities under co-proposal option 2.

EPA uses information on all classes of injection wells, including Class V wells, to track the performance of the UIC Program toward meeting its goal of protecting USDWs from potential threats due to injected wastes. Responses to the request for information will be mandatory in accordance with provisions in 40 CFR 144.83 (Underground Injection Control). The Agency uses the information supplied in permit applications to track the location and numbers of Class V wells. Monitoring data provide information on the types of wastes injected and will be used to determine whether or not injection should be allowed to continue and under what conditions. Pre-closure notifications allow DI Programs to track the success of the Program in closing those wells that pose the greatest threat to USDWs. EPA also will use information on Class V wells to respond to information requests and to perform analyses for EPA management, the General Accounting Office, the Office of Management and Budget, Congress, and the public. States implementing Source Water Assessment Programs or Wellhead Protection Programs may use information on permitted or closed Class V injection wells if they choose to

update their contaminant source inventories.

Any Class V injection well operator may request that information submitted be kept confidential, as provided in 40 CFR 144.5 (Confidentiality of Information). All confidential information is treated in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR part 2 (Public Information). Respondents to the information collection requirements may claim confidentiality by stamping the words "confidential business information" on each page containing such information. However, the Agency will not consider the following information confidential:

- The name and address of any facility with a Class V waste disposal well.
- Information regarding the existence, absence, or level of contaminants in drinking water.

If no claim of confidentiality is made at the time of submission, EPA may make the information available to the public without further notice. However, the information is collected for the Agency's internal use, and EPA does not plan to routinely release or publish any of the data.

EPA has prepared two separate Information Collection Requests (ICRs) to accommodate the flexibility the proposed rule offers to the owners and operators of the existing motor vehicle waste disposal wells to either close their wells or submit permit applications. The ICRs have been submitted to OMB for review.

The first ICR addresses the proposal that bans motor vehicle waste disposal wells and large-capacity cesspools, and allows industrial waste disposal wells to operate under specific conditions. The only paperwork activity associated with this proposal is the submittal of a pre-closure notice by owners or operators of motor vehicle waste disposal wells, large-capacity cesspools, and industrial waste disposal wells.

Using the most conservative assumptions, EPA estimates that, over the three years covered by the information collection request, the number of owners and operators of Class V injection wells responding to the information collection request will be 7,746. The average annual hours per response is 0.83 at a cost of \$11.72. The notification is a one time only requirement. There are no operation and maintenance costs associated with this option.

A total of 7,746 Class V injection wells (including all motor vehicle waste disposal wells and large-capacity cesspools, and some industrial waste disposal wells) may close. The total

burden associated with submitting pre-closure notifications is estimated to be 22,225 hours (an average of 7,408 hours per year) and the total annual cost is estimated to be \$473,543 (an average of \$157,848 per year). Reporting burdens for this ICR is estimated to average 1.65 hours (an average of 0.55 hours per year) per response, or \$35.17 (an average of \$11.72 per year) per response.

The second ICR incorporates the proposal that allows some existing motor vehicle waste disposal wells to continue to operate under permits and industrial waste disposal wells to continue operating under specific conditions and bans all large-capacity cesspools. Paperwork activities associated with this proposal include permit applications and monitoring reports (from operators of Class V motor vehicle waste disposal wells wishing to continue injecting), and pre-closure notices (from owners or operators of motor vehicle waste disposal wells, large-capacity cesspools, and industrial waste disposal wells that are closing).

The second ICR estimates the hourly burden and cost to owners and operators of affected Class V wells for complying with the proposed requirements. Using the most conservative assumptions, EPA estimates that, over the three years covered by the information collection request, the number of owners and operators of Class V injection wells responding to the information collection request will be 7,746. The average annual hours per response for notification of well closure is 0.83 at a cost of \$11.72. The notification is a one time only requirement. There are no operation and maintenance costs associated with well closure. For owners and operators of motor vehicle waste disposal wells who receive a waiver and apply for a permit, the average annual hours per permit application is 28 hours at a cost of \$553.00. The operation and maintenance costs for quarterly injectate monitoring and annual sludge monitoring is \$3,380 per facility per year.

Over the three years covered by this information collection, a total of 2,638 Class V wells (including motor vehicle waste disposal wells, large-capacity cesspools, and industrial waste disposal wells) may close. In addition, 5,108 operators of motor vehicle waste disposal wells will apply for permits and monitor their injectate and sludge.

The total burden associated with permitting motor vehicle waste disposal wells, banning large-capacity cesspools, and allowing industrial waste disposal wells to operate under specific

conditions is estimated to be 916,678 hours (an average of 305,559 hours per year), and the cost will be \$71,796,202 (an average of \$23,932,067 per year). The burden per response is 3.22 hours; the cost per response is \$252.02.

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.

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.

Comments are requested 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. Send comments on the ICR to the Director, OP Regulatory Information Division; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2137); 401 M St., SW; Washington, DC 20460; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th St., NW, Washington, DC 20503, marked "Attention: Desk Officer for EPA." Include the ICR numbers (1873.01 and 1874.01) in any correspondence. Since OMB is required to make a decision concerning the ICR between 30 and 60 days after September 9, 1998, a comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it by October 9, 1998. The final rule will respond to any OMB or public comments on the information collection requirements contained in this proposal.

Dated: August 31, 1998.

Elizabeth Fellows,

Acting Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

[FR Doc. 98-24147 Filed 9-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P