

future notice. All of the regional teleconferences will be transcribed and be placed in appropriate and related dockets. Copies of the transcripts will be available from Ace-Federal Reporters (800-336-6646 or 202-347-3700) at cost and will be available on the Commission's Web site 10 days after receipt from Ace-Federal Reporters.

All written comments on the RTO Cost Benefit Report will be due on April 9, 2002. Reply comments will be due on April 23, 2002.

Comments may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper ; see 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link. Paper copies require the original and fourteen copies pursuant to the Commission's regulations.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

Regulations Governing Off-the-Record
Communications; Public Notice

March 1, 2002.

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(h), of the receipt of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive an exempt or a prohibited off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested on-the-record proceeding, to deliver a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance of any oral communication, to the Secretary.

Prohibited communications will be included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any

responses thereto should become part of the decisional record, the prohibited off-the-record communication will not be considered by the Commission in reaching its decision. Parties to a proceeding may seek the opportunity to respond to any facts or contentions made in a prohibited off-the-record communication, and may request that the Commission place the prohibited communication and responses thereto in the decisional record. The Commission will grant such requests only when it determines that fairness so requires. Any person identified below as having made a prohibited off-the-record communication should serve the document on all parties listed on the official service list for the applicable proceeding in accordance with Rule 2010, 18 CFR 385.2010.

Exempt off-the-record communications will be included in the decisional record of the proceeding, unless the communication was with a cooperating agency as described by 40 CFR 1501.6, made under 18 CFR 385.2201(e)(1)(v).

The following is a list of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications received in the Office of the Secretary within the preceding 14 days. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. The documents may be viewed on the Web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket#" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

EXEMPT

Docket No.	Date filed	Presenter or requester
1. CP01-361-000	02-28-02	John Wisniewski.
2. Project No. 10942-000	02-28-02	David Turner and Frank Winchell.
3. CP01-361-000	02-28-02	John Wisniewski.
4. Project No. 2342-011	02-28-02	P. Stephen DiJulio.
5. Docket Nos. RT02-2-000, RT01-67-000, RT01-74-000, RT01-75-00, RT01-77-000, RT01-100-000, RT01-1-000, RM98-1-002.	03-1-02	Commission*.

* Transcript of State-Federal Southeast Regional Panel Discussion convened 2/15/02 pursuant to the Commission's Notice issued 2/8/02 in Docket No. RT02-2-000, et al.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-5442 Filed 3-6-02; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY

[FRL-7154-1]

Agency Information Collection
Activities: Proposed Collection;
Comment Request; Ambient Air
Quality Surveillance

AGENCY: Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that EPA is planning to submit the following renewal Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Ambient Air Quality Surveillance, OMB Number (2060-0084), EPA ICR # 0940.16 expires September 30, 2002. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed

information collections as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before May 6, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards; Emissions, Monitoring, and Analysis Division (C339-02), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Lutz, Emissions, Monitoring, and Analysis Division (C339-02), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711, telephone (919) 541-5476, FAX (919) 541-1903.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are those State and local air pollution control agencies which collect and report ambient air quality data for the criteria pollutants to EPA.

Title: Ambient Air Quality Surveillance, OMB Number (2060-0084), EPA ICR # 0940.16 expires September 30, 2002.

Abstract: The general authority for the collection of ambient air quality data is contained in sections 110 and 319 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 1857). Section 110 makes it clear that State generated air quality data are central to the air quality management process through a system of State implementation plans (SIP's). Section 319 was added via the 1977 Amendments to the Act and spells out the key elements of an acceptable monitoring and reporting scheme. To a large extent, the requirements of section 319 had already been anticipated in the detailed strategy document prepared by EPA's Standing Air Monitoring Work Group (SAMWG). The regulatory provisions to implement these recommendations were developed through close consultation with the State and local agency representatives serving on SAMWG and through reviews by ad-hoc panels from the State and Territorial Air Pollution Program Administrators and the Association of Local Air Pollution Control Officials. These modifications to the previous regulations were issued as final rules on May 10, 1979 (44 FR 27558) and are contained in 40 CFR part 58.

Major amendments which affect the hourly burdens, were made in 1983 for lead, 1987 for PM₁₀, 1993 for the enhanced monitoring for ozone, and 1997 for PM_{2.5}. The specific required activities for the burden include establishing and operating ambient air monitors and samplers, conducting sample analyses for all pollutants for which a national ambient air quality

standard (NAAQS) has been established, preparing, editing, and quality assuring the data, and submitting the ambient air quality data and quality assurance data to EPA.

Some of the major uses of the data are for judging attainment of the NAAQS, evaluating progress in achieving/maintaining the NAAQS or State/local standards, developing or revising SIP's, evaluating control strategies, developing or revising national control policies, providing data for model development and validation, supporting enforcement actions, documenting episodes and initiating episode controls, documenting population exposure, and providing information to the public and other interested parties. 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.

In the previous ICR approval, OMB requested that EPA update the 1993 "Guidance for Estimating Ambient Air Monitoring Costs for Criteria Pollutants and Selected Air Toxic Pollutants." The EPA agrees and is proceeding with this update.

The EPA would like to solicit comments 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 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.

Burden Statement: It is estimated that there are presently 136 State and local agencies which are currently required to submit the ambient air quality data and quality assurance data to EPA on a quarterly basis. The current annual burden for the collection and reporting of ambient air quality data has been estimated on the existing ICR to be (2,404,606) hours, which would average out to be approximately (17,681) hours per respondent. As a part of this ICR renewal, an evaluation will be made of

the labor burden associated with this activity.

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.

Dated: February 22, 2002.

J. David Mobley,

Acting Director, Emissions, Monitoring, and Analysis Division.

[FR Doc. 02-5453 Filed 3-6-02; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7154-3]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Collection; See List of ICRs To Be Submitted in Section A

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 two current Information Collection Requests (ICR) have been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for renewal: Best Management Practices ("BMP"), Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards, Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard Manufacturing Category (EPA ICR No. 1829.02), expiring on March 31, 2002, and Milestones Plan, Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards, Bleached Papergrade Kraft and Soda Subcategory, Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard Manufacturing Category (EPA ICR No. 1877.02), expiring on February 28, 2002. OMB approved the current BMP information collection on March 2, 1999, and approved the current Milestones Plan collection on January 13, 1999. The ICRs describe the nature of the information collection and their expected burden and cost.