

be sent via e-mail to
bonner.patricia@epamail.epa.gov.

ADDRESSES: USEPA, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, OSPED/IO Mail Code 2161, 401 M Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandy Farmer at EPA, (202) 260-2740, and refer to EPA ICR No. 1711.02. The ICR may be accessed electronically via Internet [<http://www.epa.gov/oppe> on the World Wide Web], requested via fax at 202-260-4968, or by calling 202-260-0599.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Voluntary Customer Service Satisfaction Surveys, OMB Control No. 2090-0019, EPA ICR Number 1711.02, expiring 10/31/97. This is a request seeking renewal of a generic clearance for customer satisfaction surveys directed under Executive Order 12862 "Setting Customer Service Standards" (9/11/93).

Abstract: Within the Environmental Protection Agency, voluntary customer surveys are used to learn how customers perceive EPA's services, and whether the Agency is achieving its customer service standards. Surveys involve individuals who have used EPA services directly or could have obtained such services (e.g. people notified about [X] who did not respond). Information obtained from surveys has been and will be used to evaluate and improve service delivery. Surveys provide managers with information to help them take actions that will lead to improved service delivery and streamlined procedures. During the next three years, EPA nationwide plans up to 994 surveys. 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. The **Federal Register** Notice required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information, was published on 4/30/97 (62 FR 23446); no comments were received.

Burden Statement: Response time ranges from seconds to full day focus group sessions; the average annual public reporting and record keeping burden for this collection of information is 11 minutes per response. The Agency plans to use: minimal question/comment cards with narrow scope; longer comment sheets to evaluate training/conferences/workshops/events and publications; telephone interviews; in-person interviews; short and long

written (mail) surveys; focus groups; and Internet feedback screens. 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. Labor costs were estimated using the Bureau of Labor Statistics April 18, 1997, release of weekly earnings of wage and salary workers, using the median earnings reported (\$504/week).

Respondents/Affected Entities: Any person or entity that uses EPA services.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 83,469—FY 1998; 82,144—FY 1999; and 85,294—FY 2000.

Frequency of Response: Generally, 1 time. However, one survey will go to the same 75 individuals twice a year, each year, and individuals may select to reply more than one and many times to Internet screens.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 18,405—FY 1998; 14,014—FY 1999; and 14,824—FY 2000.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: FY 1998—\$231,903; FY 1999—\$176,576; FY 2000—\$186,783.

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including use of automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No.1711.02 and OMB Control No.2090-0019 in any correspondence. Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OPPE Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460 and

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: September 26, 1997.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.
[FR Doc. 97-26176 Filed 10-1-97; 8:45 am]
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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5901-9]

Asbestos NESHAP State Notification Procedures Change

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice to regulated community.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency, Region I Office, Boston, MA, has notified in writing the EPA—New England states of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut that effective October 1, 1997, all owners or operators of a demolition or renovation activity subject to the asbestos NESHAP and who provide written notification to the states 10-working days in advance of commencing with the renovation or demolition activity, will not have to provide similar notification to the EPA Administrator as required pursuant to 40 CFR 61.145(b). Important exceptions to the Federal and state notification procedures change are discussed below. In brief, such exceptions require regulated entities to continue to submit asbestos NESHAP notifications to the EPA for all demolitions involving asbestos below each respective State's regulatory threshold amount, including all demolitions believed to involve no asbestos.

Background

The asbestos National Emissions Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (asbestos NESHAP) was promulgated pursuant to section 112 of the 1990 Clean Air Act as Amended and is codified at 40 CFR, part 61, subpart M. Among other things, the asbestos NESHAP [40 CFR 61.145(b)] requires all owners or operators of a demolition or renovation (demo/reno) activity that is subject to the asbestos NESHAP, to notify the Administrator in writing, at least 10-working days before asbestos stripping or removal work or any other activity begins, such as site preparation that would breakup, dislodge or similarly disturb asbestos material. Since the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut were fully-delegated EPA asbestos NESHAP states, pursuant to section 112(d) of the Clean Air Act prior to the 1990 amendments, EPA made a determination that enabling legislation and promulgated regulations these states had in place governing demo/reno activities at the time of delegation were adequate for the purposes of effectively implementing the and enforcing the asbestos NESHAP. Included in this was

the requirement that these same owners or operators of a demolition or renovation activity, notify in writing the designated state agency in advance of commencing with the demo/reno activity. EPA views this as a duplication of effort. EPA also believes that the costs, in terms of time and resources, of providing dual notification to both the state and federal government represent an unnecessary burden for the regulated community. Therefore, effective October 1, 1997, and with the exception referenced below, EPA will no longer require the regulated community in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, or Connecticut, to provide written Notification of Demolition and Renovation to EPA, pursuant to 40 CFR 61.145(b), as long as such notices are delivered to the designated state agency. EPA will view notification to the state agency as having satisfied the Federal notification requirement and conversely, will consider non-notifiers to the state agency as being in violation of the Federal notification requirement as well.

This notice is not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, since no additional reporting, recordkeeping, or notification requirements are being imposed as a result of this action.

Exception

Exceptions to this transfer of notification receipt procedures will apply to regulated facilities, as defined by the asbestos NESHAP at 40 CFR 61.141, where a demolition is to occur but where asbestos is believed to be present below State regulatory threshold amounts, including those demolitions believed to involve zero asbestos. In addition, this notification procedures change applies only to applicable demo/reno activities being conducted the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. EPA will continue to require full compliance with the notification requirements outlined in 40 CFR 61.145(b) for any demo/reno operation, subject to the asbestos NESHAP, being conducted in the states of Vermont and Rhode Island.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne R. Toland; U.S. EPA Region I; Office of Environmental Stewardship; Air, Pesticides, and Toxics Enforcement Office (SEA); J.F.K. Federal Building; Boston, MA, 02203. Telephone: (617) 565-3260.

Dated: September 25, 1997.

John P. DeVillars,

Regional Administrator EPA, Region I.

[FR Doc. 97-26175 Filed 10-1-97; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5902-1]

Request for Applications for Essential Use Exemptions to the Production and Import Phaseout of Ozone Depleting Substances Under the Montreal Protocol

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Through this notice, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requesting applications for consideration at the Tenth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the Protocol) to be held in September 1998, for exemptions to the production and import phaseout in 1999 and subsequent years for ozone-depleting substances (including halons 1211 and 1301, CFC-11, CFC-12, CFC-113, CFC-114, CFC-115, CFC-13, CFC-111, CFC-112, CFC-211, CFC-212, CFC-213, CFC-214, CFC-215, CFC-216, CFC-217, carbon tetrachloride, and methyl chloroform).

DATES: Applications for essential use exemptions must be submitted to EPA no later than November 17, 1997 in order for the United States (U.S.) government to complete its review and to submit nominations to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Protocol Parties in a timely manner.

ADDRESSES: Send five copies of application materials to: Chris O'Donnell, Stratospheric Protection Division (6205J), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. Send one copy of application materials to: Air Docket A-93-39, 401 M Street, S.W. (6102), Room M1500, Washington, D.C. 20460.

Confidentiality: Applications should not contain confidential or proprietary information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chris O'Donnell at the above address or at (202) 233-9079 telephone, (202) 233-9665 fax, or

odonnell.chris@epamail.epa.gov. General information may be obtained from the Stratospheric Ozone Hotline at 1-800-296-1996.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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- II. Information Required for Essential Use Applications for Production or Importation of Class I Substances in 1999 and Subsequent Years

I. Background—The Essential Use Nomination Process

As described in previous **Federal Register** (FR) notices (58 FR 29410, May 20, 1993; 59 FR 52544, October 18, 1994; 60 FR 54349, October 23, 1995; and 61 FR 51110, September 30, 1996), the Parties to the Protocol agreed during the Fourth Meeting in Copenhagen on November 23–25, 1992, to accelerate the phaseout schedules for Class I ozone-depleting substances. Specifically, the Parties agreed to phase out the production of halons by January 1, 1994, and the production of other Class I substances, except methyl bromide, by January 1, 1996. The Parties also reached decisions and adopted resolutions on a variety of other matters, including the criteria to be used for allowing "essential use" exemptions from the phaseout of production and importation of controlled substances. Language regarding essential uses was added to the Protocol provisions in Article 2 governing the control measures. Decision IV/25 of the Fourth Meeting of the Parties details the specific criteria and review process for granting essential use exemptions.

At the Eighth Meeting of the Parties in 1996, the Parties modified the timetable for nomination of essential uses. Pursuant to Decision VIII/9, Parties may nominate a controlled substance for an exemption from the production phaseout by January 31 of each year. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) committees then review the nominations at their spring meetings and forward their recommendations for decision at the Meeting of the Parties later that year. The Parties may choose to grant the exemption for one or more of the nominated years, but each approved or pending application may be reconsidered and modified by the Parties at their annual meetings. Since the Parties in 1998 will be considering nominations for the year 1999 and beyond, today's notice solicits requests for those years. Further detail on the essential use process is provided later in this section.

Decision IV/25 states that " * * * a use of a controlled substance should qualify as "essential" only if: (i) It is necessary for the health, safety or is critical for the functioning of society (encompassing cultural and intellectual aspects); and (ii) there are no available technically and economically feasible alternatives or substitutes that are acceptable from the standpoint of environment and health". In addition, the Parties agreed "that production and consumption, if any, of a controlled