

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6728-7]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Tolerance Petitions for Pesticides on Food/Feed and New Inert Ingredients**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice of Submission to OMB.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Tolerance Petitions for Pesticides on Food/Feed and New Inert Ingredients, [EPA ICR No. 0597.07, OMB No. 2070-0024]. The ICR, which is abstracted below, expires on June 30, 2000. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated cost and burden. The Agency is requesting that OMB renew approval of the ICR for a three year period. On June 9, 1999 (64 FR 30988), EPA solicited comment on this ICR pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.8(d). EPA received comments, which have been addressed in this ICR prior to submission to OMB.

DATES: Additional comments may be submitted on or before August 2, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: For a copy of the ICR contact Sandy Farmer by phone at 202-260-2740, by e-mail at farmer.sandy@epa.gov, or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR No. 0597.07 and OMB Control No. 2070-0024.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referencing the proper ICR numbers, to the following addresses: Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Collection Strategies Division (2822), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.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:

Title: Tolerance Petitions for Pesticides on Food/Feed and New Inert Ingredients [EPA ICR No. 0597.07, OMB No. 2070-0024]. This is a request to renew a currently approved information collection pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12.

Abstract: The use of pesticides to increase crop production may result in pesticide residues in or on the crop. To protect the public health from unsafe

pesticide residues, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets limits on the nature and level of residues permitted. Food or feed commodities found to contain pesticide residues in excess of established tolerances are considered adulterated, and are subject to seizure. This ICR covers all requests for tolerances, or exemptions from the requirement of a tolerance, for both active and inert ingredients in pesticides. The type of data that are required to be submitted is dependent on the type of tolerance that is sought.

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.

Burden Statement: Under the PRA, "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. The annual respondent burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1,726 hours per petitioner. No forms are associated with this collection, however, petitioners must submit information related to: (1) The name, chemical identity, and composition of the pesticide chemical; (2) chemical use; (3) safety reports; (4) residue test results; (5) residue removal; (6) proposed MRLs for the pesticidal chemical; (7) reasonable grounds in support of the petition; (8) an analysis of factors relevant to the provisions of FQPA, specifically, aggregate exposure, children's exposure, special sensitivities, cumulative effects and endocrine disruptor effects; 9) an informative summary of the petition or application, including a summary of the supporting data, information, accompanying rationales, and a statement providing permission to publish such summary; and a cover letter and fee. The following is a summary of the estimates taken from the ICR:

Respondents/Affected Entities: Any person seeking a tolerance action.

Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 150.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated total annual responses for each respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 258,900 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Non-labor Costs: \$0.

Changes in Burden Estimates: The total burden associated with this ICR has increased from 216,300 hours in the previous ICR to 258,900 for this ICR.

This increase in burden represents a change in the underlying statutory requirements under which the Agency may take a tolerance action. The ICR provides a more detailed description of these changes and the activities currently related to this ICR. As such, the Agency considers this to be a program change.

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: June 21, 2000.

Oscar Morales,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

[FR Doc. 00-16755 Filed 6-30-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6729-1]

Adequacy Status of Motor Vehicle Budgets in Submitted State Implementation Plans for Transportation Conformity Purposes; District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia; Revised Phase II Plans for the Metropolitan Washington D.C. Ozone Nonattainment Area**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice of adequacy status.

SUMMARY: EPA is announcing that the motor vehicle emissions budgets for the out-years 2015 and 2020 (budgets) established in revised Phase II Plans for the Metropolitan Washington DC Ozone Nonattainment Area are adequate for transportation conformity purposes. The revised Phase II Plans which establish these out-year budgets were submitted by the District of Columbia on March 22, 2000, and by the State of Maryland and Commonwealth of Virginia on March 31, 2000 as State Implementation Plans (SIPs) revisions. These SIP revisions consist of revisions to the attainment plan for the Metropolitan Washington D.C. Ozone Nonattainment Area and have been made to establish revised out-year budgets for 2015 and 2020. EPA has found these out-year budgets adequate for transportation conformity purposes.

DATES: The finding that these out-year budgets of the revised attainment plan are adequate was made in letters dated June 22, 2000 from EPA Region III to the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of

Virginia. This adequacy finding is effective on July 18, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul T. Wentworth, P.E., U.S. EPA, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA. 19103 at (215) 814-2183 or by e-mail at: wentworth.paul@epa.gov .

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Throughout this document “we, us,” or “our” refer to EPA. The word “budgets” refers to the motor vehicle emission budgets for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) for the out-years 2015 and 2020. The word “SIP” in this document refers to the revised Phase II SIPs submitted on March 22, 2000, March 31, 2000 and March 31, 2000 by the District, Maryland and Virginia, respectively. The revised Phase II SIPs consist of the revised attainment plan for the one-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone for the Metropolitan Washington DC Nonattainment Area.

On March 2, 1999, the D.C. Circuit Court ruled that budgets contained in submitted SIPs cannot be used for conformity determinations until EPA has affirmatively found them adequate. By transmittal letters dated as shown below, the District, Maryland, and Virginia each formally submitted revisions to the attainment plan for the purpose of establishing out-year budgets for 2015 and 2020 for the Metropolitan Washington DC Ozone Nonattainment Area. The revised Phase II SIPs submittal dates are:

The District of Columbia—March 22, 2000;
Maryland—March 31, 2000;
Virginia—March 31, 2000.

On April 24, 2000, we posted the availability of these revised Phase II SIPs and their budgets on our conformity website for the purpose of soliciting public comment on the adequacy of the budgets. The comment period closed on May 24, 2000.

On June 22, 2000, EPA Region III sent letters to the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia which constituted final Agency actions on the adequacy of the budgets contained in the revised Phase II SIPs. Those actions were EPA’s finding that the mobile budgets contained in the revised attainment plan are adequate for transportation conformity purposes. As a result of our finding, the budgets contained in the submitted revised attainment plans for the Metropolitan Washington D.C. Nonattainment Area may be used for future conformity determinations. This is an announcement of an adequacy finding that we already made on June 22, 2000.

The effective date of this finding is July 18, 2000. This finding will also be announced on EPA’s website: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq> (once there, click on the “Conformity” button, then look for “Adequacy Review of Submissions for Conformity”). The website will contain a detailed analysis of our adequacy finding and our responses to public comments.

Transportation conformity is required by section 176 of the Clean Air Act. EPA’s conformity rule requires that transportation plans, programs, and projects conform to SIPs and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they do so. Conformity to a SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the NAAQS. The criteria by which we determine whether a SIP’s budgets are adequate for conformity purposes are outlined in 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4).

Please note that an adequacy finding of the mobile budgets of a submitted SIP is separate from EPA’s completeness determination on that SIP, and separate from EPA’s final action as to whether or not the SIP is approvable. Even if we find budgets adequate, the SIP could later be disapproved. We describe our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP budgets in guidance memorandum dated May 14, 1999 and titled “Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999 Conformity Court Decision.” We followed this guidance in making this adequacy finding for the budgets contained in the revised Phase II SIPs submitted on March 22, 2000, March 31, 2000 and March 31, 2000 by the District, Maryland, and Virginia, respectively. You may obtain a copy of this guidance from EPA’s conformity web site: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq> (once there, click on the “Conformity” button) or by calling the contact name listed in “For Further Information Contact” section of this notice.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Dated: June 23, 2000.

Bradley M. Campbell,

Regional Administrator, Region III.

[FR Doc. 00-16736 Filed 6-30-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[IL202-1; FRL-6728-4]

Adequacy Status of East St. Louis, Illinois Submitted Ozone Attainment Demonstration for Transportation Conformity Purposes

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of adequacy.

SUMMARY: In this notice, EPA is notifying the public that EPA has found that the motor vehicle emissions budgets in the Illinois portion of the St. Louis ozone attainment demonstration are adequate for conformity purposes. On March 2, 1999, the D.C. Circuit Court ruled that submitted State Implementation Plans (SIPs) cannot be used for conformity determinations until EPA has affirmatively found them adequate. As a result of our finding, the St. Louis area can use the motor vehicle emissions budgets for volatile organic compounds and oxides of nitrogen from the submitted ozone attainment demonstration for future conformity determinations.

DATES: These budgets are effective July 18, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The finding and the response to comments will be available at EPA’s conformity website: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq>, (once there, click on the “Conformity” button, then look for “Adequacy Review of SIP Submissions for Conformity”).

Patricia Morris, Environmental Scientist, Regulation Development Section (AR-18J), Air Programs Branch, Air and Radiation Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604, (312) 353-8656, morris.patricia@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Throughout this document, whenever “we”, “us” or “our” is used, we mean EPA. Today’s notice is simply an announcement of a finding that we have already made. EPA Region 5 sent a letter to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency on June 12, 2000, stating that the motor vehicle emissions budgets for volatile organic compounds and oxides of nitrogen in the Illinois portion of the St. Louis submitted ozone attainment demonstration for 2003 are adequate. This finding will also be announced on EPA’s conformity website: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq>, (once there, click on the “Conformity” button, then