

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OPPT-2017-0647; FRL-9982-52]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Renewal of an Existing Collection (EPA ICR No. 1446.12); Comment Request**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit an Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The ICR, entitled: "PCBs, Consolidated Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements" and identified by EPA ICR No. 1446.12 and OMB Control No. 2070-0112, represents the renewal of an existing ICR that is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2018. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection that is summarized in this document. The ICR and accompanying material are available in the docket for public review and comment.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 26, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPPT-2017-0647, by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

- *Mail:* Document Control Office (7407M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001.

- *Hand Delivery:* To make special arrangements for hand delivery or delivery of boxed information, please follow the instructions at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets/contacts.html>.

Additional instructions on commenting or visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For technical information contact: Erik Winchester, National Programs Chemical Division (7404T), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics,

Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 564-6450; email address: winchester.erik@epa.gov.

For general information contact: The TSCA-Hotline, ABVI-Goodwill, 422 South Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14620; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; email address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. What information is EPA particularly interested in?**

Pursuant to PRA section 3506(c)(2)(A) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), EPA specifically solicits comments and information to enable it to:

1. 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.
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimates of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used, specifically the assumptions used for industry burden on Tables 6-2, 6-3, and 6-4 found in the Supporting Statement.
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
4. 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. In particular, EPA is requesting comments from very small businesses (those that employ less than 25) on examples of specific additional efforts that EPA could make to reduce the paperwork burden for very small businesses affected by this collection.

II. What information collection activity or ICR does this action apply to?

Title: PCBs, Consolidated Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements.

ICR number: EPA ICR No. 1446.12.

OMB control number: OMB Control No. 2070-0112.

ICR status: This ICR is currently scheduled to expire on November 30, 2018. 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 in title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations

(CFR), after appearing in the **Federal Register** when approved, are listed in 40 CFR part 9, are displayed either by publication in the **Federal Register** or by other appropriate means, such as on the related collection instrument or form, if applicable. The display of OMB control numbers for certain EPA regulations is consolidated in 40 CFR part 9.

Abstract: Section 6(e)(1) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), 15 U.S.C. 2605(e), directs EPA to regulate the marking and disposal of PCBs. Section 6(e)(2) bans the manufacturing, processing, distribution in commerce, and use of PCBs in other than a totally enclosed manner. Section 6(e)(3) establishes a process for obtaining exemptions from the prohibitions on the manufacture, processing, and distribution in commerce of PCBs. Since 1978, EPA has promulgated numerous rules addressing all aspects of the life cycle of PCBs as required by the statute. The regulations are intended to prevent the improper handling and disposal of PCBs and to minimize the exposure of human beings or the environment to PCBs. These regulations have been codified in the various subparts of 40 CFR 761. There are approximately 100 specific reporting, third-party reporting, and recordkeeping requirements covered by 40 CFR 761.

To meet its statutory obligations to regulate PCBs, EPA must obtain sufficient information to conclude that specified activities do not result in an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. EPA uses the information collected under the 40 CFR 761 requirements to ensure that PCBs are managed in an environmentally safe manner and that activities are being conducted in compliance with the PCB regulations. The information collected by these requirements will update the Agency's knowledge of ongoing PCB activities, ensure that individuals using or disposing of PCBs are held accountable for their activities, and demonstrate compliance with the PCB regulations. Specific uses of the information collected include determining the efficacy of a disposal technology; evaluating exemption requests and exclusion notices; targeting compliance inspections; and ensuring adequate storage capacity for PCB waste. This collection addresses the several information reporting requirements found in the PCB regulations.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 761). Respondents may claim all or part of a response confidential. EPA will disclose information that is covered by a claim of confidentiality only to the

extent permitted by, and in accordance with, the procedures in TSCA section 14 and 40 CFR part 2.

Burden statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.36 hours per response. Burden is defined in 5 CFR 1320.3(b).

The ICR, which is available in the docket along with other related materials, provides a detailed explanation of the collection activities and the burden estimate that is only briefly summarized here:

Respondents/Affected Entities: Entities potentially affected by this ICR are persons who currently possess PCB items, PCB-contaminated equipment, or other PCB waste.

Estimated total number of potential respondents: 548,298.

Frequency of response: On occasion.

Estimated total average number of responses for each respondent: 1.

Estimated total annual burden hours: 745,926 hours.

Estimated total annual costs: \$34,581,690. This includes an estimated burden cost of \$34,581,690 and an estimated cost of \$0 for capital investment or maintenance and operational costs.

III. Are there changes in the estimates from the last approval?

There is no change in the total estimated respondent burden (745,926 hours) from that currently in the OMB inventory. The changes in the total annual respondent reporting and recordkeeping costs are due to updates to the most current wage rate data. The up-to-date wage rates and the change from the previous ICR are as follows:

- Manager—new rate, \$77.86; prior rate, \$77.81; (less than 1 percent) percent increase).
- Clerical—new rate, \$37.76; prior rate, \$30.36 (24 percent increase).
- Professional/technical—new rate, \$78.33; prior rate, \$64.55 (21 percent increase).

IV. What is the next step in the process for this ICR?

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 pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12. EPA will issue another **Federal Register** document pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(a)(1)(iv) to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB. If you have any questions about this ICR or the approval process, please contact the technical

person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Dated: August 19, 2018.

Charlotte Bertrand,

Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

[FR Doc. 2018–18530 Filed 8–24–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-Docket #OW–2018–0270; FRL–9982–88–OW]

Announcement of the Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Heartland Community Engagement

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of an event.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will host a Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Heartland Community Engagement in Leavenworth, Kansas. The goal of the event is to allow the EPA to hear directly from the EPA's Region VII communities to understand ways the Agency can best support the work that is being done at the state, tribal, and local level to address PFAS in the environment. For more information on the event, visit the EPA's PFAS website: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-community-engagement>. During the recent PFAS National Leadership Summit, the EPA announced plans to visit communities to hear directly from those impacted by PFAS. These engagements are the next step in the EPA's commitment to address challenges with PFAS. The EPA anticipates that the community engagements will provide valuable insight for the Agency's efforts moving forward. For more information, go to the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

DATES: The event will be held on September 5, 2018. The meeting is scheduled from 1 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., central time. The working session will begin at 1 p.m., with the listening session to follow, starting at 3:30 p.m., central time.

ADDRESSES: The event will be held at the Riverfront Community Center, 123 S Esplanade Street, Leavenworth, Kansas 66048. If you are unable to attend the Heartland Community Engagement, you will be able to submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov>: enter Docket ID No. EPA–OW–2018–0270.

Citizens, including those that attend and provide oral statements, are encouraged to send written statements to the public docket. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or withdrawn. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <http://www2.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Shields, USEPA Region 7, 11201 Renner Blvd. (Mail Code ENST/IO), Lenexa, KS 66219; telephone number: 913–551–7396; email address: shields.amy@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Details about Participating in the Event: The public is invited to speak during the September 5 listening session. Those interested in speaking can sign up for a 3-minute speaking slot on the EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-community-engagement>. Please check this website for event materials as they become available, including a full agenda, leading up to the event.

The PFAS National Leadership Summit: On May 22–23, 2018, the EPA hosted the PFAS National Leadership Summit. During the summit, participants worked together to share information on ongoing efforts to characterize risks from PFAS. Participants presented their efforts to develop monitoring and treatment/cleanup techniques, identify specific near-term actions that are needed to address challenges currently facing states and local communities, and develop risk communication strategies that will help communities to address public concerns regarding PFAS.

The EPA wants to assure the public that their input is valuable and meaningful. Using information from the National Leadership Summit, public