

legal controls that minimize the potential for exposure to contamination by limiting land or resource use and/or protect the integrity of a remedy. Institutional controls are employed at sites where remedies are not yet in place, are ongoing, and/or leave contaminant residuals on site that do not allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. Proper implementation, monitoring, and enforcement of institutional controls at these sites is critical to EPA's core mission of protecting human health and the environment. Although many of these institutional control mechanisms are necessary parts of the remedy, they are often implemented, monitored, and/or enforced by States, Tribes and/or local governments.

OERR is proposing to complete a study that includes: (1) Conducting research into the types of institutional controls tracking systems that are currently in use and evaluating their relative strengths and weaknesses; (2) developing a focused list of data collection points and definitions; (3) developing and piloting a process for the collection of data to be used to estimate data availability and the cost and time required for data acquisition; (4) developing a data entry process; and (5) researching the feasibility of data sharing and/or linking Federal, State, Tribal and/or local institutional control tracking into a web-based system. In a second phase of this study, OERR is planning to develop the tracking system, establish data linkages, and populate the database. It is anticipated that information on institutional controls eventually will be available to a variety of interested stakeholders over the EPA web page.

This proposed ICR specifies information necessary to determine what types of institutional controls tracking systems are currently in use; their purpose, scope, and structure; the kinds of data they track; their data entry, quality assurance, administration, and access features; data querying capabilities; compatibility with a future EPA system; development, population, and operating costs; and lessons learned from developing, implementing, and operating these systems.

EPA estimates that approximately 52 States, 10 Tribes, and no more than 200 local agencies (planning, zoning, and real estate recording offices) will be surveyed.

If approved by OMB, respondents will have 60 days from receipt of the survey to submit their responses.

In addition to the survey, this proposed ICR includes EPA requests for clarifications, questions and updates to

the survey, and agency visits. Clarifications and updates will only be necessary if EPA has follow-up questions regarding responses or if EPA requires more information to understand a tracking system. Up to 50 agencies may be required to submit more detailed descriptions. EPA proposes to visit up to 20 agencies to evaluate institutional controls tracking systems.

Responding to the survey is entirely voluntary. 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.

EPA is soliciting comments to:

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Burden Statement: 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; collect, validate, and verify information, process and maintain information, and disclosing and providing information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

The average annual burden imposed by the survey and other information collection efforts are approximated using the following assumptions:

- Approximately half the agencies surveyed will not have an institutional controls tracking system. It is assumed that no more than 30 minutes would be required for these respondents. Each respondent will respond to the survey once. If the response rate is 100 percent, the estimated burden is 66 hours (131 respondents x 0.5 hours).

- Approximately half the remaining agencies will have a rudimentary tracking system or registry. It is assumed that six hours will be required to research and complete the survey and that follow-up contact will take no more than six hours. Each respondent will respond to the survey once. If the response rate is 100 percent, the estimated burden is 792 hours (66 respondents x 12 hours).

- No more than approximately 65 entities will have full systems. It is anticipated that 16 hours will be required to research and complete the survey and eight hours to follow up. Each respondent will respond to the survey once. If the response rate is 100 percent, the estimated burden is 1,560 hours (65 respondents x 24 hours).

- None of the respondents will incur new capital, start-up, operation, maintenance, or purchase of services costs in responding to the survey as the ICR seeks information only about existing activities and practices and does not require respondents to undertake new information collection or tracking tasks.

- The estimated average annual hour burden is 10 hours.

Dated: September 24, 2001.

Elaine F. Davies,

Acting Director, Office of Emergency and Remedial Response, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7071-2]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program (OMB Control No. 2040-0042; EPA No. 0370.18, Expiring September 30, 2001)

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 Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program (OMB Control No. 2040-0042; EPA ICR No. 0370.18), expiring September 30, 2001. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection

and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 1, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send comments referencing EPA ICR No. 0370.18 and OMB Control Number 2040-0042, to the following addresses: Susan Auby, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Collection Strategies Division (Mail Code 2822), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington DC 20460-0001; 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the ICR contact auby.susan@epamail.gov, or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 0370.18. For technical questions about the ICR contact Robert E. Smith at 202-260-5559 in the Office of Water.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Underground Injection Control Program (OMB Control No. 2040-0042; EPA ICR No. 0370.18.), expiring September 30, 2001. This is an extension of a previously approved collection.

Abstract: The Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program under the Safe Drinking Water Act established a Federal and State regulatory system to protect underground sources of drinking water (USDWs) from contamination by injected fluids. Owners/operators of underground injection wells must obtain permits, conduct environmental monitoring, maintain records, and report results to EPA or the State UIC primacy agency. States must report to EPA on permittee compliance and related information. The information is reported using standardized forms, and regulations are codified at 40 CFR parts 144 through 148. The data are used to ensure the protection of underground sources of drinking water from UIC authorities. 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. The **Federal Register** document required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information, was published on May 3, 2001 (66 FR 22225). No comments were received by EPA on or before the close of the comment period.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordingkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.59 hours per response. 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.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are owners and operators of underground injection wells and UIC Primacy agencies in the States including, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Trust Territories, Indian Tribes, and Alaska's Native Villages and, in some instances, U.S. EPA Regional Offices.

Respondents/Affected Entities: 422,287.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 52,967.

Frequency of Response: Operators of Class I, III and some Class V wells must report monitoring results quarterly; Class II operators report annually.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 1,091,945.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: \$66,904,505.

Send comments 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 automatic collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 0370.18 and OMB Control No. 2040-0042 in any correspondence.

Dated: September 25, 2001.

Oscar Morales,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

[FR Doc. 01-24592 Filed 10-1-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7071-1]

Agency Information Collection Activities Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Cooperative Agreements and Superfund Response Actions

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Cooperative Agreements and Superfund Contracts for Superfund Response Actions, OMB Control Number 2050-0179, expiring September 30, 2001. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 1, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referencing EPA ICR No. 1487.07 and OMB Control No. 2050-0179, to the following addresses: Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Collection Strategies Division (Mail Code 2822), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001; 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the ICR contact Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260-2740, by e-mail at Farmer.sandy@epa.gov, or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1487.07. For technical questions about the ICR contact Kirby Biggs at 703-573-8717.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Cooperative Agreements and Superfund Contracts for Superfund Response Actions, OMB Control number 2050-0179, EPA ICR number 1487.07, expiring September 30, 2001. This is an extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: This ICR authorizes the collection of information under 40 CFR part 35, subpart O, which establishes the administrative requirements for cooperative agreements funded under the Comprehensive Environmental