

process or import chemical substances in the United States.

*Estimated No. of Respondents:* 3,000.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 34,500 hours.

*Frequency of Collection:* On occasion.

*Changes in Burden Estimates:* Since this is a reinstatement of a previously approved ICR for which OMB clearance has expired, the total burden for this activity, 34,500 hours, may be considered to be an increase in the total ICR burden currently 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: January 27, 1998.

**Richard T. Westlund,**

*Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.*

[FR Doc. 98-2490 Filed 2-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-400124; FRL-5769-4]

### Public Meetings on the Toxics Release Inventory Reporting Form

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** EPA will hold approximately nine public meetings to solicit comments relating to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) reporting form, the Form R. The purpose of the meetings is to obtain comments from stakeholders on ways to improve the type of right-to-know information available to communities and to help streamline right-to-know reporting to ease the paperwork burden for businesses affected by the requirements. Since the Agency is looking for ways to help reduce the reporting burden, these meetings will also provide an opportunity for affected entities to participate in the development of a rule clarifying the Pollution Prevention Act reporting requirements currently contained in Section 8 of the Form R. In particular, the Agency is interested in comments and suggestions regarding the burden of Section 8 reporting on small entities. The first three of these public meetings were held in November 1997. This notice announces two upcoming meetings. Additional meeting dates will be announced through future **Federal Register** notices.

**DATES:** The meetings will take place:

1. Tuesday, February 24, 1998, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Adam's Mark Dallas, Seminar Theater, 400 North Olive, Dallas, TX. Participants must register to speak by 5 p.m., Thursday, February 19, 1998.

2. Thursday, April 2, 1998, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. USEPA Region II, 290 Broadway, NY, NY, Conference Room D, 27th Floor. Participants must register to speak by 5 p.m., Friday, March 27, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** All comments should be sent in triplicate to: OPPT Document Control Officer (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Room G-099, East Tower, Washington, DC 20460. Each comment must bear the docket control number "OPPTS-400123."

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to: oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov. Follow the instructions under Unit II. of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

All comments which contain information claimed as CBI must be clearly marked as such. Three sanitized copies of any comments containing information claimed as CBI must also be submitted and will be placed in the public record. Persons submitting information on any portion of which they believe is entitled to treatment as CBI by EPA must assert a business confidentiality claim in accordance with 40 CFR 2.203(b) for each such portion. This claim must be made at the time that the information is submitted to EPA. If a submitter does not assert a confidentiality claim at the time of submission, EPA will consider this as a waiver of any confidentiality claim and the information may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to the submitter.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michelle Price, (Mail Stop 7408), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, telephone: (202) 260-3372, fax number: (202) 401-8142, e-mail: price.michelle@epamail.epa.gov. To register to speak via conference call or in person, contact Debra Jones (TASCON) at (301) 907-3844.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

EPA plans to hold approximately nine public meetings to solicit comments relating to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) reporting form, the Form R. The first three meetings took place in November 1997. The docket number for the November meetings is "OPPTS-

400117" and the comments presented at these meetings are available for review as described in Unit II. of this document.

The purpose of the meetings is to obtain comments from stakeholders on ways to improve the type of right-to-know information available to communities and to help streamline right-to-know reporting to ease the paperwork burden for businesses affected by the requirements. Topics for comment include the following: format of the Form R; nomenclature used in the Form R; opportunities for burden reduction in both the Form R and Form A; additional clarification of the elements in the Form R; and EPA's presentation of the data in public information documents.

These public meetings are also intended to help serve the Agency's effort to assure that the concerns of small entities are addressed in the development of regulations. The Agency is preparing a proposed rule to clarify the Pollution Prevention Act reporting requirements currently contained in Section 8 of the Form R, and would like to receive comments from affected entities regarding those reporting requirements. In particular, the Agency is interested in comments and suggestions regarding the reporting burden on small entities.

The sections of the Form R that EPA would like specific comment on are Sections 5, 6, and 8. In Section 5, there have been a number of issues raised with regard to the definition of "release," particularly with respect to Class I underground injection wells and RCRA Subtitle C landfills. Several commenters believe that EPA's interpretation of the EPCRA definition of "release" will lead to the misperception that a reported EPCRA section 313 "release" necessarily results in an actual exposure of people or the environment to a toxic chemical. The Agency would like to hear suggestions on ways to collect and disseminate the data that are consistent with the Agency's interpretation of the EPCRA definition of "release" and would address the concerns raised regarding public misperception.

There have also been a number of issues raised with regard to the reporting of toxic chemicals in wastes in Section 8 of the Form R. Section 8 collects information on waste managed at the facility whether or not the waste was generated at the reporting facility. Some individuals are concerned about public misperception of the data in Section 8 because of the focus on the

amount of waste managed at the facility, not waste generated. EPA would like comments on ways to change Section 8 of the Form R which would continue to allow the user to assess wastes managed by the facility but would minimize the perception that the wastes reported in section 8 were generated by the reporting facility.

On any of the above issues, EPA would like to receive specific comments from interested parties for changes, modifications, deletions, and/or additions of data elements to the Form R and the Form A. These issues are outlined in greater detail in an issue paper available on the TRI Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/tri> under the heading "TRI Stakeholder Dialogue" and the subheading "TRI Public Meetings."

Individuals wishing to attend these meetings or participate via conference call must sign-up in advance in order to assure that all participants have an opportunity to speak. Depending on the number of individuals registered, oral presentations or statements will be limited to approximately 5 to 15 minutes. To register, contact Debra Jones (TASCON) at (301) 907-3844. For those who cannot travel to the public meeting location, there will be 10 conference call lines available on a first come, first serve basis for individuals to provide comment. When registering, give your name, organization, postal (and electronic, if any) mailing address, telephone and fax numbers. If there is insufficient interest in any of the meetings, that meeting may be canceled. Individuals registered will be notified in the event a meeting is canceled. The Agency bears no responsibility for attendees' decision to purchase nonrefundable transportation tickets or accommodation reservations.

## II. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this action, as well as the public version, has been established for this action under docket control number "OPPTS-400123" (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). 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 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, Rm. NE-B607, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov  
Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number "OPPTS-400123." Electronic comments on this action may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

### List of Subjects

Environmental protection,  
Community right-to-know.

Dated: January 26, 1998.

**Susan B. Hazen,**

*Director, Environmental Assistance Division,  
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.*

[FR Doc. 98-2495 Filed 2-2-98; 8:45 am]

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## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices; Coordination of Functions; Memorandum of Understanding

**AGENCIES:** Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices, Department of Justice.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") and the Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices, Department of Justice ("Office of Special Counsel"), have adopted as final a Memorandum of Understanding which replaces an earlier 1989 Memorandum between the two agencies, published at 54 FR 32499, Aug. 8, 1989. Among other changes, the new Memorandum has been updated to reflect amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act. As with the earlier Memorandum, the Agreement makes each agency the agent of the other for the sole purpose of receiving discrimination charges under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and section 102 of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. The Agreement also provides for interagency coordination of charge processing activities to promote efficiency and avoid duplication in the administration and enforcement of these statutes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 3, 1998.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anita Stephens, Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practice, U.S. Department of Justice, P.O. Box 27728, Washington, D.C. 20038-7728; (800) 255-7688 (toll free) or (202) 616-5594; or (800) 237-2515 (toll free TDD) or (202) 616,5525 (TDD). At the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, contact Carol R. Miaskoff, Assistant Legal Counsel for Coordination, Office of Legal Counsel, EEOC, 1801 "L" Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20507; (202) 663-4689 (Voice) or 663-7026 (TDD).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Memorandum of Understanding was modified in response to amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act that added document abuse and intimidation or retaliation as unfair immigration related practices. Other changes have been made based on a reexamination of the 1989

Memorandum and consideration of the agencies' experience under it. Among the changes included in the new Memorandum of Understanding are:

1. The Memorandum's "Guidelines for EEOC Staff" and "Guidelines for Attorneys in the Office of Special Counsel" ("Guidelines") now include referral procedures for charges alleging unfair document practices. These changes reflect 1990 amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act that added document abuse as an unfair immigration related practice.

2. The Guidelines' referral procedures for charges alleging retaliation have been broadened and consolidated. These changes enhance the clarity of the agreement and reflect 1990 amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act that added intimidation or retaliation as an unfair immigration related practice.

3. The Memorandum and Guidelines provide that charges shall not be referred from one agency to the other if the charging party has declined referral. Thus, the charging party retains control over the decision whether to file a charge with each agency.

4. The Memorandum and Guidelines specify that charges alleging individual act, pattern or practice, or class discrimination are encompassed by the procedures therein.

5. The Guidelines for EEOC Staff no longer include as a condition for referral of charges to the Office of Special Counsel a requirement that the EEOC ask whether the charging party is a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or work-authorized alien. Information regarding immigration status is generally not relevant under the statutes enforced by