

and describing buying or manufacturing recycled-content products, either electronically or in hard copy.

The EPA WasteWise program uses the voluntarily-submitted information to: (1) Identify and recognize outstanding waste reduction achievements by individual organizations, (2) compile aggregate results that indicate overall accomplishments of WasteWise partners, (3) identify cost-effective waste reduction strategies to share with other organizations, and (4) identify topics on which to develop assistance and information efforts.

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 EPA would like to solicit 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: The respondent burden for this collection is estimated to average 16 hours per response for the Endorser Registration Form; 16 hours per response for the Partner Registration Form; 25 hours per response for the Goals Identification Form; and 45 hours per response for the Annual Reporting Form. This results in an estimated one-time respondent burden of 16 hours for Endorsers, and an annual Partner respondent burden of 41 hours for new partners and 70 hours for current partners needing to reset 3 year goals and 45 hours for current partners not needing to reset goals. The estimated number of respondents is 1,120 in year 1; 1,270 in year 2; and 1,430 in year 3. Estimated total annual burden on all respondents is 57,510 hours in year 1; 64,260 hours in year 2; and 71,010 hours in year 3.

Burden estimates include 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.

Dated: February 17, 2000.

Elizabeth Cotsworth,

Director, Office of Solid Waste.

[FR Doc. 00-5040 Filed 3-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6545-6]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Performance Track Program—Environmental Achievement Track

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 EPA is planning to submit the following proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Performance Track Program—Environmental Achievement Track, EPA ICR 1949.01. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before May 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Roberta White (2129), U.S. EPA, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington D.C. 20460. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the ICR without charge by contacting Roberta White at (202) 260-5616

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Munis, (202) 260-9560. Fax number: (202) 401-3998

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are those which voluntarily choose to participate in the EPA Performance Track.

Title: Performance Track Program—Environmental Achievement Track, EPA ICR 1949.01

Abstract: The Environmental Protection Agency is developing a national Performance Track Program to reward and motivate top environmental performance. The Performance Track program is the outcome of the July, 1999 report, "Aiming for Excellence: Actions to Encourage Stewardship and Accelerate Environmental Progress." In this report, the Agency committed to developing a Performance Track Program to encourage good environmental performers to continue striving to improve their environmental performance.

The Performance Track is a two-tiered, voluntary program designed to promote leadership in environmental protection through the use of Environmental Management Systems (EMS), Pollution Prevention Programs, and public reporting. Qualifying program participants will benefit from a variety of incentives, including, but not limited to, public recognition, reduced monitoring and reporting, and operational flexibility. EPA will announce and begin to solicit applications for level one of the Performance Track, the Environmental Achievement Track, in June of 2000. Level two, the Environmental Stewardship Track, will be announced in May of 2001.

Participation in the Performance Track program is voluntary. To be considered for acceptance into the program, applicants for the Environmental Achievement Track will be asked to submit information documenting their Environmental Managements System (EMS), history of compliance with EPA regulations, commitment to continuous environmental performance improvement, and commitment to public outreach and performance reporting. EPA will review the applications and notify the applicant within a specified time frame whether they qualify for the program. Upon acceptance to the Environmental Achievement Track, participants will be required to make environmental performance reports accessible to the public.

The EPA would like to solicit 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; 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.

EPA estimates that approximately 250 facilities may voluntarily apply to the

Performance Track annually. EPA further estimates that 200 facilities will be selected to participate in the Environmental Achievement Track (Tier 1). The Agency estimates that the burden required by this action for facilities will range from 120 hours to 270 hours. The best estimate burden is 230 hours. Facilities that have operational environmental management systems in place and currently share some environmental performance information with the public will experience burden at the lower end of the range. Other facilities may require more burden to demonstrate how they meet the entry criteria.

The following table summarizes the estimate burden for the Environmental Achievement Tier.

	Facility burden hours	Facility burden cost	Number of facilities	Total burden hours	Total burden cost
Application	40	\$1,070	250	10,000	\$270,000
Compliance Demonstration	80	2,375	200	15,550	475,000
EMS Documentation and Reporting	40	1,110	200	8,100	220,000
Continuous Performance Demonstration	40	1,060	200	7,500	210,000
Reporting & Public Outreach	30	860	200	6,400	175,000
Total	230	6,475	47,550	1,340,000

Dated: February 25, 2000.

Daniel J. Fiorino,

Acting Director Office of Policy/Office of Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 00-5042 Filed 3-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6050-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-00287; FRL-6488-3]

Substantial Risk Information Reporting Under Section 8(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); 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 and information 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. 0794.08, OMB No. 2070-0046). This ICR involves a collection activity that is currently approved and scheduled to expire on June 30, 2000. The information collected under this ICR helps EPA

identify and take steps to mitigate any substantial risk of injury to human health or the environment caused by chemical substances. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection activity and its expected burden and costs. 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 control number OPPTS-00287 and administrative record number AR-223, must be received on or before May 1, 2000.

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 control number OPPTS-00287 and administrative record number AR-223 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *For general information contact:* Joseph S. Carra, Deputy Director, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (7401), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202)

554-1404; TDD: (202) 554-0551; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

For technical information contact: Richard Hefter, Risk Assessment Division (7403), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 260-3470; fax number: (202) 260-1283; 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 manufacture, import, process or distribute a TSCA-covered chemical substance or mixture. Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to:

Type of business	SIC codes
Chemicals and allied products	28
Petroleum refining	2911

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 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes are provided to assist you and others in determining