SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency has submitted an information collection request (ICR), “EPA’s Voluntary Natural Gas STAR Methane Challenge Program” (EPA ICR No. 2547.01, OMB Control No. 2060–NEW) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. This is a request for approval of a new collection. Public comments were previously requested via the Federal Register (81 FR 90355) on December 14, 2016 during a 60-day comment period, and no comments were received. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. A fuller 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 14, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID Number EPA–HQ–OAR-2016–0731, to (1) EPA online using www.regulations.gov (our preferred method), by email to o-AND-R-Docket@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 which disclosure is restricted by statute.


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.

Abstract: The Natural Gas STAR Methane Challenge Program is a voluntary program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that provides an innovative voluntary mechanism through which oil and natural gas companies can make specific, ambitious commitments to reduce methane emissions. This Program is an integral part of the EPA’s ongoing commitment to address methane emissions and global climate change, and was developed through extensive stakeholder engagement and support from companies and trade organizations in the oil and gas industry. Methane is the primary component of natural gas and a potent greenhouse gas. The Program works to encourage oil and natural gas companies to go above and beyond existing regulatory action and make meaningful and transparent commitments to yield significant methane emissions reductions in a quick, flexible, cost-effective way. Transparency in comprehensively tracking company commitments through the non-confidential data reported by Methane Challenge partners is a key feature of the Program, and enables partners to highlight emissions reductions achieved through voluntary action taken. Implementation of the Methane Challenge Program’s two commitment options, the Best Management Practice Commitment and the ONE Future Emissions Intensity Commitment, improves operational efficiency, saves partner companies money, and enhances the protection of the environment.

Forms: Methane Challenge Program partners are required to sign and submit to EPA a Partnership Agreement (PA) that describes the terms of participation in the Program. The PA forms covered under this ICR include: Methane Challenge Program Partnership Agreement—Best Management Practice Commitment, and Methane Challenge Program Partnership Agreement—ONE Future Commitment. Partners must complete and submit a Methane Challenge Implementation Plan within six months of signing the MOU. The Implementation Plan forms covered under this ICR include: Methane Challenge Program Implementation Plan Template—BMP Commitment; and, Methane Challenge Program Implementation Plan Template—ONE Future Commitment. After one full calendar year of participation in the Program, EPA requires partners to submit a specific set of data documenting the previous year’s methane emissions, activity data, and reduction activities. The annual reporting forms covered under this ICR include: Best Management Practice Commitment Reporting Forms. The annual reporting forms for the ONE Future Commitment Option are to be developed but will follow the requirements set forth in the following document, available on the program website: Supplemental Technical Information for ONE Future Commitment Option. Upon becoming a partner in the Methane Challenge Program, companies are given an opportunity to draft and submit a Historical Actions Fact Sheet, which provides information on historical methane reduction actions taken prior to joining Methane Challenge. A two-page fact sheet template is made available to partner companies and allows entry of up to five key methane mitigation activities, including text, photos, and graphics. Submitting this document is not a requirement of the Methane Challenge Program partnership. The fact sheet covered under this ICR is: Historical Actions Fact Sheet Template.

Respondents/affected entities: The Natural Gas STAR Methane Challenge Program is open to companies in the oil production, and production, gathering and boosting, processing, transmission and storage, and distribution segments of the natural gas industry.

Respondent’s obligation to respond: Voluntary.

Estimated number of respondents: 58 (total projected partners over the three-year ICR period).

Frequency of response: Annual.

Total estimated annual burden: 2,978 hours. Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.09(b).

Total estimated annual cost: $268,952, which includes $0 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

Courtney Kerwin,
Director, Regulatory Support Division.
[FR Doc. 2018–07542 Filed 4–11–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Environmental Modeling Public Meeting; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.
SUMMARY: An Environmental Modeling Public Meeting (EMPM) will be held on Wednesday, May 23, 2018. This Notice announces the location and time for the meeting and provides tentative agenda topics. The EMPM provides a public forum for EPA and its stakeholders to discuss current issues related to modeling pesticide fate, transport, and exposure for pesticide risk assessments in a regulatory context.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 23, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Requests to participate in the meeting must be received on or before April 23, 2018.

To request accommodation of a disability, please contact the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT, preferably at least 10 days prior to the meeting, to give EPA as much time as possible to process your request.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), One Potomac Yard (South Building), First Floor Conference Center (S–1200), 2777 S. Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rebecca Lazarus or Andrew Shelby, Environmental Fate and Effects Division (7507P), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001; telephone number: (703) 347–0520 and (703) 347–0119; fax number: (703) 305–0204; email address: lazarus.rebecca@epa.gov and shelby.andrew@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are required to conduct testing of chemical substances under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), or the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. The following list of North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide to help readers determine whether this document applies to them.Potentially affected entities may include:
- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting NAICS code 11.
- Utilities NAICS code 22.
- Professional, Scientific and Technical NAICS code 54.

B. How can I get copies of this document and other related information?

The docket for this action, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPP–2009–0879, is available at http://www.regulations.gov or at the Office of Pesticide Programs Regulatory Public Docket (OPP Docket) in the Environmental Protection Agency Docket Center (EPA/DC), West William Jefferson Clinton Bldg., Rm. 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566–1744, and the telephone number for the OPP Docket is (703) 305–5805. Please review the visitor instructions and additional information about the docket available at http://www.epa.gov/dockets.

II. Background

On a biannual interval, an EMPM is held for presentation and discussion of current issues related to modeling pesticide fate, transport, and exposure for risk assessment in a regulatory context. Meeting dates and abstract requests are announced through the “emplist” forum on the LYRIS list server at https://lists.epa.gov/read/all_forums/.

III. How can I request to participate in this meeting?

You may submit a request to participate in this meeting to the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT. Do not submit any information in your request that is considered CBI. Requests to participate in the meeting, identified by docket ID number EPA–HQ–OPP–2009–0879, must be received on or before April 23, 2018.

IV. Tentative Theme for the Meeting

Quantitative Use of Surface Water Monitoring Data: The 2018 Spring EMPM will provide a forum for presentations on methods for assessing pesticide monitoring data in surface waters. Potential topics include quantitative use of chemical surface water monitoring data in exposure/risk assessment, calibration of water quality models using surface water data, comparisons of chemical monitoring and modeling data, chemical removal efficacy of drinking water and sewage treatment and monitoring data for agricultural, urban, forestry and aquatic pesticide applications. Updates on ongoing topics will also be provided.

Dated: March 29, 2018.
Marietta Echeverria, Director, Environmental Fate and Effects Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Fast Track Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery

AGENCY: Office of Government Ethics (OGE).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of a Federal Government-wide effort to streamline the process to seek feedback from the public on service delivery, OGE seeks comment on the development of a Generic Information Collection Request for the collection of qualitative feedback on agency service delivery for approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act. This notice announces OGE’s intent to submit this collection to the Office of Management and Budget for approval and solicits comments on specific aspects for the proposed information collection.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by June 11, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted to OGE by any of the following methods:
- Email: usoge@oge.gov (Include reference to “Fast Track Generic Clearance comment” in the subject line of the message.)


Instructions: Comments may be posted on OGE’s website, www.oge.gov. Sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or Social Security numbers, should not be included. Comments generally will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: