

20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date, and, to the extent applicable, must be served on the applicant and on any other person designated on the official service list. This filing is available for review at the Commission or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). Protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper; see 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-21382 Filed 8-21-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

#### Regulations Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice

August 16, 2002.

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(h), of the receipt of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive an exempt or a prohibited off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested on-the-record proceeding, to deliver a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance of any oral communication, to the Secretary.

Prohibited communications will be included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any responses thereto should become part of the decisional record, the prohibited off-the-record communication will not be considered by the Commission in

reaching its decision. Parties to a proceeding may seek the opportunity to respond to any facts or contentions made in a prohibited off-the-record communication, and may request that the Commission place the prohibited communication and responses thereto in the decisional record. The Commission will grant such requests only when it determines that fairness so requires. Any person identified below as having made a prohibited off-the-record communication should serve the document on all parties listed on the official service list for the applicable proceeding in accordance with Rule 2010, 18 CFR 385.2010.

Exempt off-the-record communications will be included in the decisional record of the proceeding, unless the communication was with a cooperating agency as described by 40 CFR 1501.6, made under 18 CFR 385.2201(e)(1)(v).

The following is a list of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications recently received in the Office of the Secretary. Copies of these filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. The documents may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call (202) 508-8222 or for TTY, (202) 208-1659.

#### EXEMPT

Docket No.	Date filed	Presenter or requester
1. Project No. 2612-005.	8-5-02	Don Klima.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPT-2002-0035; FRL-7187-6]

#### Substantial Risk Information Reporting under Section 8(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act; Request for Comment on Renewal of Information Collection Activities

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44

U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), EPA is seeking public comment on the following Information Collection Request (ICR): Substantial Risk Information Reporting under Section 8(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) (EPA ICR No. 0794.10, OMB No. 2070-0046). This ICR involves a collection activity that is currently approved and scheduled to expire on January 31, 2003. The information collected under this ICR relates to reporting requirements placed on persons who manufacture, import, process, or distribute in commerce chemical substances or mixtures and who obtain information that such substances or mixtures present a substantial risk of injury to health or the environment. Before submitting this ICR to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval under the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the collection.

**DATES:** Written comments, identified by the docket ID number OPPT-2002-0035, must be received on or before October 21, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit III. of the

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.** To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket ID number OPPT-2002-0035 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** *For general information contact:* Barbara Cunningham, Acting Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

*For technical information contact:* Richard Hefter, Risk Assessment Division (7403M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564-7649; fax number: (202) 564-1626; e-mail address: hefter.richard@epa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are a company that manufactures, imports, processes, or distributes in commerce a chemical substance or mixture and which obtains information that reasonably supports the conclusion that such substance or mixture presents a substantial risk of

injury to health or the environment. Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to:

Type of business	NAICS codes
Chemical manufacturing	325
Petroleum refineries	32411

This table is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in this table could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes are provided to assist you and others in determining whether or not this action might apply to certain entities. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

## II. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document and Other Related Documents?

### A. Electronically

You may obtain electronic copies of this document, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. On the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations," "Regulations and Proposed Rules," and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register—Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

### B. Fax-on-Demand

Using a faxphone call (202) 564-3119 and select item 4096 for a copy of the ICR.

### C. In Person

The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket ID number OPPT-2002-0035. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received during an applicable comment period, and other information related to this action, including any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). This official record includes the documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. The public version of the official record does not include any information claimed as CBI. The public version of

the official record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments submitted during an applicable comment period, is available for inspection in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, North East Mall Rm. B-607, Waterside Mall, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC. The Center is open from noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Center is (202) 260-7099.

## III. How Can I Respond to this Action?

### A. How and to Whom Do I Submit the Comments?

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket ID number OPPT-2002-0035 on the subject line on the first page of your response.

1. *By mail.* Submit your comments to: Document Control Office (7407M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver your comments to: OPPT Document Control Office (DCO) in EPA East Building Rm. 6428, 1201 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The DCO is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the DCO is (202) 564-8930.

3. *Electronically.* Submit your comments and/or data electronically by e-mail to: [oppt.ncic@epa.gov](mailto:oppt.ncic@epa.gov), or mail your computer disk to the address identified in Units III.A.1. and 2. Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. 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 standard disks in WordPerfect 6.1/8.0 or ASCII file format. All comments in electronic form must be identified by docket ID number OPPT-2002-0035. Electronic comments may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

### B. How Should I Handle CBI that I Want to Submit to the Agency?

Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. You may claim information that you submit to EPA in response to this document as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes any information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public version of the official record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public version of the official record without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

### C. What Should I Consider when I Prepare My Comments for EPA?

You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

1. Explain your views as clearly as possible.
2. Describe any assumptions that you used.
3. Provide copies of any technical information and/or data you used that support your views.
4. If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate that you provide.
5. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
6. Offer alternative ways to improve the collection activity.
7. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this notice.
8. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, be sure to identify the docket ID number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation.

### D. What Information is EPA Particularly Interested in?

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, EPA specifically solicits comments and information to enable it to:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility.
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimates of the burdens of the proposed collections of information.
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
4. Minimize the burden of the collections of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated or electronic collection technologies or other forms of information technology,

e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

#### IV. What Information Collection Activity or ICR Does this Action Apply to?

EPA is seeking comments on the following ICR:

*Title:* Substantial Risk Information Reporting under Section 8(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

*ICR numbers:* EPA ICR No. 0794.10, OMB No. 2070-0046.

*ICR status:* This ICR is currently scheduled to expire on January 31, 2003. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information that is subject to approval under PRA, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's information collections appear on the collection instruments or instructions, in the **Federal Register** notices for related rulemakings and ICR notices, and, if the collection is contained in a regulation, in a table of OMB approval numbers in 40 CFR part 9.

*Abstract:* TSCA section 8(e) requires that any person who manufactures, imports, processes, or distributes in commerce a chemical substance or mixture and which obtains information that reasonably supports the conclusion that such substance or mixture presents a substantial risk of injury to health or the environment must immediately inform EPA of such information. EPA routinely disseminates TSCA section 8(e) data it receives to other Federal agencies to provide information about newly discovered chemical hazards and risks.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 15 U.S.C. 2607(e)). 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.

#### V. What are EPA's Burden and Cost Estimates for this ICR?

Under the PRA, "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. For this collection it 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.

The ICR provides a detailed explanation of this estimate, which is only briefly summarized in this notice. The annual public burden for this collection of information is estimated to range between 5.0 hours and 27.0 hours per response, depending upon the nature of the response. The following is a summary of the estimates taken from the ICR:

*Respondents/affected entities:* 218.

*Frequency of response:* On occasion.

*Estimated average number of responses for each respondent:* 1.

*Estimated total annual burden hours:* 6,431.

*Estimated total annual burden costs:* \$675,255.

#### VI. Are There Changes in the Estimates from the Last Approval?

There is a decrease of 1,778 hours (from 8,209 hours to 6,431 hours) in the total estimated respondent burden compared with that identified in the information collection request most recently approved by OMB. This change results from an overall decrease in section 8(e) reporting, primarily from a reduction in the number of follow-up/supplemental section 8(e) notices received. In previous ICR renewals, EPA used an historical average of 2.2 follow-up notices per each initial submission. This figure was based on EPA's experience and system for reviewing section 8(e) notices in place pre-1990. During that time EPA received fewer than 100 initial notices per year and was able to perform a much more detailed review of each notice received. The consequence of that review was that there was much more interaction with the submitting companies generating numerous follow-up notices and information submissions. However, during and since the 1991 Compliance Audit Program, because of the increase in initial notices submitted, EPA has contacted submitters for additional information only for those initial notices that are identified during the preliminary screening evaluation as needing additional information from the submitters. Consequently, the number of follow-up notices has fallen due to the changed nature of EPA's review of initial notices. Over the last 3 fiscal years, EPA has received 341 follow-up notices versus 653 initial notices, or

approximately 0.5 follow-up notices per initial notice.

#### VII. What is the Next Step in the Process for this ICR?

EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12. EPA will issue another **Federal Register** notice pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(a)(1)(iv) to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB. If you have any questions about this ICR or the approval process, please contact the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: August 9, 2002.

**Susan B. Hazen,**

*Acting Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.*

[FR Doc. 02-21444 Filed 8-21-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-S**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7265-5]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; OMB Responses

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

**ACTION:** Notices.

**SUMMARY:** This document announces the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) responses to Agency clearance requests, in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). 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.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susan Auby at (202) 566-1672, or e-mail at [Auby.susan@epa.gov](mailto:Auby.susan@epa.gov), and please refer to the appropriate EPA Information Collection Request (ICR) Number.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**