

recipient must provide details of the budget action and the comparative fiscal impacts on all the jurisdiction's executive branch agencies, and the recipient's air program. The recipient needs to identify any executive branch agencies or programs that should be excepted from comparison and explain why. The recipient must provide evidence that the air program is not being singled out for a reduction or being disproportionately reduced. Documentation in key areas is needed including budget data specific to the recipient's air program, and comparative budget data between the recipient's air program, the agency containing the air program, and the other executive branch agencies. The EPA may also request information from the recipient about how impacts on its program operations will affect its ability to meet its CAA obligations and requirements, and documentation that explains the cause of the reduction, such as legislative changes or the issuance of a new executive order.

In FY 2021, the EPA awarded the VCAPCD \$1,106,518, which represented approximately 10% of the VCAPCD budget. In FY2022, the EPA intends to award the VCAPCD \$1,115,038, which represents approximately 12% of the VCAPCD budget.

VCAPCD's final federal financial report for FY2020 indicated that VCAPCD's MOE level was \$6,055,144. VCAPCD's final federal financial report for FY2021 indicates that VCAPCD's expenditure on recurrent activities is \$5,620,253. That level of expenditure is not sufficient to meet the MOE requirements for FY2021 under section 105 because it is not equal to or greater than the MOE for the previous fiscal year.

In order for the VCAPCD to be eligible to receive its FY2022 CAA section 105 grant, the EPA must make a determination (after notice and an opportunity for a public hearing) that the reduction in expenditures from 2020 to 2021 is attributable to a non-selective reduction in the expenditures in the programs of the VCAPCD.

The VCAPCD is a single-purpose air pollution control agency. It is the unit of government for CAA section 105(c)(2) purposes.

On February 7, 2022, the VCAPCD submitted a request to the EPA seeking a reduction for the required MOE for FY2021. The District provided supplemental information pertaining to its request on June 1, 2022. The VCAPCD explained that it was unable to meet its MOE requirement due to a decrease in reoccurring services and supplies expenses, particularly rent

payments. VCAPCD was renting office space up until mid-2021 when they moved into a building they purchased to serve as their permanent office space. In FY2020 the District paid \$626,800 in rent as a recurring cost. In FY2021, the District paid six months of rent, or \$259,754, and categorized the cost as nonrecurring. Since moving into the new offices the District no longer pays rent and the decrease in expenditure significantly impacts VCAPCD's MOE from previous years. Additionally, the District experienced significant payroll changes impacting its overall budget. In FY2021 VCAPCD approved a general salary increase for all employees. Other changes included senior level employees retiring, with some positions filled by entry level staff at lower starting salaries, and other positions remaining vacant due to the conditions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Lastly, many services and supplies were postponed or reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Travel for conferences, trainings, and seminars were cancelled, held virtually, or postponed.

The EPA proposes to find that the request for a reset of VCAPCD's MOE meets the requirements for a non-selective reduction under CAA section 105. The VCAPCD's reduction in rent as a recurrent expenditure, the inability to fill vacant positions created by retirements, and a significant cut back on expenditures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic contributed to the reduction in expenditures.

The EPA proposes that the MOE for VCAPCD's FY2021 CAA section 105 grant be reduced to \$5,520,253 to address the non-selective reduction of recurrent expenditures discussed above.

This notice constitutes a request for public comment and an opportunity for public hearing as required by the CAA. All written substantive comments received by August 25, 2022 on this proposal will be considered. The EPA will conduct a public hearing on this proposal only if a written request for such is received by the EPA by August 25, 2022. If no written request for a hearing is received or if the EPA determines that the issues raised are insubstantial, the EPA will proceed to the final action to award the fiscal year 2022 grant to VCAPCD.

Dated: July 20, 2022.

**Elizabeth Adams,**

*Director, Air and Radiation Division, Region IX.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-SFUND-2004-0008; FRL-9754-01-OLEM]

### Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Consolidated Superfund Information Collection Request

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), "Consolidated Superfund Information Collection Request" (EPA ICR No. 1487.14, OMB Control No. 2050-0179) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through March 31, 2023. 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.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before September 26, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-SFUND-2004-0008, online using [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (our preferred method) or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460.

EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Yolanda Singer, Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation, Assessment and Remediation Division, (5204T), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202-506-1045; email address: [singer.yolanda@epa.gov](mailto:singer.yolanda@epa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Supporting documents which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting are available in the public

docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or in person at the EPA Docket Center, WJC West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202-566-1744. For additional information about EPA's public docket, visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments and information to enable it 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. EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval. At that time, EPA will issue another **Federal Register** notice to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB.

**Abstract:** This ICR covers the following: (1) the collection of information under 40 CFR part 35, subpart O, which establishes the administrative requirements for cooperative agreements funded under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) for state, federally-recognized Indian tribal governments, and political subdivision response actions; (2) the application of the Hazard Ranking System (HRS) by states as outlined by CERCLA section 105 that amends the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) to include criteria prioritizing releases throughout the United States before undertaking remedial action at uncontrolled hazardous waste sites; and (3) the remedial portion of the Superfund program as specified in CERCLA and the NCP. For cooperative agreements and Superfund state contracts for Superfund response actions, the information is collected from applicants and/or recipients of EPA assistance and is used to make

awards, pay recipients, and collect information on how federal funds are being utilized. EPA requires this information to meet its federal stewardship responsibilities. Recipient responses are required to obtain a benefit (federal funds) under 2 CFR part 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards to Non-Federal Entities" and under 40 CFR part 35, "State and Local Assistance." For the Superfund site evaluation and the Hazard Ranking System, the states will apply the HRS by identifying and classifying those releases or sites that warrant further investigation. The HRS score is crucial since it is the primary mechanism used to determine whether a site is eligible to be included on the National Priorities List (NPL). Only sites on the NPL are eligible for Superfund-financed remedial actions. For the NCP information collection, some community involvement activities covered by this ICR are not required at every site (e.g., Technical Assistance Grants) and depend very much on the community and the nature of the site and cleanup. All community activities seek to involve the public in the cleanup of the sites, gain the input of community members, and include the community's perspective on the potential future reuse of Superfund NPL sites. Community involvement activities can enhance the remedial process and increase community acceptance and the potential for productive and beneficial reuse of the sites.

**Form Numbers:** 6200-11.

**Respondents/affected entities:** State, Local or Tribal Governments; U.S. Territories; Communities.

**Respondent's obligation to respond:** Required to obtain benefits (40 CFR part 35; CERCLA section 105, 40 CFR part 300).

**Estimated number of respondents:** 13,182 (total).

**Frequency of response:** Annually.

**Total estimated burden:** 196,557 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b).

**Total estimated cost:** \$463,497 (per year), includes \$0 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

**Changes in estimates:** There is no change in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. This is because there was no current change in program requirements. EPA expects estimates to likely rise due to an increase in the respondent universe as a result of increased funding from the

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 117-58).

**Brigid Lowery,**

*Division Director, Assessment and Remediation Division, Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0401; FRL-9786-01-R9]

### Clean Air Act Grant; Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District; Opportunity for Public Hearing

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Proposed action; determination with request for comments and notice of opportunity for public hearing.

**SUMMARY:** The EPA is proposing to determine that the reduction in expenditures of non-Federal funds for the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (SBCAPCD) in support of its continuing air program under section 105 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) for the calendar year 2021 is a result of non-selective reductions in expenditures. This determination, when final, will permit the SBCAPCD to receive grant funding for fiscal year (FY) 2022 from the EPA, under section 105 of the CAA.

**DATES:** Comments and/or requests for a public hearing must be received by the EPA at the address stated below on or before August 25, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0401 at <https://www.regulations.gov>. For comments submitted at [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov). The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Please do not submit any information you consider to be Proprietary Business Information (PBI) or Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (e.g., on the web,