

These estimates include any time spent by separately incorporated subsidiaries and other entities affiliated with the ultimate parent companies that receive the information requests.

*Estimated Average Burden per Year per Request:* 11 hours.

(a) Information requests to the four largest recipients of the Commission's information request, at a per request average each year of 25 hours = 100 hours, cumulatively, per year; and

(b) Information requests to six additional respondents, of smaller size, at a per request average each year of 1 hours = 6 hours, cumulatively, per year.

*Estimated Annual Labor Cost:* \$10,600.

It is not possible to calculate precisely the labor costs associated with this data production, as they entail varying compensation levels of management and/or support staff among companies of different sizes. The estimate assumes that personnel with technical training will handle most of the tasks involved in the data collection process, although legal personnel will likely be involved in preparing the actual submission to the Commission. Staff has applied an average hourly wage of \$100/hour for the combined labor classifications. Thus, estimated total labor costs for up to 10 information requests is \$10,600 per year (derived from \$100/hour × 106 annual hours).

*Estimated Capital or Other Non-Labor Cost:* De minimis.

#### *Request for Comment*

Your comment—including your name and your state—will be placed on the public record of this proceeding. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for making sure that your comment does not include any sensitive personal information, such as anyone's Social Security number; date of birth; driver's license number or other state identification number, or foreign country equivalent; passport number; financial account number; or credit or debit card number. You are also solely responsible for making sure that your comment does not include any sensitive health information, such as medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, your comment should not include any "trade secret or any commercial or financial information which . . . is privileged or confidential"—as provided by Section 6(f) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and FTC Rule 4.10(a)(2), 16 CFR 4.10(a)(2)—including in particular competitively sensitive information such as costs, sales statistics, inventories, formulas,

patterns, devices, manufacturing processes, or customer names.

**Josephine Liu,**

*Assistant General Counsel for Legal Counsel.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry**

**[30Day-21-0051]**

### **Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review**

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) has submitted the information collection request titled "Assessment of Chemical Exposures (ACE) Investigations" to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. ATSDR previously published a "Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations" notice on 02/24/2021 to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. ATSDR received no comments related to the previous notice. This notice serves to allow an additional 30 days for public and affected agency comments.

ATSDR will accept all comments for this proposed information collection project. The Office of Management and Budget is particularly interested in comments that:

(a) 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;

(b) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(d) 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; and

(e) Assess information collection costs.

To request additional information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy

of the information collection plan and instruments, call (404) 639-7570. Comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function. Direct written comments and/or suggestions regarding the items contained in this notice to the Attention: CDC Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503 or by fax to (202) 395-5806. Provide written comments within 30 days of notice publication.

### **Proposed Project**

Assessment of Chemical Exposures (ACE) Investigations (OMB Control No. 0923-0051, Exp. 02/28/2021)—Reinstatement with Change—Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).

### **Background and Brief Description**

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is requesting a three-year Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) clearance for the generic clearance information collection request (Generic ICR) titled "Assessment of Chemical Exposures (ACE) Investigations" (OMB Control No. 0923-0051; Exp. Date 02/28/2021). This request is a Reinstatement with Change.

ATSDR conducts ACE Investigations to assist state and local health departments after acute environmental incidents. ATSDR has successfully completed five investigations to date using this valuable mechanism, and would like to continue these impactful information collections. A summary of recent information collections approved under this tool includes the following:

- During 2015, in U.S. Virgin Islands there was a methyl bromide exposure incident at a condominium resort severely injuring a family and causing symptoms in the first responders to the incident. ATSDR interviewed all potentially exposed persons who stayed or worked at the resort to look for signs of exposure. Under this ACE investigation, ATSDR raised awareness among pest control companies that methyl bromide is currently prohibited in homes and other residential settings. Additionally, ATSDR raised awareness among clinicians about the toxicologic syndrome caused by exposure to methyl bromide and the importance of notifying first responders immediately when they have encountered contaminated patients.

• During 2016, the ACE Team conducted a rash investigation in Flint, Michigan. Persons who were exposed to Flint municipal water and had current or worsening rashes were surveyed and referred to free dermatologist screening if desired. Findings revealed that when the city was using water from the Flint River, there were large swings in chlorine, pH, and hardness, which could be one possible explanation for the eczema-related rashes.

• During 2016, the ACE Team also conducted a follow-up investigation for people who were referred to a dermatologist in the first Flint investigation. The follow-up interviews resulted in improvements in medical exam and referral processes that were still on-going at the time.

The ACE Investigations have focused on performing rapid epidemiological assessments to assist state, regional, local, or tribal health departments (the requesting agencies) to respond to, or prepare for acute chemical releases. The main objectives for performing these rapid assessments are to:

• Characterize exposure and acute health effects of the affected community to inform health officials and the community;

• Identify needs (*i.e.*, medical, mental health, and basic) of those exposed during the incidents to aid in planning interventions in the community;

• Determine the sequence of events responsible for the incident so that actions can be taken to prevent future incidents;

• Assess the impact of the incidents on the emergency response and health services use and share lessons learned for use in hospital, local, and state planning for environmental incidents; and

• Identify cohorts that may be followed and assessed for persistent health effects resulting from environmental releases.

Because each incident is different, it is not possible to predict in advance exactly what type of, or how many respondents will be consented and interviewed to effectively evaluate the incident. Respondents typically include,

but are not limited to, emergency responders such as police, fire, hazardous material technicians, emergency medical services, and personnel at hospitals where patients from the incident were treated. Incidents may occur at businesses or in the community setting; therefore, respondents may also include business owners, managers, workers, customers, community residents, and those passing through the affected area.

The multidisciplinary ACE Team consisting of staff from ATSDR, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the requesting agencies will be collecting data. ATSDR has developed a series of draft survey forms to be quickly tailored in the field to meet the goals of the investigation. ATSDR collections will be administered based on time permitted and urgency. For example, it is preferable to administer the General Survey to as many respondents as possible. However, if there are time constraints, the shorter Household Survey or the Epidemiologic Contact Assessment Symptom Exposure (Epi CASE) Survey (proposed to replace the former ACE Short Form), may be administered instead. The individual surveys collect information about exposure, acute health effects, health services use, medical history, needs resulting from the incident, communication during the release, health impact on children, and demographic data. Hospital personnel are asked about the surge, response and communication, decontamination, and lessons learned.

Depending on the situation, data can be collected by face-to-face interviews, telephone interviews, written surveys, mailed surveys, or on-line surveys.

Medical charts may also be reviewed. In rare situations, an investigation might involve collection of clinical specimens.

ATSDR is proposing to increase the utility of this Generic ICR in response to stakeholder requests. We would like to expand the ACE toolkit to be more inclusive of other types of environmental incidents affecting the community which fall under ATSDR's

mandate and, at times, the mandates of our partners in the CDC's National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) and the National Center for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). In addition to acute chemical releases, we propose to include radiological and nuclear incidents, explosions, natural disasters, and other environmental incidents.

We propose revisions to select information collection forms, which will be deployed using handheld devices whenever possible to reduce burden, and to adjust the number of responses and time per response for several forms. A new brief Eligibility Screener (1,000 responses per year; 33 hours) will be added prior to administering consent for our General and Household Surveys. The Epi CASE Survey replaces the ACE Short Form, which has been modified for the expanded scope of eligible incidents requested (1,000 responses per year; 250 hours). To reduce time burden, there will be new field data entry screens and deletion of unused questions for the General Survey (800 responses per year; 373 hours), the Household Survey (120 responses per year; 20 hours) and for the Hospital Survey (40 responses per year; 17 hours). There will be two optional short Mental Health Screeners added to the General Survey. One screener measures both acute stress disorder and major depressive disorder, and the other one is strictly focused on generalized anxiety disorder. We are retaining the Medical Chart Abstraction Form (250 responses per year; 125 hours) but are removing the Veterinary Chart Abstraction Form as it has not been used in the past.

ATSDR anticipates up to four ACE investigations per year. We are requesting approval for 3,210 annual responses (increase of 1,920 responses per year) and for 818 annual hours (increase of 227 hours per year). Participation in ACE investigations is voluntary and there are no anticipated costs to respondents other than their time.

#### ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Type of respondents	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)
Residents, first responders, business owners, employees, customers.	Eligibility Screener .....	1,000	1	2/60
	Epi CASE Survey .....	1,000	1	15/60
	General Survey .....	800	1	28/60
Residents .....	Household Survey .....	120	1	10/60
Hospital staff .....	Hospital Survey .....	40	1	25/60

## ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS—Continued

Type of respondents	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)
Staff from state, local, or tribal health agencies.	Medical Chart Abstraction Form .....	25	10	30/60

**Jeffrey M. Zirger,**

*Lead, Information Collection Review Office,  
Office of Scientific Integrity, Office of Science,  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60Day–21–0572; Docket No. CDC–2021–0052]

### Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

**AGENCY:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice with comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce public burden and maximize the utility of government information, invites the general public and other Federal agencies the opportunity to comment on a proposed and/or continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This notice invites comment on a proposed information collection project titled Health Message Testing System (HMTS). The Health Message Testing System (HMTS), a generic information collection, enables programs across CDC to collect the information they require regarding testing of messages in a timely manner.

**DATES:** CDC must receive written comments on or before July 26, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CDC–2021–0052 by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* *Regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail:* Jeffrey M. Zirger, Information Collection Review Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS–D74, Atlanta, Georgia 30329.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and

Docket Number. CDC will post, without change, all relevant comments to *Regulations.gov*.

*Please note: Submit all comments through the Federal eRulemaking portal (regulations.gov) or by U.S. mail to the address listed above.*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the information collection plan and instruments, contact Jeffrey M. Zirger, Information Collection Review Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS–D74, Atlanta, Georgia 30329; phone: 404–639–7118; Email: *omb@cdc.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. In addition, the PRA also requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each new proposed collection, each proposed extension of existing collection of information, and each reinstatement of previously approved information collection before submitting the collection to the OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, we are publishing this notice of a proposed data collection as described below.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments that will help:

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 estimate 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 submissions of responses; and

5. Assess information collection costs.

### Proposed Project

*Health Message Testing System (HMTS) (OMB Control No. 0920–0572, Exp. 8/31/2021)—Extension—Office of the Associate Director for Communication (OADC), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*

### Background and Brief Description

Before CDC disseminates a health message to the public, the message always undergoes scientific review. However, even though the message is based on sound scientific content, there is no guarantee that the public will understand a health message or that the message will move people to take recommended action. Communication theorists and researchers agree that for health messages to be as clear and influential as possible, target audience members or representatives must be involved in developing the messages, and provisional versions of the messages must be tested with members of the target audience.

However, increasingly there are circumstances when CDC must move swiftly to protect life, prevent disease, or calm public anxiety. Health message testing is even more important in these instances, because of the critical nature of the information need.

In the interest of timely health message dissemination, many programs forgo the important step of testing messages on dimensions such as clarity, salience, appeal, and persuasiveness (i.e., the ability to influence behavioral intention). Skipping this step avoids the delay involved in the standard OMB review process, but at a high potential cost. Untested messages can waste communication resources and opportunities because the messages can be perceived as unclear or irrelevant. Untested messages can also have unintended consequences, such as jeopardizing the credibility of Federal health officials.

The Health Message Testing System (HMTS), a generic information