ACTION: Notice of Availability of Final NPDES General Permits MA0370000 And NHG070000.

SUMMARY: The Director of the Office of Ecosystem Protection, EPA-New England, is providing a notice of availability of final National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permits for dewatering activity discharges to certain waters of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of New Hampshire. These General Permits replace the Dewatering General Permits (DGP), which expired on September 30, 2013.

DATES: The DGP will be effective May 20, 2015 and will expire five years from the effective date. In accordance with 40 CFR part 23, this permit shall be considered issued for the purpose of judicial review on May 4, 2015. Under section 509(b) of the Clean Water Act, judicial review can be had by filing a petition for review in the United States Court of Appeals within 120 days after the permit is considered issued for purposes of judicial review. Under section 509(b)(2) of the Clean Water Act, the requirements in this permit may not be challenged later in civil or criminal proceedings to enforce these requirements. In addition, this permit may not be challenged in other agency proceedings.

ADDRESSES: The required notice of intent (NOI) information to obtain permit coverage is provided in the DGP. This information shall be submitted to EPA. NOIs may be submitted electronically or via mail at the addresses provided below:

(1) Email: GeneralPermit.Dewatering@epa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Additional information concerning the final General Permits may be obtained between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, from Victor Alvarez, Office of Ecosystem Protection, 5 Post Office Square—Suite 100, Boston, MA 02109–3912; telephone: 617–918–1572; email: alvarez.victor@epa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA is reissuing two general permits for the discharge of uncontaminated water from construction dewatering intrusion and/or stormwater accumulation from sites that disturb less than one acre of land and short and long term dewatering of foundation sumps. While the final general permits are two distinct permits, for convenience, EPA has grouped them together in a single document and has provided a single fact sheet for the two draft general permits. This document refers to the final general “permit” in the singular. The final general permit, appendices and fact sheet are available at: http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/dewatering.html.

The General Permit establishes Notice of Intent (NOI) requirements, effluent limitations, standards, prohibitions, and management practices for facilities with construction dewatering of ground water intrusion and/or storm water accumulation from sites less than one acre and short- and long-term dewatering of foundation sumps.

The draft permit includes effluent limitations based on best professional judgment (BPJ) and water quality considerations. When EPA has not promulgated effluent limitations for a category of discharges, or if an operator discharges a pollutant not covered by an effluent limitation guideline, effluent limitations may be based on the BPJ of the agency or permit writer. The BPJ limits in the general permit are in the form of non-numeric control measures, commonly referred to as best management practices (BMPs). The effluent limits established in the draft permit assures that the surface water quality standards of the receiving water are protected, maintained and/or attained. Discharges that contain pollutants in quantities which represent reasonable potential to cause or contribute to violations of water quality standards will not be granted coverage under this general permit. Those dischargers must either apply for an individual permit or seek coverage under EPA’s Remediation General Permit.

Other Legal Requirements

Endangered Species Act (ESA)

The ESA provisions have been updated from the 2008 general permit and new species of concern have been added. EPA has received concurrence from U.S Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service in connection with this final permit.

Authority: This action is being taken under the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq. Dated: March 31, 2015.
H. Curtis Spalding, Regional Administrator.

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BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENvironmental Protection Agency


INformation Collection Request

Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Lead; Clearance and Clearance Testing Requirements for the Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program (Renewal)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has submitted a new information collection request (ICR), “Lead; Clearance and Clearance Testing Requirements for the Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program” (EPA ICR No. 2381.03, OMB Control No. 2070–0181) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through April 30, 2015. Public comments were previously requested via the Federal Register (79 FR 78084) on December 29, 2014, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. A full description of the ICR is given below, including its estimated burden and cost 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.

DATES: Additional comments may be submitted on or before May 20, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID Number EPA–HQ–OPPT–2014–0486, to (1) EPA online using http://www.regulations.gov (our preferred method), by email to oppt.nic@epa.gov, or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460, and (2) OMB via email to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov. Address comments to OMB Desk Officer for EPA.

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: Colby Lintner, Environmental Protection Agency.
SUMMARY: In accordance with section 113(g) of the Clean Air Act, as amended, (“CAA” or the “Act”), notice is hereby given of a proposed consent decree to address a lawsuit filed by American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers and American Petroleum Institute (collectively “Plaintiffs”): American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers, et al. v. EPA, No. 1:15-cv-394 (D. DC). In this lawsuit, Plaintiffs allege that EPA has failed to meet the CAA requirement that the Agency establish renewable fuel obligations applicable to calendar years 2014 and 2015. They also allege that EPA failed to timely approve or disapprove Plaintiffs’ petition requesting that EPA waive in part the CAA applicable volumes of renewable fuel for calendar year 2014. The proposed consent decree establishes deadlines for EPA to take proposed and final action regarding renewable fuel obligations for 2015, a deadline for EPA to take final action regarding renewable fuel obligations for 2014 and a deadline for EPA to approve or disapprove Plaintiffs’ petition seeking a partial waiver of CAA renewable fuel applicable volumes for 2014.

DATES: Written comments on the proposed consent decree must be received by May 20, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID number EPA–HQ–OGC–2015–0261, online at www.regulations.gov (EPA’s preferred method); by email to oei.docket@epa.gov; by mail to EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mailcode: 2822T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460–0001; or by hand delivery or courier to EPA Docket Center, EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW., Washington, DC, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. Comments on a disk or CD–ROM should be formatted in Word or ASCII file, avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption, and may be mailed to the mailing address above.

I. Additional Information About the Proposed Consent Decree

The proposed consent decree would resolve the lawsuit filed by Plaintiffs by establishing that EPA must take proposed action by June 1, 2015 and final action by November 30, 2015 to address renewable fuel obligations under CAA 211(o) for calendar year 2015. In addition, the proposed decree would establish that EPA must take final action by November 30, 2015 to address renewable fuel obligations for calendar year 2014 and to approve or disapprove Plaintiffs’ petition seeking a partial waiver of renewable fuel applicable volumes set forth in CAA 211(o)(2) for calendar year 2014. See the proposed consent decree for the specific details.

For a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this notice, the Agency will accept written comments relating to the proposed consent decree from persons who were not named as parties or intervenors to the litigation in question. EPA or the Department of Justice may withdraw or withhold consent to the proposed consent decree if the comments disclose facts or considerations that indicate that such consent is inappropriate, improper, inadequate, or inconsistent with the requirements of the Act. Unless EPA or the Department of Justice determines that consent to this consent decree should be withdrawn, the terms of the decree will be affirmed.

II. Additional Information About Commenting on the Proposed Consent Decree

A. How can I get a copy of the consent decree?

The official public docket for this action (identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OGC–2015–0261) contains a