

• **Mail:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center (EPA-HQ-ORD-2013-0292), Mail Code: 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460. The phone number is 202-566-1752. For information on visiting the EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room, visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is 202-566-1744. Deliveries are only accepted during the docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information. If you provide comments by mail or hand delivery, please submit three copies of the comments. For attachments, provide an index, number pages consecutively with the comments, and submit an unbound original and three copies.

Instructions: Direct your comments to docket number EPA-HQ-ORD-2013-0292 for the CRA Guidelines for Planning and Problem Formulation. If you are commenting on specific text in the document, please use the page and line number to identify the text to which you refer. General recommendations or comments are best tied to a specific section in the text that comes closest to addressing the issue you are commenting upon. If no such section exists, then a recommendation for a new section heading is helpful. Please provide citations for any technical information and/or data used to support the information you provide. To ensure proper receipt by the EPA, be sure to identify the docket ID number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response.

Please ensure that your comments are submitted within the specified comment period. Comments received after the closing date will be marked "late," and may only be considered if time permits. It is EPA's policy to include all comments it receives in the public docket without change and to make the comments available online at www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided, unless a comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information for which disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information through www.regulations.gov or email that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected. The www.regulations.gov website is an "anonymous access" system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an

email comment directly to EPA without going through www.regulations.gov, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses. For additional information about EPA's public docket visit the EPA Docket Center homepage at www.epa.gov/epahome/dockets.htm.

Docket: Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in www.regulations.gov or in hard copy at the ORD Docket in the EPA Headquarters Docket Center.

III. How will comments be used?

Public comment received on the draft CRA Guidelines for Planning and Problem Formulation will be reviewed and considered to be incorporated into or modify text in the final revised draft of the Guidelines. The final draft Guidelines will then undergo internal EPA review and revision, and then be finalized for publication.

Mary Ross,

Director, Office of Science Advisor, Policy, and Engagement.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0509; FRL-7661-03-OCSPF]

Notice of Approval Status; Certifying Authorities' Amended Plans for Certification of Commercial and Private Applicators of Restricted Use Pesticides; Batch Three

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing its approval of fifteen amended certification plans for certifying applicators of Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs) from the following certifying authorities: Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (ADAI),

American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (AS-EPA), Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA), Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Bureau of Environmental & Coastal Quality—Division of Environmental Quality, Pesticides Branch (CNMI-BECQ-DEQ), Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA), Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS), Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA), Maryland Department of Agriculture (MdDA), Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MnDA), North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDACS), North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA), Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA), and Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA). The amended plans are consistent with the existing regulatory requirements, including revisions made in 2017 to enhance and improve the competency of certified applicators of RUPs and persons working under their direct supervision. The 2017 regulatory revisions are intended to further reduce potential exposure of RUPs to certified applicators and those working under their direct supervision, other workers, the public, and the environment. Federal, state, territory, and tribal certifying authorities with existing certification plans were required to revise their existing plans to conform with the updated federal standards for RUP applicator certification and receive EPA approval by the established regulatory deadline.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For technical information contact: The designated EPA point of contact for the Certification Plan of interest as listed in Table 1 of Unit I.B.

For general information contact: Carolyn Schroeder, Pesticide Re-Evaluation Division (7508M), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 566-2376; email address: schroeder.carolyn@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General information

A. Does this action apply to me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are a federal, state, territory, or tribal agency who administers a certification program for pesticides applicators. You may also

be potentially affected by this action if you are: A registrant of RUP products; a person who applies RUPs, including those under the direct supervision of a certified applicator; a person who relies upon the availability of RUPs; someone who hires a certified applicator to apply an RUP; a pesticide safety educator; or other person who provides pesticide safety training for pesticide applicator certification or recertification. The following list of North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide to help readers determine whether this document applies to them. Potentially affected entities may include:

- Agricultural Establishments (Crop Production) (NAICS code 111).
- Nursery and Tree Production (NAICS code 111421).

- Agricultural Pest Control and Pesticide Handling on Farms (NAICS code 115112).
- Crop Advisors (NAICS codes 115112, 541690, 541712).
- Agricultural (Animal) Pest Control (Livestock Spraying) (NAICS code 115210).
- Forestry Pest Control (NAICS code 115310).
- Wood Preservation Pest Control (NAICS code 321114).
- Pesticide Registrants (NAICS code 325320).
- Pesticide Dealers (NAICS codes 424690, 424910, 444220).
- Industrial, Institutional, Structural & Health Related Pest Control (NAICS code 561710).
- Ornamental & Turf, Rights-of-Way Pest Control (NAICS code 561730).

- Environmental Protection Program Administrators (NAICS code 924110).
- Governmental Pest Control Programs (NAICS code 926140).

If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How can I get copies of these documents and other related information?

For assistance in locating documents related to the approved plans identified in this notice, please consult the designated EPA point of contact for the Certification Plan of interest as listed in Table 1 of this unit, or the general contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

TABLE 1—DESIGNATED EPA POINT OF CONTACTS FOR THE CERTIFICATION PLANS

EPA region	Certification plan	EPA point of contact	POC phone	Email
Region 1	RIDEM	Andrea Szylvian	(617) 918–1198	<i>szylvian.andrea@epa.gov</i>
Region 3	MdDA	Courtenay Hoernemann	(215) 814–2216	<i>hoernemann.courtenay@epa.gov</i>
Region 4	WVDA. ADAI	Richard Corbett	(404) 562–9008	<i>corbett.richard@epa.gov</i>
Region 5	GDA. KDA. NCDACS. MDARD	Donald Baumgartner	(312) 886–7835	<i>baumgartner.donald@epa.gov</i>
Region 7	MnDA. IDALS	Shawn Hackett	(913) 551–7774	<i>hackett.shawn@epa.gov</i>
Region 8	CDA	Kevin Martin	(303) 312–6085	<i>martin.kevin@epa.gov</i>
Region 9	NDDA. WDA. AS–EPA	Katy Wilcoxon	(415) 947–4205	<i>wilcoxon.katy@epa.gov</i>

II. What is the Agency's authority for taking this action?

Section 11 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. 136 *et seq.*, requires certifying authorities to have an EPA-approved certification plan to certify applicators of RUPs. The Certification of Pesticide Applicators (CPA) regulation at 40 CFR part 171 was amended in 2017 (Ref. 1). As a result, federal, state, territory, and tribal certifying authorities with existing certification plans were required to revise their existing certification plans to conform with the updated federal standards for the certification of applicators of RUPs and submit their revisions to EPA by March 2020 for EPA review and approval. The CPA regulation specifies that the existing certification plans remain in place until the revised plans are approved by EPA on or before the regulatory deadline established in 40 CFR 171.5. The Agency has since issued a final rule extending the original deadline for certification plans to comply with the

updated federal standards under the 2017 CPA rule to November 4, 2023 (Ref. 2).

III. What action is the Agency taking?

This action gives notice that the following 15 certifying authorities' certification plans submitted to the Agency meet or exceed the standards of 40 CFR part 171: ADAI, AS–EPA, CDA, CNMI–BECQ–DEQ, GDA, IDALS, KDA, MdDA, MDARD, MnDA, NCDACS, NDDA, RIDEM, WVDA, and WDA. EPA hereby gives notice that the 15 amended certification plans for certifying applicators of RUPs listed in this document are now approved plans; the certifying authorities may certify pesticide applicators and continue with implementation of the certification plans as outlined in the approved plans.

With this announcement, EPA has approved 40 out of the 68 federal, state, territory, and tribal certification plans submitted to the Agency. The 15 plans listed in this notice represent the third in a series of batched notifications

announcing the approval of the federal, state, territory, and tribal certification plans moving through the approval process. These batched notifications are occurring on a regular basis as plans are approved. EPA also provides frequent status updates regarding the reviews and approvals of state and territory certification plans on its website at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/certification-standards-pesticide-applicators>.

III. References

The following is a list of documents that are related to the issuance of this Notice. For assistance in locating these other documents, please consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

1. EPA. Pesticides; Certification of Pesticide Applicators; Final Rule. **Federal Register**. 82 FR 952, January 4, 2017 (FRL–9956–70).
2. EPA. Pesticides; Certification of Pesticide Applicators; Further Extension to Expiration Date of Certification Plans; Final Rule. **Federal Register**. 87 FR

50953, August 19, 2022 (FRL-9134.1-04-OCSP).

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136–136y.

Dated: August 3, 2023.

Mary Elissa Reaves,
Director, Pesticide Re-Evaluation Division,
Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 2023-17362 Filed 8-11-23; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0335; FRL-10664-01-OCSP]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Renewal of an Existing ICR Collection and Request for Comment; School Integrated Pest Management Awards Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), this document announces the availability of and solicits public comment on the following Information Collection Request (ICR) that EPA is planning to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): “School Integrated Pest Management Awards Program,” identified by EPA ICR No. 2531.03 and OMB Control No. 2070-0200. This ICR represents a renewal. This ICR will expire on May 31, 2024. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval under the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the information collection that is summarized in this document. The ICR and accompanying material are available in the docket for public review and comment.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 13, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0335, through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Additional instructions on commenting or visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nora Stoner, Mission Support Division (7101M), Office of Program Support, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution

Prevention, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 564-0355; email address: stoner.nora@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. What information is EPA particularly interested in?

Pursuant to PRA section 3506(c)(2)(A) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), EPA specifically solicits comments and information to enable it to:

1. 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.
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimates of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
4. 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. In particular, EPA is requesting comments from very small businesses (those that employ less than 25) on examples of specific additional efforts that EPA could make to reduce the paperwork burden for very small businesses affected by this collection.

II. What information collection activity or ICR does this action apply to?

Title: School Integrated Pest Management Awards Program.

EPA ICR No.: 2531.03.

OMB Control No.: 2070-0200.

ICR status: This ICR is currently approved through May 31, 2024. Under the PRA, 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 in title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), after appearing in the **Federal Register** when approved, are displayed either by publication in the **Federal Register** or by other appropriate means, such as on the related collection instrument or form, if applicable. The display of OMB control numbers for certain EPA regulations is consolidated in 40 CFR part 9.

Abstract: This is a renewal information collection request (ICR) that

will cover the paperwork activities associated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's new program to encourage the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the preferred approach to pest control in the nation's schools. IPM is a smart, sensible, and sustainable approach to pest control that emphasizes the remediation of pest conducive conditions. IPM combines a variety of pest management practices to provide effective, economical pest control with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment. These practices involve exclusion of pests, maintenance of sanitation, and the judicious use of pesticides.

The EPA's vision is that all students in the U.S. will experience the benefits provided by an IPM program in their school district. The Agency's IPM implementation efforts are based on a wholesale approach aimed at kindergarten through 12th grade public and Tribal schools. The Agency intends to use the information collected through this ICR to encourage school districts to implement IPM programs and to recognize those that have attained a notable level of success. Since IPM implementation occurs along a continuum, the School IPM (SIPM) incentive program will recognize each milestone step a school district must take to begin, grow, and sustain an IPM program.

This program has five award categories (1) Great Start, (2) Leadership, (3) Excellence, (4) Sustained Excellence, and (5) Connector. The first four categories are stepwise levels that are reflective of the effort, experience, and, ultimately, success that results from implementing EPA-recommended IPM tactics that protect human health and the environment. Schools with pest infestations are not only exposed to potential harm to health and property, but also to stigmatization. The School IPM recognition program will give districts across the nation the opportunity to receive positive reinforcement through public recognition of their efforts in implementing pest prevention and management strategies.

Burden statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 914 hours per response. Burden is defined in 5 CFR 1320.3(b).

The ICR, which is available in the docket along with other related materials, provides a detailed explanation of the collection activities and the burden estimate that is only briefly summarized here: