

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5986-7]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Retrofit/Rebuild Requirements for 1993 and Earlier Model Year Urban Buses

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: Retrofit/Rebuild Requirements for 1993 and Earlier Model Year Urban Buses, OMB Control Number 2060-0302, expiration date: 04-30-98. 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 April 27, 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. 1702.02.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Retrofit/Rebuild Requirements for 1993 and Earlier Model Year Urban Buses, OMB Control Number 2060-0302, EPA ICR No. 1702.02, expiration date: 04-30-98. This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Section 219 (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended in 1990, requires that the EPA promulgate regulations for urban buses that: a) operate in Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) or consolidated MSA's with a 1980 population of 750,000 or more (the program could be expanded in the future to MSA's of less than 750,000, under section 219(c) of the CAA); b) are not subject to the 1994 or later urban bus standards; and c) have their engines replaced or rebuilt after January 1, 1995.

The CAA Amendments require the subject urban buses be retrofitted to comply with an emission standard that reflects the best retrofit technology and maintenance practices reasonably achievable. Under these provisions, EPA has set new requirements for pre-1994

model year urban buses that are effective after January 1, 1995, when urban bus engines are rebuilt or replaced. The program requires that the particulate emissions level of the urban bus engines be reduced to a level below the engines' original particulate level through the use of retrofit/rebuild equipment that is certified by EPA. The program will phase itself out as pre-1994 urban buses are retired from fleets.

It is critical to the program that EPA know, with reasonable certainty, that equipment, when properly installed, maintained and used, will provide the emissions reductions promised by the equipment suppliers over the warranty period. The information that EPA is collecting at the time of certification is needed to determine: (1) the emissions performance of retrofit urban buses, (2) the installation and maintenance requirements of retrofit systems, and (3) the adequacy of the warranty provisions that will be provided with the retrofit systems. Collection of the information from certifiers is required to obtain certification approval. EPA requirements for submitting a notification of intent to certify retrofit/rebuild equipment are found in 40 CFR 85.1407(a). The record keeping requirements for equipment manufacturers are found in 40 CFR 85.1412(a)(1). Records are kept on equipment descriptions, test data, quality control plans and data, and in-service data. EPA may audit certifiers records to ensure accuracy and completeness of records.

Urban bus operators are required to maintain records concerning activities associated with retrofitting/rebuilding urban buses. The record keeping requirements for urban bus operators are found in 40 CFR 85.1404. Records are kept on equipment purchased, engine rebuilds and replacements, fuel type, and compliance with the applicable program option. EPA may request that operators submit information summarizing compliance with fleet compliance with program compliance based on recorded information. EPA may audit operator fleets and records to ensure compliance with program requirements.

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 12/09/

97 (62 FR 64828); no comments were received in response to this document.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and record keeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 9 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: Owner/operators of 1993 and earlier model year Urban Buses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 163.

Frequency of Response: 338.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 2996 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: \$170,000.

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 1702.02 and OMB Control No. 2060-0302 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: March 20, 1998.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.
[FR Doc. 98-7935 Filed 3-25-98; 8:45 am]

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