establish water quality standards. Section 303(c) requires States and certain Indian Tribes (those Tribes that have received EPA authorization to administer the water quality standards program and have had their water quality standards approved by EPA) to review and, if appropriate, revise their water quality standards regulations once every three years and to submit to EPA the results of the review. EPA then reviews each State and Tribal submission for approval or disapproval.

The Water Quality Standards (WQS) Regulation (40 CFR part 131) is the EPA regulation governing the implementation of the water quality standards program. The WQS Regulation describes requirements and procedures for the States and Tribes to develop, review, and revise their water quality standards, and EPA procedures for reviewing and approving the water quality standards. The regulation requires, in some cases, the development and submission of information to EPA. The following paragraphs describe the information collection requirements in part 131.

Section 131.6 establishes minimum requirements for a State or Tribe to submit new or revised water quality standards to EPA including the submissions required every three years by section 303(c) of the Act. The information to be submitted consists of: (a) Use designations for water bodies consistent with sections 101(a)(2) and 303(c)(2) of the Act; (b) methods used and analyses conducted to support water quality standards revisions; (c) water quality criteria sufficient to protect the designated uses; (d) an antidegradation policy consistent with 40 CFR 131.12; (e) certification by the Attorney General or other appropriate legal authority that the water quality standards were duly adopted pursuant to State or Tribal law; and (f) information which will aid EPA in determining the adequacy of the scientific basis of the water quality standards and information on general policies that may affect the implementation of the standards.

Part 131.8 specifies information that an Indian Tribe must submit to EPA in order to determine whether a Tribe is qualified to administer the Water Quality Standards Program. The application must include the following information: (a) Evidence that the Tribe is recognized by the Secretary of the Interior; (b) a statement that the Tribe is currently carrying out substantial governmental duties and powers over a Federal Indian Reservation; (c) a statement of the Tribe's authority to regulate the quality of the reservation's

waters; and (d) a narrative statement describing the capability of the Tribe to administer an effective water quality standards program.

Additionally, part 131.7 describes a dispute resolution mechanism that will assist in resolving disputes that arise between States and Tribes over water quality standards on common waterbodies. Implementation of this provision includes collection of information by EPA to determine if initiation of a formal EPA dispute resolution action is justified. Although States and Tribes are not required to request formal EPA dispute resolution action, information collection is necessary where a State or Tribe formally requests EPA intervention.

A Federal 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 displayed in 40 CFR part 9.

EPA is soliciting comments from the public to:

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information (see Burden statement below) 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;

(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 collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Burden Statement: The existing estimated total annual burden to the respondents is 193,980 hours per year (based on 77 jurisdictions, including 20 Indian Tribes qualifying to administer the water quality standards program). This estimate includes the time needed to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather and maintain the data needed, and complete and review the collection of information.

Send comments regarding these matters, or any other aspect of the information collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the address listed above.

Dated: November 17, 1998.

Tudor T. Davies,

Director, Office of Science and Technology. [FR Doc. 98–31675 Filed 11–27–98; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6193-9]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for Municipal Waste Combustors (MWCs)

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

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: NSPS for MWCs subpart Ea and subpart Eb, OMB 2060–0210, expires January 31, 1999. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted or or before December 30, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260–2740, by email at farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov, or download off the Internet at http:// www.epa.gov/icr and refer to EPA ICR No. 1506.08.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: NSPS for Municipal Waste Combustors (MWCs) Subpart Ea and Subpart Eb (OMB Control No.2060– 0210; EPA ICR No.1506.08) expiring 1/ 31/99. This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The NSPS for Municipal Waste Combustors of which (1) construction commenced after December 20, 1989 and on or before September 20, 1994, or (2) modification or reconstruction commenced after December 20, 1989 and on or before June 19, 1996, subpart Ea was proposed on December 20, 1989 and promulgated on February 11, 1991. The NSPS for Municipal Waste Combustors which (1) construction commenced after September 20, 1994, or (2) modification or reconstruction commenced after June 19, 1996, subpart Eb was proposed on September 20, 1994 and promulgated on December 19, 1995. Both of these standards apply to the municipal waste combustors with unit capacities greater than 225 megagrams per day (Mg/yr)]. This information is being collected to assure compliance with 40 CFR part 60, subpart Ea and subpart Eb.

Need for and Use of the Collection Owners or operators of the affected facilities described must make one-timeonly notifications and reports, must keep records as required of all facilities subject to NSPS requirements. Owners or operators are also required to maintain records of the occurrence and duration of any startup, shutdown, or malfunction in the operation of an affected facility, or any period during which the monitoring system is inoperative. Monitoring requirements specific to NSPS subpart Ea and subpart Eb provide information on the operation of the emissions control devices and compliance with the MWC organics, MWC metals, MWC acid gases, good combustion practices (GCP), and nitrogen oxides. Owners and operators must submit semiannual and annual compliance reports. In addition, facilities subject to subpart Eb are required to keep records of the weekly amount of carbon used for carbon injection and to calculate the estimated hourly carbon injection rate for hours of operation as a means of determining continuous compliance for mercury. Quarterly reports of excess emissions are required under subpart Ea, while semi-annual reports of excess emissions are required under subpart Eb. These notifications, reports, and records are essential in determining compliance; and are required, in general, of all sources subject to NSPS.

Any owner or operator subject to the provisions of subpart Ea shall maintain a file of these measurements, and retain the file for at least 2 years. For MWCs subject to subpart Eb all records are required to be maintained at the source for a period of 5 years. All reports are sent to the delegated State or Local authority. In the event that there is no such delegated authority, the reports are sent directly to the EPA Regional Office.

The required notifications are used to inform the Agency or delegated authority when a source becomes subject to the standard. The reviewing authority may then inspect the source to check if the pollution control devices are properly installed and operated, and the standard is being met. Performance test reports are needed as these are the Agency's record of a source's initial capability to comply with the emission standards, and serve as a record of the operating conditions under which compliance was achieved. The information generated by monitoring, recordkeeping and reporting requirements described in this ICR issued by the Agency to ensure that facilities affected by the NSPS continue to operate the control equipment and achieve continuous compliance with the regulation. The collection of this information is mandatory. 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** document required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on 9/4/98 (63 FR 47279); No comments were received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 316 hours per response. 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. The total annualized cost burden includes the capital cost for continuous emission monitors (CEMs) of \$240,000 and the annualized operation and maintenance costs of \$323,010, which includes costs for calibrating the CEMs.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Owners and operators of municipal waste combustors.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 40.

Frequency of Response: one-time, quarterly, semi-annual and annual.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 67,004 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: \$563,010.

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 through the use of automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 1506.08 and OMB Control No. 2060–0210 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Policy.

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: November 20, 1998.

Richard Westlund,

Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 98–31676 Filed 11–27–98; 8:45 am]

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6194-1]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; EPA EMPACT Urban Environmental Issues Study of 86 Cities

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces

that the following Information

Collection Request (ICR) has been

forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: EPA EMPACT Urban Environmental Issues Study of 86 Cities; EPA ICR No. 1864.01. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 30, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone at (202) 260–2740, by email at farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov, or download off the Internet at http:// www.epa.gov/icr and refer to EPA ICR No. 1864.01.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: EPA EMPACT Urban Environmental Issues Study of 86 Cities, EPA ICR No. 1864.01. This is a new collection.

Abstract: The Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking Program (EMPACT) is a pilot program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. By the year 2001, it will provide to citizens in 86 of the largest urban areas in the country, up-to-date urban