

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 570 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.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Semiconductor manufacturing companies.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 30.

Frequency of Response: 1/year.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 17,100 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: \$539,000.

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. 1823.01 and OMB Control No. 2060-NEW 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: January 27, 1998.

Richard T. Westlund,

Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 98-2489 Filed 2-2-98; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5957-9]

Toxic Chemicals; TSCA Inventory Update; Submission of ICR No. 1011.04 to OMB; Agency Information Collection Activities

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of Submission to OMB.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) entitled: Partial Updating of TSCA Inventory Data Base, Production and Site Reports [EPA ICR No. 1011.04; OMB Control No. 2070-0070] has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval pursuant to the OMB procedures in 5 CFR 1320.12. The ICR, which is abstracted below, describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated cost and burden.

The Agency is requesting that OMB reinstate for 3 years the previous approval for this ICR. This ICR was last approved on May 27, 1993, and that approval expired on May 31, 1995. A **Federal Register** notice announcing the Agency's intent to seek the renewal of this ICR and the 60-day public comment opportunity, requesting comments on the request and the contents of the ICR, was issued on August 19, 1997 (62 FR 44125). EPA received comments from the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association (CSMA) on this ICR during the comment period. These comments are addressed in an attachment to the ICR.

DATES: Additional comments may be submitted on or before March 5, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY CONTACT: Sandy Farmer at EPA by phone on (202) 260-2740, by e-mail: "farmer.sandy@epamail.epa.gov," or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr/icr.htm> and refer to EPA ICR No. 1011.04.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referencing EPA ICR No. 1011.04 and OMB Control No. 2070-0070, to the following addresses:

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regulatory Information Division (Mailcode: 2137) 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20460.

And to:

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk

Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Review Requested: This is a request to reinstate a previously approved information collection activity, which occurs only every four years, pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12.

ICR Numbers: EPA ICR No. 1011.04; OMB Control No. 2070-0070.

Current Expiration Date: The approval for this ICR expired on May 31, 1995.

Title: Partial Updating of TSCA Inventory Data Base, Production and Site Reports.

Abstract: Section 8(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) requires EPA to compile and keep current a complete list of chemical substances manufactured or processed in the United States. EPA updates this inventory of chemicals every four years by requiring manufacturers, processors and importers to provide production volume, plant site information and site-limited status information. This information allows EPA to identify what chemicals are or are not currently in commerce and to take appropriate regulatory action as necessary. EPA also uses the information for screening chemicals for risks to human health or the environment, for priority-setting efforts, and for exposure estimates.

Responses to the collection of information are mandatory (see 40 CFR part 710).

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 11.5 hours per response for an estimated 3,000 respondents making one or more submissions of information. These estimates include 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. No person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for these regulations are displayed in 40 CFR Part 9.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are persons who manufacture,

process or import chemical substances in the United States.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 3,000.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 34,500 hours.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Changes in Burden Estimates: Since this is a reinstatement of a previously approved ICR for which OMB clearance has expired, the total burden for this activity, 34,500 hours, may be considered to be an increase in the total ICR burden currently approved by OMB.

According to the procedures prescribed in 5 CFR 1320.12, EPA has submitted this ICR to OMB for review and approval. Any comments related to the renewal of this ICR should be submitted within 30 days of this notice, as described above.

Dated: January 27, 1998.

Richard T. Westlund,

Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 98-2490 Filed 2-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-400124; FRL-5769-4]

Public Meetings on the Toxics Release Inventory Reporting Form

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: EPA will hold approximately nine public meetings to solicit comments relating to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) reporting form, the Form R. The purpose of the meetings is to obtain comments from stakeholders on ways to improve the type of right-to-know information available to communities and to help streamline right-to-know reporting to ease the paperwork burden for businesses affected by the requirements. Since the Agency is looking for ways to help reduce the reporting burden, these meetings will also provide an opportunity for affected entities to participate in the development of a rule clarifying the Pollution Prevention Act reporting requirements currently contained in Section 8 of the Form R. In particular, the Agency is interested in comments and suggestions regarding the burden of Section 8 reporting on small entities. The first three of these public meetings were held in November 1997. This notice announces two upcoming meetings. Additional meeting dates will be announced through future **Federal Register** notices.

DATES: The meetings will take place:

1. Tuesday, February 24, 1998, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Adam's Mark Dallas, Seminar Theater, 400 North Olive, Dallas, TX. Participants must register to speak by 5 p.m., Thursday, February 19, 1998.

2. Thursday, April 2, 1998, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. USEPA Region II, 290 Broadway, NY, NY, Conference Room D, 27th Floor. Participants must register to speak by 5 p.m., Friday, March 27, 1998.

ADDRESSES: All comments should be sent in triplicate to: OPPT Document Control Officer (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Room G-099, East Tower, Washington, DC 20460. Each comment must bear the docket control number "OPPTS-400123."

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to: oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov. Follow the instructions under Unit II. of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

All comments which contain information claimed as CBI must be clearly marked as such. Three sanitized copies of any comments containing information claimed as CBI must also be submitted and will be placed in the public record. Persons submitting information on any portion of which they believe is entitled to treatment as CBI by EPA must assert a business confidentiality claim in accordance with 40 CFR 2.203(b) for each such portion. This claim must be made at the time that the information is submitted to EPA. If a submitter does not assert a confidentiality claim at the time of submission, EPA will consider this as a waiver of any confidentiality claim and the information may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to the submitter.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michelle Price, (Mail Stop 7408), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, telephone: (202) 260-3372, fax number: (202) 401-8142, e-mail: price.michelle@epamail.epa.gov. To register to speak via conference call or in person, contact Debra Jones (TASCON) at (301) 907-3844.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

EPA plans to hold approximately nine public meetings to solicit comments relating to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) reporting form, the Form R. The first three meetings took place in November 1997. The docket number for the November meetings is "OPPTS-

400117" and the comments presented at these meetings are available for review as described in Unit II. of this document.

The purpose of the meetings is to obtain comments from stakeholders on ways to improve the type of right-to-know information available to communities and to help streamline right-to-know reporting to ease the paperwork burden for businesses affected by the requirements. Topics for comment include the following: format of the Form R; nomenclature used in the Form R; opportunities for burden reduction in both the Form R and Form A; additional clarification of the elements in the Form R; and EPA's presentation of the data in public information documents.

These public meetings are also intended to help serve the Agency's effort to assure that the concerns of small entities are addressed in the development of regulations. The Agency is preparing a proposed rule to clarify the Pollution Prevention Act reporting requirements currently contained in Section 8 of the Form R, and would like to receive comments from affected entities regarding those reporting requirements. In particular, the Agency is interested in comments and suggestions regarding the reporting burden on small entities.

The sections of the Form R that EPA would like specific comment on are Sections 5, 6, and 8. In Section 5, there have been a number of issues raised with regard to the definition of "release," particularly with respect to Class I underground injection wells and RCRA Subtitle C landfills. Several commenters believe that EPA's interpretation of the EPCRA definition of "release" will lead to the misperception that a reported EPCRA section 313 "release" necessarily results in an actual exposure of people or the environment to a toxic chemical. The Agency would like to hear suggestions on ways to collect and disseminate the data that are consistent with the Agency's interpretation of the EPCRA definition of "release" and would address the concerns raised regarding public misperception.

There have also been a number of issues raised with regard to the reporting of toxic chemicals in wastes in Section 8 of the Form R. Section 8 collects information on waste managed at the facility whether or not the waste was generated at the reporting facility. Some individuals are concerned about public misperception of the data in Section 8 because of the focus on the