

and 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-2113 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5681-7]

### Agency Information Proposed Collection; Comment Request; National Request for Information (RFI) for Vendor Information System for Innovative Treatment Technologies (VISITT) and Vendor Field Analytical and Characterization Technologies System (Vendor FACTS)

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): National Request for Information (RFI) for Vendor Information System for Innovative Treatment Technologies (VISITT) and Vendor Field Analytical and Characterization Technologies System (Vendor FACTS). The EPA ICR Number is 1583.02, OMB Control Number is 2050-0114 and current expiration date is July 31, 1997. 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 by April 4, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Technology Innovation Office (5102G), Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. Individuals interested in obtaining a copy of the ICR at no charge may send their requests to the above address or by calling (703) 603-9903.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Carl Ma by telephone at (703) 603-9903, by telefax at (703) 603-9135, or by E-mail at "ma.carl@epamail.epa.gov".

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Affected entities:** Entities potentially affected by this action are technology vendors who are interested in the voluntary participation in EPA's databases on innovative technologies for the clean-up, characterization and monitoring of hazardous waste sites.

**Title:** National Request for Information (RFI) for Vendor Information System for Innovative Treatment Technologies (VISITT) and Vendor Field Analytical and Characterization Technologies System (Vendor FACTS). The EPA ICR Number is 1583.02, OMB Control Number is 2050-0114 and current expiration date is July 31, 1997.

**Abstract:** As part of a broad effort to promote the routine consideration and use of more cost effective technologies by the Agency and others, the Technology Innovation Office created the VISITT and Vendor FACTS databases for the purpose of disseminating the latest information on technologies to clean-up, characterize, or monitor hazardous waste sites. Version 5.0 of VISITT contains information on 346 technologies to remediate soil and groundwater contaminated with hazardous wastes. Version 2.0 of Vendor FACTS contains approximately 129 technologies for field analytical and site characterization. These systems help technology vendors promote their technologies by providing readily available information to system users, such as site managers, on the options for site monitoring and clean-up. In addition, the systems provide a communication link between technology users and vendors. Each year, EPA invites vendors to participate in these databases on a voluntary basis and requests specific, non-confidential technology information for listing in the databases. EPA does not verify the accuracy of submitted data or claims made by vendors. 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. One of EPA's highest priorities has been to encourage the use of innovative technologies to speed-up the site remediation process and at the same time to reduce project costs. EPA is working toward these goals by providing the site managers with the necessary information to select

the most applicable and cost-effective technology for their sites. In order to obtain such critical information, once every year, EPA invites vendors to participate in the databases by submitting or updating information on new technologies as they emerge or become commercially available. Originally, EPA based the burden hours estimates for individual respondents on two non-statistical pre-tests designed to minimize the burden of potential respondents. In the first pre-test, non-respondent technical experts completed the Vendor Information Form (VIF), and in the second pre-test, vendors who participated in the workgroup to develop the system were asked to estimate the time it would take to complete the VIF. Several vendors based their time estimates on actual time required to fill out the form. To improve its estimates of respondent burden, EPA conducted a small survey of actual respondents. The revised estimates are now 25 hours and 13 hours respectively for an original VIF submittal and an VIF update. EPA is further trying to minimize respondent burden by providing an option to fill out and submit the VIF electronically.

**Burden Statement:** The following assumptions were made to estimate individual respondent burden:

- Participation in the databases is voluntary; therefore, some potential respondents will read the instructions for completing the VIF, and will choose not to respond.
- Participating new respondents will complete the entire VIF. EPA assumed that each new respondent will complete an average of two VIFs and current participants will submit two updated VIFs each year.

First-time respondents will take a maximum of 50 hours to complete the form for two technologies (or 25 hours per technology). This value is consistent with the maximum values obtained from our respondent survey. Respondents updating two previously submitted forms will require a total of 26 hours. Estimates are the same for VISITT and Vendor FACTS respondents. Based on current trend, the Agency expects, on average, 120 new respondents and 300 current respondents providing updates each year for the next three years beginning in 1997. The hourly rates for management, technical, and clerical staff have been increased by 5% from previous year to bring them in line with current contractor hourly rates. For 1997, the values are \$77 for management, \$46 for technical staff, and \$29 for clerical support. The Agency

assumes that rates will increase 5% each year thereafter due to inflation. 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.

Dated: January 8, 1997.

Walter W. Kovalick, Jr.,

*Director, Technology Innovation Office, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.*

[FR Doc. 97-2191 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

[OPP-00466; FRL-5584-8]

#### **FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel; Open Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** There will be a 2-day meeting of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) to review a set of scientific issues being considered by the Agency in connection with Standard Operating Procedures for Peer Reviews, Visual System Toxicity Testing of Organophosphates, Inhalation Risk Assessments and the Combining of Margin of Exposures, Toxicology Endpoint Selection Process, Common Mode/Mechanism of Action, and Aggregate Exposure Methodology Issues.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, March 19 and 20, 1997, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Written comments must be received on or before February 24, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at: Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, 1700 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. The telephone number for the hotel is: (703) 920-3230. By mail, submit written comments (one original and 20 copies) to: Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Environmental

Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, bring comments to: Rm. 1132, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data also may be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data also will be accepted on disks in WordPerfect in 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number "OPP-00466." No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail. Electronic comments may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** By mail: Larry C. Dorsey, Designated Federal Official, FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel (7509C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Office location, telephone number, and e-mail address: Rm. 819B, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, telephone: (703) 305-5369/7351, e-mail: dorsey.larry@epamail.epa.gov.

Copies of EPA documents may be obtained by contacting: Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460; Office location: Rm. 1132 Bay, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, Telephone: (703) 305-5805.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Any member of the public wishing to submit written comments should contact Larry C. Dorsey at the address or the telephone number given above. Interested persons are permitted to file written statements before the meeting. To the extent that time permits and upon advanced written request to the Designated Federal Official, interested persons may be permitted by the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Panel to present oral statements at the meeting. There is no limit on the length of written comments for consideration by the Panel, but oral statements before the Panel are limited to approximately 5 minutes. As oral statements only will be permitted as time permits, the Agency urges the public to submit written comments in lieu of oral presentations.

Persons wishing to make oral and/or written statements should notify the Designated Federal Official and submit 20 copies of the summary information no later than February 24, 1997, to ensure appropriate consideration by the Panel.

Information submitted as a comment in response to this notice may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as "Confidential Business Information" (CBI). Information marked CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. An edited copy of the comment that does not contain the CBI material must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public docket. All comments and materials received will be made part of the public record and will be considered by the Panel.

A public record has been established for this notice under docket control number "OPP-00466" (including comments and data submitted electronically). A public version of this record, including printed versions of electronic comments, which does not include information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in Rm. 1132 Bay of the Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

The official record for this notice, as well as the public version, as described above will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into printed, paper form as they are received and will place the paper copies in the official record which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing. The official record is the paper record maintained at the address in "ADDRESSES" at the beginning of this document.

Copies of the Panel's report of their recommendations will be available approximately 15 working days after the meeting and may be obtained by contacting the Public Response and Program Resources Branch, at the address or telephone number given above.