

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC website (www.ferc.fed.us) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-12469 Filed 5-17-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6702-6]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Questionnaire for Nominees for the Annual National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program (National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards Program)

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 EPA is planning to submit the following continuing Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Questionnaire for the Annual National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program (National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards Program) EPA ICR Number 1287.05, and OMB Control Number 2040-0101, approved through December 31, 2000. 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 July 17, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Office of Water, Office of Wastewater Management, Municipal Support Division, Municipal Assistance Branch, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maria E. Campbell, 202-260-5815/Fax Number 202-260-0116/e-mail at campbell.maria@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are public wastewater treatment plants, municipalities, industries, universities, manufacturing sites, and States.

Title: Questionnaire for Nominees for the Annual National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program (National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards Program) (OMB Control No. 2040-0101, EPA ICR No. 1287.05) expires 12/31/00.

Abstract: This ICR requests re-approval to collect data from EPA's National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards nominees. The awards are for the following program categories: Operations and Maintenance (O&M), Beneficial Use of Biosolids (Biosolids), Combined Sewer Overflow Controls (CSO), and Storm Water (SW) Management.

Note: Information collection approval for the Pretreatment awards program is included in the National Pretreatment Program ICR (OMB Control No. 2040-0009, EPA ICR No. 0003.08), approved through May 31, 2000. The National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program is managed by EPA's Office of Wastewater Management (OWM). The Awards Program is authorized under section 501(e) of the Clean Water Act, as amended. The Awards Program is intended to provide recognition to communities and industries which have demonstrated outstanding technological achievements, innovative processes, devices or other outstanding methods in their waste treatment and pollution abatement programs. Approximately 50 awards are presented annually. The achievements of these award winners are summarized in reports, news articles, national publications, and **Federal Register** Notice.

The information is collected from approximately 200 respondents at a total cost of \$79,200 per year and 2800 burden hours, including \$46,000 and 1600 burden hours for the respondents' time, and \$33,200 and 1200 burden hours for the States' review time. Submission of information on behalf of the respondents is voluntary. No

confidential information is requested. The Agency only collects information from award nominees under 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. Based on the data collection, national panels will evaluate the nominees' efforts and recommend finalists. The collections will be used by the respective awards programs to evaluate and determine which abatement achievements should be recognized.

As currently structured, the O&M awards program has nine categories which recognize municipal achievements. The biosolids awards program has four categories which recognize municipal biosolids operations, technology and research achievements, and public acceptance; the CSO awards program has one category which recognizes municipal programs; and the SW awards program has two categories which recognize municipal and industrial programs. All nominees are screened for environmental compliance by the States and EPA. Municipalities and institutions desiring to be considered for National awards voluntarily complete the questionnaires and provide design and operating information about their facility or programs. The award nominations are reviewed by State/Regional officials prior to forwarding them for National award consideration. At the National level, award reviews involve Federal officials and review panels comprised of representatives of EPA, State water pollution control agencies, and affiliated associations.

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.

Respondents: Officials at public wastewater treatment plants,

municipalities, industries, universities, States and manufacturing sites.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200.

Estimated Number of Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Frequency of Collection: Once a year.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2800 hours (1600 hours for the response time and 1200 hours for the States' review time).

Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide information to EPA. This estimate includes the time needed to review instructions, collect, validate, and verify information; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit the information to EPA.

Dated: May 2, 2000.

Michael B. Cook,

Director, Office of Wastewater Management.

[FR Doc. 00-12523 Filed 5-17-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6702-2]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Performance Track Program Level One: The 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 the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Performance Track Program Level One: The Environmental Achievement Track, ICR Number 1949.01. 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 June 19, 2000.

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@epamail.epa.gov or

download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No.1949.01. For technical questions about the ICR contact Ken Munis, at 202-260-9560.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Performance Track Program Level One: The Environmental Achievement Track, EPA ICR No. 1949.01. This is a new collection.

Abstract: The Environmental Protection Agency is developing a national Performance Track Program. In the July, 1999 report, "Aiming for Excellence: Actions to Encourage Stewardship and Accelerate Environmental Progress," the Agency committed to developing a Performance Track Program to reward and motivate top 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, such as 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 EMS, history of compliance with EPA regulations, commitment to continuous environmental performance improvement, and commitment to public outreach and performance reporting. Upon acceptance to the Environmental Achievement Track, participants will be required to make environmental performance reports accessible to the public.

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 3/02/2000 (65 FR 11305); no comments were received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and record keeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 252 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: Various Industries

Estimated Number of Respondents: 250.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 50,450 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Capital, O&M Cost Burden: 0

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 automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 1949.01 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Information, Collection Strategies Division (2822), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20460;

and

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: May 11, 2000.

Oscar Morales,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

[FR Doc. 00-12518 Filed 5-17-00; 8:45 am]

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