

with, the procedures in TSCA section 14 and 40 CFR part 2.

Burden statement: The burden to respondents for complying with this ICR is estimated to total 30,279 hours at a cost of \$2,510,537. These totals are based on an average burden ranging between approximately 0.25 and 8 hours per response, depending upon the category of respondent, for an estimated 7,397 respondents making one or more responses 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.

Title: Significant New Use Rules for Existing Chemicals.

ICR numbers: EPA ICR No. 1188.05, OMB No. 2070-0038.

Approval expiration date: April 30, 1999.

Abstract: Section 5 of TSCA provides EPA with a regulatory mechanism to monitor and, if necessary, control significant new uses of chemical substances. Section 5 of TSCA authorizes EPA to determine by rule (a significant new use rule or SNUR), after considering all relevant factors, that a use of a chemical substance represents a significant new use. If EPA determines that a use of a chemical substance is a significant new use, section 5 of TSCA requires persons to submit a notice to EPA at least 90 days before they manufacture, import, or process the substance for that use.

EPA uses the information obtained through this collection to evaluate the health and environmental effects of the significant new use. EPA may take regulatory actions under TSCA section 5, 6 or 7 to control the activities for which it has received a SNUR notice. These actions include orders to limit or prohibit the manufacture, importation, processing, distribution in commerce, use or disposal of chemical substances. If EPA does not take action, TSCA section 5 also requires EPA to publish a **Federal Register** notice explaining the reasons for not taking action.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 721). 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 burden to respondents for complying with this ICR is estimated to total 1,032 hours per year with an annual cost of \$72,378. These totals are based on an average ranging between approximately 1 and 119 hours per response, depending upon the type of response, for an estimated 675 respondents making one or more responses annually (the great majority of respondents will experience a burden of 1 hour per response; a very few respondents, estimated at three, will experience a burden of 119 hours per response). 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.

III. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this document, as well as the public version, has been established for this document under docket control number "OPPTS-00257" (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 12 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.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:
oppt.ncic@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 addressing ICR No. 0575.08 must be identified by docket control number "OPPTS-00258" and administrative record number 202. All

comments and data in electronic form addressing ICR No. 1031.06 must be identified by docket control number "OPPTS-00259" and administrative record number 203. All comments and data in electronic form addressing ICR No. 1188.05 must be identified by docket control number "OPPTS-00260" and administrative record number 204. Electronic comments on this document may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Information collection requests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: January 6, 1999.

Susan H. Wayland,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 99-896 Filed 1-13-99; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6218-9]

Notice of Availability of Letter from EPA to the State of Pennsylvania Pursuant to Section 118 of the Clean Water Act and Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a letter written from Region 3 of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the State of Pennsylvania finding that certain provisions adopted as part of its water quality standards and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits program are inconsistent with section 118(c) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and 40 CFR part 132. EPA's findings are described in the December 18, 1998, letter from EPA Region 3 to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. EPA invites public comment on the findings in the letter and whether it should disapprove these provisions pursuant to 40 CFR 123.62 and 132.5.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing by March 1, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on EPA's findings as described in the December 18, 1998, letter may be submitted to Evelyn S. MacKnight, Chief, PA/DE Branch (3WP11), Water Protection Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia,

Pennsylvania 19103-2029. In the alternative, EPA will accept comments electronically. Comments should be sent to the following Internet E-mail address: macknight.evelyn@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted in an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. EPA will print electronic comments in hard-copy paper form for the official administrative record. EPA will attempt to clarify electronic comments if there is an apparent error in transmission. Comments provided electronically will be considered timely if they are submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern time) March 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Evelyn S. MacKnight, PA/DE Branch (3WP11), Office of Watersheds, Water Protection Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, or telephone her at (215) 814-5717.

Copies of the December 18, 1998, letter describing EPA's findings that provisions adopted by the Commonwealth are inconsistent with the CWA and 40 CFR part 132 are available upon request by contacting Ms. MacKnight. This letter and other related materials submitted by the Commonwealth in support of their submission, are available for review by appointment at: EPA, Region 3, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (telephone 215-814-5751); and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Northwest Regional Office, 230 Chestnut Street, Meadville, Pennsylvania. To access the docket material in Philadelphia, call Ms. Renee Gruber at (215) 566-5751 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Eastern time) (Monday-Friday); in Meadville, call Mr. Kelly Burch at (814) 332-6816.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 23, 1995, EPA published the Final Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System (Guidance) pursuant to section 118(c)(2) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1268(c)(2). (March 23, 1995, 60 FR 15366). The Guidance, which was codified at 40 CFR part 132, requires the Great Lakes States to adopt and submit to EPA for approval water quality criteria, methodologies, policies and procedures that are consistent with the Guidance. 40 CFR 132.4 & 132.5. EPA is required to approve of the State's submission within 90 days or notify the State that EPA has determined that all or part of the submission is inconsistent with the Clean Water Act or the Guidance and identify any necessary changes to obtain EPA approval. If the State fails to make the necessary

changes within 90 days, EPA must publish a notice in the **Federal Register** identifying the approved and disapproved elements of the submission and a final rule identifying the provisions of part 132 that shall apply for discharges within the State.

EPA has received the submission from Pennsylvania and has reviewed it for consistency with the Guidance in accordance with 40 CFR part 131 and 132.5. EPA has determined that certain parts of Pennsylvania's submittal are inconsistent with the requirements of the CWA or 40 CFR part 132 and will be subject to EPA disapproval if not corrected. On December 18, 1998, in a letter from EPA Region 3 to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, EPA described in detail those provisions determined to be inconsistent with the Guidance and subject to disapproval if not remedied by the State. The inconsistencies relate to the following components of the State's submission in conformance with section 118(c) of the CWA and 40 CFR Part 132: (1) Water quality criteria for Chromium III to protect aquatic life; (2) water quality criteria to protect human health from cyanide, 2,4-dinitrophenol, and mercury; (3) administrative and scientific requirements for site-specific modification to criteria based on ambient conditions; (4) Appendix A of the Guidance for developing Tier I aquatic life criteria; (5) Appendix B of the Guidance for development of bioaccumulation factors for non-bioaccumulative chemicals of concern; (6) Appendix C of the Guidance for development of Tier I human health criteria; (7) Procedure 3 of Appendix F of the Guidance for developing total maximum daily loads; (8) Procedure 5 for determining reasonable potential to exceed water quality standards; and (9) Procedure 6 for whole effluent toxicity. Today, EPA is soliciting public comment regarding provisions identified in the December 18, 1998, letter as being inconsistent with the CWA and the Guidance, and whether EPA should disapprove those provisions based on its findings pursuant to 40 CFR 123.62 and 132.5.

During the next 90 days, EPA intends to continue working with Pennsylvania to address the inconsistencies identified in the December 18, 1998 letter. If the State fails to remedy any of the inconsistencies identified in the letter, EPA will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** identifying the disapproved elements and the corresponding portions of part 132 that will apply to waters within the Great Lakes Basin in Pennsylvania. With the exception of the

specific inconsistencies identified in the December 18, 1998 letter, EPA believes that the State's submission under part 132 is consistent with federal requirements, and intends to approve those aspects of the submittal when EPA takes final action on the submittal.

W. Michael McCabe,

Regional Administrator, Region III.

[FR Doc. 99-889 Filed 1-13-99; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6219-1]

National Drinking Water Advisory Council; Small Systems Implementation Working Group; Notice of Open Meeting

Under section 10(a)(2) of Pub. L. 92-423, "The Federal Advisory Committee Act," notice is hereby given that a meeting, via teleconference, of the Small Systems Implementation Working Group of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council established under the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. S300f *et seq.*), will be held on January 21, 1999 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, at the United States Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460 in Room 1209 of the East Tower. The meeting is open to the public, but due to past experience, seating will be limited.

The purpose of this meeting is to review a draft report summarizing characteristics of small water systems. The meeting is open to the public to observe. The working group members are meeting, via teleconference, to analyze relevant issues and facts and discuss options. Statements will be taken from the public at this meeting, as time allows.

For more information, please contact, Peter E. Shanaghan, Designated Federal Officer, Small Systems Working Group, U.S. EPA, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (4606), 401 M Street SW, Washington, DC 20460. The telephone number is 202-260-5813 and the email address is shanaghan.peter@epamail.epa.gov.

Dated: January 8, 1999.

Charlene Shaw,

Designated Federal Officer, National Drinking Water Advisory Council.

[FR Doc. 99-888 Filed 1-13-99; 8:45 am]

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