ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Performance Evaluation Studies on Wastewater Laboratories (Renewal);
EPA ICR No. 0234.12, OMB Control No. 2080–0021

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), “Performance Evaluation Studies on Wastewater Laboratories” (EPA ICR No. 0234.12, OMB Control No. 2080–0021) 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.). 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, 2017. 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 6, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OECA–2013–0547, online using www.regulations.gov (our preferred method), by email to docket.oeca@epa.gov, 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: Brian Krausz, Monitoring, Assistance, and Media Programs Division, Office of Compliance, (2227A), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564–0038; fax number: (202) 564–0038; email address: Krausz.Brian@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 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 http://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: Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance (DMR–QA) study program participation is mandatory for major and selected minor National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit holders in accordance with Clean Water Act Section 308. The DMR–QA study program is designed to evaluate the analytic ability of laboratories that perform chemical, microbiological and whole effluent toxicity (WET) analyses required in NPDES permits for reporting results in the Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR). Under DMR–QA, the permit holder is responsible for having their in-house and/or contract laboratories perform proficiency test samples, and submit results for grading to proficiency testing (PT) providers. Graded results are transmitted by either the permittee or PT provider to the appropriate federal or state NPDES regulatory authority. Permit holders are responsible for submitting corrective action reports to the appropriate regulatory authority.

Form Numbers: 6400–01.

Respondents/affected entities: Major and selected minor permit holders under the Clean Water Act’s National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

Respondent’s obligation to respond: Mandatory under Clean Water Act Section 308(a).

Estimated number of respondents: 5,700 (total).

Frequency of response: Major permit holders must participate annually. Minor permit holders must participate if selected by the state or EPA DMR–QA coordinator.

Total estimated burden: 37,620 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b).

Total estimated cost: $4,378,968 (per year), includes $2,459,037 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

Changes in estimates: There will be an approximate increase of 1,261 hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. This is due to increased discretionary selection of NPDES minor permit holders for DMR–QA participation in the most recent year. Labor costs will be revised upward to take into account changes in employee benefit compensation costs and inflation. Non-labor costs for obtaining proficiency test samples will also likely increase.
Dated: June 23, 2016.

Edward J. Messina,
Director, Monitoring, Assistance, and Media Programs Division/OECA.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
ADDRESSES:
[45x327]ADDRESSES:
DATES:
ACTION:
AGENCY:
Comment Period
Registration Review; Draft Ecological Risk Assessments; Extension of Comment Period
AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
ACTION: Notice; extension of comment period.
SUMMARY: EPA issued a notice in the Federal Register of June 6, 2016, concerning opening a comment period for the draft ecological risk assessments of atrazine, simazine, and propazine. This document extends the comment period for 60 days, from August 5, 2016, to October 4, 2016. This comment period is being extended in response to a number of extension requests from various stakeholders citing difficulty commenting during the growing season, and the length, quantity, and complexity of the Risk Assessments.
DATES: Comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPP–2015–0794, must be received on or before October 4, 2016.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Dumas, Pesticide Re-Evaluation Division (7508P), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460–0001; telephone number: (703) 308–8015; email address: dumas.richard@epa.gov.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document extends the public comment period established in the Federal Register document of June 6, 2016. In that document, EPA opened a comment period for a draft ecological risk assessments for the registration review of atrazine, simazine, and propazine. EPA is hereby extending the comment period, which was set to end on August 5, 2016, to October 4, 2016.
To submit comments, or access the docket, please follow the detailed instructions provided under ADDRESSES in the Federal Register document of June 6, 2016. If you have questions, consult the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.
Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.
Dated: June 27, 2016.
Yu-Ting Guilaran,
Director, Pesticide Re-Evaluation, Office of Pesticide Programs.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
[45x63]ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
[45x70]Proposed Consent Decree, Clean Air Act Citizen Suit
AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
ACTION: Notice of proposed consent decree; request for public comment.
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 Appleton Coated, LLC (Appleton or Plaintiff), in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin: Appleton Coated, LLC v. McCarthy, Civil Action No. 1:16–cv–272 (E.D. Wis.). On March 7, 2016, Plaintiff filed a complaint alleging that Gina McCarthy, in her official capacity as Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”), failed to perform a nondiscretionary duty to grant or deny within 60 days a petition submitted by Plaintiff on November 19, 2013, requesting that EPA object to a CAA Title V permit issued by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to Appleton authorizing the operation of its facility located in Combined Locks, Wisconsin. The proposed consent decree would establish a deadline for EPA to take such action.
DATES: Written comments on the proposed consent decree must be received by August 5, 2016.
ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID number EPA–HQ–OGC–2016–0358, 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: 2282T, 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.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Conrad, Air and Radiation Law Office (2344A), Office of General Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone: (202) 564–0903; email address: conrad.daniel@epa.gov.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
I. Additional Information About the Proposed Consent Decree
The proposed consent decree would resolve a lawsuit filed by the Plaintiff seeking to compel the Administrator to take actions under CAA section 505(b)(2). Under the terms of the proposed consent decree, EPA would agree to sign its response granting or denying the petition filed by Plaintiff regarding its facility located in Combined Locks, Wisconsin pursuant to section 505(b)(2) of the CAA, on or before October 14, 2016.
Under the terms of the proposed consent decree, EPA would expeditiously deliver notice of EPA’s response to the Office of the Federal Register for review and publication following signature of such response. In addition, the proposed consent decree outlines the settlement in regard to Petitioners’ attorney fees.
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 are 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 consent 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–2016–0358) contains a copy of the proposed consent decree. The official public docket is available for public viewing at the Office of