

**Abstract:** Owners and operators of mercury cell chlor-alkali plants are required to comply with reporting and record keeping requirements for the General Provisions (40 CFR part 63, subpart A), as well as for the applicable specific standards in 40 CFR part 63, subpart IIII. This includes submitting initial notifications, performance tests and periodic reports and results, and maintaining 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. These reports are used by EPA to determine compliance with these standards.

**Form Numbers:** None.

**Respondents/affected entities:** Mercury cell chlor-alkali plants.

**Respondent's obligation to respond:** Mandatory (40 CFR part 63, subpart IIII).

**Estimated number of respondents:** 1 (total).

**Frequency of response:** Semiannually.

**Total estimated burden:** 1,880 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.3(b).

**Total estimated cost:** \$231,000 (per year), which includes \$8,200 in annualized capital/startup and/or operation & maintenance costs.

**Changes in the Estimates:** There is a decrease in burden from the most-recently approved ICR as currently identified in the OMB Inventory of Approved Burdens. This is due to a decrease in the number of sources subject to the rule. Data gathered by EPA in the development of the proposed Residual Risk and Technology Review for 40 CFR part 63, subpart IIII (86 FR 1362, January 8, 2021) indicates that there is only one source subject to this rule. The regulations have been revised in the past three years to add electronic reporting requirements, but it is assumed that there is no additional burden associated with the requirements, which consist of an upload of a currently required notification in portable document format (PDF). There is no change in capital/startup costs, as there is no change in the number of new facilities, which remains at zero. Due to the decrease in the number of facilities subject to the rule, total O&M costs have decreased from the previous ICR.

**Courtney Kerwin,**

*Director, Regulatory Support Division.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OA-2019-0296; FRL-OP-OFA-22]

### Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Assessing the Environmental Effects Abroad of EPA Actions (Renewal)

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), "Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Assessing the Environmental Effects Abroad of EPA Actions" (EPA ICR No. 2243.08, OMB Control No. 2020-0033) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). Before doing so, the EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through February 28, 2023. 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:** Comments must be submitted on or before August 29, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OA-2019-0296, online using [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (our preferred method) or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460.

The 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 whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Candi Schaedle, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities, Mail Code 2501G, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202-564-6121; email address: [schaedle.candi@epa.gov](mailto:schaedle.candi@epa.gov).

## 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](http://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 the EPA's public docket, visit <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, the EPA is soliciting comments and information to enable it to: (i) 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; (ii) evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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 electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. The 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. At that time, the EPA will issue another **Federal Register** notice to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB.

**Abstract:** The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347 establishes a national policy for the environment. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) oversees the NEPA implementation. CEQ's Regulations at 40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508 set the standard for NEPA compliance. They also require agencies to establish their own NEPA implementing procedures. The EPA's procedures for implementing NEPA are found in 40 CFR part 6. Through this part, the EPA adopted the CEQ Regulations and supplemented those regulations for actions proposed by the EPA that are subject to NEPA requirements. The EPA actions subject to NEPA include the award of wastewater treatment construction grants under section 201 of the Clean Water Act, the EPA's issuance of new source National Pollutant Discharge

Elimination System (NPDES) permits under section 402 of the Clean Water Act, certain research and development projects, the EPA actions involving renovations or new construction of EPA facilities, and certain grants awarded for projects authorized by Congress through the agency's annual appropriations act. The EPA is collecting information from certain applicants as part of the process of complying with either NEPA or Executive Order 12114 ("Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions"). The EPA's NEPA regulations apply to actions of the EPA that are subject to NEPA in order to ensure that environmental information is available to the agency's decision-makers and the public before decisions are made and before actions are taken. When the EPA conducts an environmental assessment pursuant to its Executive Order 12114 procedures, the agency generally follows its NEPA procedures. Compliance with the procedures is the responsibility of the EPA's Responsible Officials, and for applicant proposed actions, applicants may be required to provide environmental information to the EPA as part of the environmental review process. For this ICR, applicant-proposed projects subject to either NEPA or Executive Order 12114 (and that are not addressed in other EPA programs' ICRs) are addressed through the NEPA process.

*Form Numbers:* None.

*Respondents/affected entities:* Entities potentially affected by this action are certain grant or permit applicants who must submit environmental information documentation to the EPA for their projects to comply with NEPA or Executive Order 12114, including Wastewater Treatment Construction Grants Program facilities funded under section 201 of the Clean Water Act, State and Tribal Assistance Grant recipients, and new source NPDES permittees.

*Respondent's obligation to respond:* Voluntary.

*Estimated number of respondents:* 516 (total).

*Frequency of response:* On occasion.

*Total estimated burden:* 27,004 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b).

*Total estimated cost:* \$2,290,209 (per year), includes \$0 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

*Changes in Estimates:* There is an increase of 19,444 hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. This increase is due to an adjustment change in the size of the respondent universe due to the return of

congressional earmarks in the EPA annual appropriations act.

Dated: June 23, 2022.

**Robert Tomiak,**

*Director, Office of Federal Activities.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**[EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0119; FRL-9974-01-OMS]**

### Information Collection Request Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; NESHAP for Taconite Iron Ore Processing (Renewal)

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has submitted an information collection request (ICR), NESHAP for Taconite Iron Ore Processing (EPA ICR Number 2050.10, OMB Control Number 2060-0538), to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through June 30, 2022. Public comments were previously requested, via the **Federal Register**, on April 13, 2021 during a 60-day comment period. 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 neither conduct nor 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 July 28, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0119, online using [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (our preferred method) or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 2821T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460. 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 whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

Submit written comments and recommendations to OMB for the proposed information collection within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Muntasir Ali, Sector Policies and Program Division (D243-05), Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711; telephone number: (919) 541-0833; email address: [ali.muntasir@epa.gov](mailto:ali.muntasir@epa.gov).

#### 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 <https://www.regulations.gov>, or in person at the EPA Docket Center, WJC West Building, 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 National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Taconite Iron Ore Processing (40 CFR part 63, subpart RRRRR), were proposed on December 18, 2002; promulgated on October 30, 2003; and most-recently amended on both July 28, 2020 and November 19, 2020. These regulations apply to existing facilities and new taconite iron ore processing facilities that emit or have the potential to emit a single hazardous air pollutant (HAP) at a rate of 10 tons or more per year or any combination of HAPs at a rate of 25 tons or more per year. The affected sources are ore crushing and handling operations, ore dryers, indurating furnaces, finished pellet handling emission units, and fugitive dust emissions. New facilities include those that commenced construction or reconstruction after the date of proposal. This information is being collected to assure compliance with 40 CFR part 63, subpart RRRRR. In general, all NESHAP standards require initial notifications, performance tests, and periodic reports by the owners/operators of the affected facilities. They 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