**SUPPORTING STATEMENT A**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**Title of the Information Collection**

Federal Implementation Plan for Oil and Natural Gas Well Production Facilities; Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation), North Dakota (Renewal); EPA ICR Number 2478.04, OMB Control Number 2008-0001

**Short Characterization/Abstract**

This ICR covers information collection requirements in the final Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) for Oil and Natural Gas Well Production Facilities; Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation), North Dakota (40 CFR part 49, subpart K, §§ 49.4161 through 49.4168), herein referred to as the FBIR FIP. In general, owners or operators are required to: (1) conduct certain monitoring; (2) keep specific records to be made available at the EPA’s request; and (3) to prepare and submit an annual report (40 CFR part 49, subpart K, §§ 49.4166 through 49.4168). These records and reports are necessary for the EPA Administrator (or the Tribal agency if delegated), for example, to: (1) confirm compliance status of stationary sources; (2) identify any stationary sources not subject to the requirements and identify stationary sources subject to the regulations; and (3) ensure that the stationary source control requirements are being achieved. All information submitted to us pursuant to the recordkeeping and reporting requirements for which a claim of confidentiality is made is safeguarded according to the agency policies set forth in 40 CFR part 2, subpart B.

**1. NEED AND AUTHORITY FOR THE COLLECTION**

The EPA is charged under sections 301(a) and 301(d)(4) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) to

promulgate regulations as necessary to protect Tribal air resources. Promulgating the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (FBIR) Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) addresses an important initial step to fill a regulatory gap between state and federal requirements with regard to controlling volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from oil and natural gas production operations on the FBIR. There is no other federal rule, including the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) and National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for the Oil and Natural Gas Sector (NSPS OOOO and OOOOa and NESHAP HH), that establishes air pollution control regulations for the particular oil and natural gas well production operations that exist on the FBIR. This is in contrast to oil and natural gas operations off the Reservation, which are governed by the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) regulations and North Dakota Industrial Commissions (NDIC) regulations within the State of North Dakota’s jurisdiction. Consistent with the regulatory structure that exists off the FBIR, and NSPS OOOO and OOOOa, the FBIR FIP has requirements for VOC emissions control and reductions, monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting. In addition, section 114(a) states that the Administrator may require any owner or operator subject to any requirement of this Act to:

• establish and maintain such records;

• make such reports; install, use, and maintain such monitoring equipment;

• and use such audit procedures, or methods;

• sample such emissions (in accordance with such procedures or methods, at such locations, at such intervals, during such periods, and in such manner as the Administrator shall prescribe);

• keep records on control equipment parameters, production variables or other indirect data when direct monitoring of emissions is impractical;

• submit compliance certifications in accordance with section 114(a)(3); and

• provide such other information as the Administrator may reasonably require.

**2. PRACTICAL UTILITY/USERS OF THE DATA**

These records and reports are necessary for the EPA Administrator (or the Tribal agency if delegated) to: (1) confirm compliance status of stationary sources; (2) identify stationary sources subject to the regulations and identify any stationary sources not subject to the requirements; and (3) ensure that the stationary source control requirements are being achieved. The information would be used by the EPA or Tribal enforcement personnel to: (1) identify stationary sources subject to the rules; (2) ensure that appropriate control technology is being properly applied; and (3) ensure that the emission control devices are being properly operated and maintained on a continuous basis. Based on the reported information, the EPA Administrator (or the delegated Tribe) can decide which stationary sources, records or processes should be inspected.

**3. USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

Data and records maintained by the respondents are tabulated for internal use in compliance and enforcement programs of the EPA or delegated Tribal agency. Records may be maintained by the respondents in hard copy or electronic format to allow flexibility and reduce the burden. As a further effort to minimize the reporting burden, the FBIR FIP allows for the electronic submittal of annual reports via email to r8airreportenforcement@epa.gov. The FBIR FIP also allows owners/operators to submit one report for all their affected facilities, thus reducing the burden for multiple reports. Additionally, owners/operators are allowed to submit their annual reports required by the FBIR FIP at the same time as any required annual reports under the Title V operating permit program. EPA Region 8 will continue to work with owners/operators to streamline the recordkeeping and reporting process whenever possible.

**4. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION**

The EPA does not anticipate a significant additional burden on the respondents due to potentially duplicative recordkeeping or reporting requirements. Because the FBIR FIP applies to sources located in Indian country, other federal agencies may also have jurisdiction on the FBIR. The EPA reviewed other federal regulations and discussed potentially applicable requirements to the respondents with staff from other federal entities to determine if and when the possible duplication of information collection exists. The EPA has identified potentially minor duplicative recordkeeping and reporting requirements with other federal regulations; however, we have determined that some sources may not be subject to the duplicative requirement, or the duplication does not result in a significant burden to the respondents.

The U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) has established regulations that may apply to the respondents of the FBIR FIP. DOI jurisdiction differs from the EPA’s jurisdiction under the CAA in that the applicability of DOI regulations is dependent on the lease status of the land where the facility is located. While DOI regulations do apply to a large majority of the respondents, oil and natural gas well production facilities on the FBIR that are not operating on a federal or Indian oil and natural gas lease are not subject to DOI regulations. Therefore, certain requirements of the FBIR FIP are only potentially duplicative as DOI regulations may not apply to all sources subject to the FBIR FIP.

The FBIR FIP at §49.4166(a)(1) requires owners and operators to measure the barrels of oil produced according to the methods specified in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Onshore Order #4, which also specifies that records of this measurement be kept for six years.[[1]](#footnote-3) This information is reported on a monthly basis to the Office of Natural Resources Review (ONRR) through Form OGAR-A.[[2]](#footnote-4), [[3]](#footnote-5) Additionally, the FIP requires owners and operators to keep records of the volume of produced natural gas sent to the control device (see §49.4167(a)(2)), which is reported to the ONRR on a monthly basis through Form OGAR-B.[[4]](#footnote-6) Although the FBIR FIP requires similar recordkeeping, the information collected is not required to be submitted in the annual report. This information would also be necessary to be kept by the respondents as standard industry practice regardless of the FBIR FIP in order to determine applicability to federal CAA permitting requirements. Therefore, these potentially duplicative recordkeeping requirements do not impose any additional burden on the respondents and are not included as part of this Information Collection Request (ICR).

The FBIR FIP requires owners and operators of oil and natural gas production facilities to submit an annual report each year (see §49.4168(b)). As part of the annual report, the respondents are required to provide information about the date, time, duration and location of well completion and recompletion operations performed during the reporting period, as well as the first date of production for each oil and natural gas well. The EPA has determined that the location of well completion and recompletion operations and the first date of production are also required to be reported to the BLM within 30 days following completion operations through Form 3160-4. [[5]](#footnote-7) However, the EPA believes this potentially duplicative information request is extremely minimal and does not pose a significant burden to the respondents. Although the EPA would accept a copy of the submitted Form 3160-4 in lieu of any duplicated information required in the annual report for the FBIR FIP, we anticipate it will be easier for the respondents to separately include the location of the well completion or recompletion and first date of production with the other information submitted in the annual report. The EPA has determined that the FBIR FIP requirements to report the date, time, and duration of flowback and venting during completion and recompletion operations are not duplicative of any other DOI requirements that require similar information during the production phase (i.e., as opposed to the completion phase requirements in the FBIR FIP).

The EPA asserts that any potentially duplicative recordkeeping or reporting requirements of the FBIR FIP are necessary for the agency to ensure compliance with the rule. We also note that the potential for duplication only exists for facilities subject to DOI requirements, which may not apply to all facilities on the FBIR depending on the land lease status of the facility. The information submitted to BLM and ONRR is not publicly available and it would be extremely resource intensive for the federal agencies to share such a small component of information relative to the total information the EPA is requesting under this ICR. Furthermore, much of the information collected under this ICR is a customary and usual business practice for the respondents. The oil and natural gas industry maintains their own records of production operations as part of routine business operations. The recordkeeping and reporting requirements in the FBIR FIP have been minimized to the greatest extent practicable while

still ensuring compliance with the rule as an effort to reduce the regulatory burden on the respondents. Additionally, the FBIR FIP at §49.4164(f) exempts sources subject to the storage tank control requirements of NSPS OOOO from the requirements of the FBIR FIP for the same affected equipment; therefore, there is no duplication with that EPA regulation. However, as the FBIR FIP was finalized before promulgation of NSPS OOOOa, it does not exempt affected equipment subject to that regulation from complying with the FIP requirements, so there may be some duplication with NSPS OOOOa recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

**5. MINIMIZING BURDEN ON SMALL ENTITIES**

Minimizing the information collection burden for all sizes of organizations is a continuing effort for the EPA. The impact on small entities (i.e., small businesses) was taken into consideration during the development of the regulation. The EPA has tried to reduce the impact of this rule on small entities by the selection of highly cost-effective controls and specifying monitoring requirements that are the minimum to ensure compliance.

**6. EFFECTS OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION**

Respondents must monitor all specified criteria at each affected facility and maintain these records for five years. The required reporting frequency to the EPA has been established to minimize the burden on owners and operators of affected facilities.

**7. GENERAL GUIDELINES**

This collection of information is consistent with all Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines established by OMB at 5 CFR part 1320, section 1320.5.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONSULTATIONS**

**8A. PUBLIC COMMENT**

An announcement of a public comment period for the renewal of this ICR was published in the Federal Register 88 FR 62781 on September 13, 2023.

**8B. CONSULTATIONS**

The agency has consulted industry experts and internal data sources in the development and implementation of the FBIR FIP and its initial ICR. For subsequent ICR renewals, the agency determined it was appropriate to apply inflation to existing capital cost and burden estimates rather than conduct additional consultations, as operators are using the same or similar technologies to report required information. The primary source of information for the renewal of this ICR are the annual reports, which are submitted by industry to the EPA in compliance with the recordkeeping and reporting provisions in the FIP. The EPA also consulted information on publicly available monthly well production data from the NDIC.[[6]](#footnote-8) These sources contain information on the dates, time, duration, and locations of well completion and recompletion operations and were used to calculate an industry growth rate for the purposes of the ICR. In the development stage, the EPA reviewed existing state and industry standards, and consulted with the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation, industry, and state and federal agencies. The EPA held numerous workshops to provide industry and other interested parties an opportunity to comment on all aspects of the FBIR FIP and ICR including technical operations, burden and costs, and the permitting process. Specific information concerning industry growth and costs associated with the initial ICR were obtained from the following companies:

|  |
| --- |
| **Organization** |
| Enerplus Resources Corporation |
| EOG Resources, Inc. |
| QEP Resources, Inc. |
| Slawson Exploration Company, Inc. |
| WPX Energy, Inc. |
| XTO Energy, Inc. |

Additionally, the EPA consulted with its own internal industry experts to verify the accuracy of the burden and costs numbers generated for the renewal of this ICR.

**9. PAYMENTS OR GIFTS TO RESPONDENTS**

EPA Region 8 is not aware of any payments or gifts to respondents.

**10. PROVISIONS FOR PROTECTION OF INFORMATION**

All information submitted to the EPA for which a claim of confidentiality is made will be

safeguarded according to the EPA policies set forth in Title 40, Chapter 1, part 2, subpart B--

Confidentiality of Business Information (see 40 CFR 2; 41 FR 36902, September 1, 1976; amended by 43 FR 39999, September 28, 1978; 43 FR 42251, September 28, 1978; 44 FR 17674, March 23, 1979).

**11. JUSTIFICATION FOR SENSITIVE QUESTIONS**

This section is not applicable because this ICR does not involve matters of a sensitive nature.

**12. ESTIMATES OF RESPONDENT BURDEN HOURS & LABOR COSTS**

**12A. RESPONDENTS/NAICS CODES**

Potential respondents under the FBIR FIP are owners or operators constructing, modifying, or operating an oil and natural gas well production facility producing from the Bakken Pool with one or more oil and natural gas wells, for any one of which completion or recompletion operations are/were performed on or after August 12, 2007, that is located on the FBIR. The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for the oil and natural gas industry potentially subject to the FBIR FIP is 211111 (Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Extraction).

**12B. INFORMATION REQUESTED**

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| --- | --- |
| **Recordkeeping** | |
| Maintain records of the measured barrels of oil produced at the oil and natural gas production facility each time the oil is unloaded from the produced oil storage tanks. | 49.4167(a)(1) |
| Maintain records of the volume of produced natural gas sent to each enclosed combustor, utility flare, and pit flare. | 49.4167(a)(2) |
| Maintain records of the volume of natural gas emissions from the produced oil storage tanks and produced water storage tanks sent to each enclosed combustor, utility flare, and pit flare. | 49.4167(a)(3) |
| Maintain records of each oil and natural gas well completion operation and recompletion operation. | 49.4167(a)(4) |
| Maintain records of the written, site-specific designs, operating instructions, operating procedures and maintenance schedules for each enclosed combustor, utility flare, and pit flare. | 49.4167(a)(5)(i) |
| Maintain records of all required monitoring of operations for each enclosed combustor, utility flare, and pit flare. | 49.4167(a)(5)(ii) |
| Maintain records of any deviations from the operating parameters specified by the written site-specific designs, operating instructions, and operating procedures. | 49.4167(a)(5)(iii) |
| Maintain records of any instances in which the pilot flame is not present, auto ignition system is not functioning, or the monitoring equipment is not functioning in the enclosed combustor, the utility flare, or the pit flare. | 49.4167(a)(5)(iv) |
| Maintain records of any instances in which a recording device installed to record data from the enclosed combustor, utility flare, or pit flare is not operational. | 49.4167(a)(5)(v) |
| Maintain records of any time periods in which visible smoke emissions are observed emanating from the enclosed combustor, utility flare, or pit flare. | 49.4167(a)(5)(vi) |
| Maintain records to demonstrate compliance with the use restrictions for pit flares. | 49.4167(a)(6) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Recordkeeping** | |
| Maintain records of any instances in which any closed-vent system or control device was bypassed or down, the reason for each incident, its duration, and the corrective actions taken, and any preventative measures adopted to avoid such bypasses or downtimes. | 49.4167(a)(7) |
| Maintain records of the documentation of all produced oil storage tank and produced water storage tank inspections required in § 49.4166(e) and (f). | 49.4167(a)(8) |
| Records retention requirements. | 49.4167(b), 49.1467 (c) |
| **Notifications and Reporting** | |
| Each owner and operator must submit an annual report containing the information specified in 49.4168(b)(1) through (4). | 49.4168(b) |

**12C. RESPONDENT ACTIVITIES**

|  |
| --- |
| **Respondent Activities** |
| Read instructions. |
| Gather relevant information. |
| Enter information required to be recorded above. |
| Submit the required reports. |
| Develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating, and verifying information. |
| Develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of processing and  maintaining information. |
| Train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information. |
| Completing and reviewing the collection of information. |
| Transmit, or otherwise disclose the information. |

**12D. RESPONDENT HOUR AND LABOR BURDEN**

The specific frequencies for each information collection activity within this request are shown in Exhibit 1a, Exhibit 1b, and Exhibit 1c of the R8 FBIR FIP ICR Renewal 2024 Tables: Respondent Burden of Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements.

Exhibit 1a, Exhibit 1b, and Exhibit 1c in the R8 FBIR FIP ICR Renewal 2024 Tables document the calculation of individual burdens for the recordkeeping and reporting requirements applicable to the respondents for the FBIR FIP included in this ICR for each of the next three years. The table below contains a summary of the respondent burden labor hours detailed in Exhibit 1a, Exhibit 1b, and Exhibit 1c of the R8 FBIR FIP ICR Renewal 2024 Tables.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Number of Respondents** | **Total Annual Labor Burden**  **(hours)** |
| 1 | 2628 | 120,233 |
| 2 | 3002 | 137,228 |
| 3 | 3377 | 154,376 |
| Total | 9007 | 411,836 |
| 3-Year Average | 3002 | 137,279 |

The respondent costs for the information collection activities in the FBIR FIP are presented in Exhibit 1a, Exhibit 1b, and Exhibit 1c of the R8 FBIR FIP ICR Renewal 2024 Tables. The total cost for each respondent activity includes labor costs, capital/startup costs, and operations and maintenance costs.

This ICR uses the following labor rates:

Managerial $131.31 ($82.07 x 1.6)

Technical $107.14 ($66.96 x 1.6)

Clerical $45.30 ($28.31 x 1.6)

These rates are from the *National Industry-Specific Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates NAICS 211100 - Oil* and Gas Extraction published by the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor and Statistics, May 2022. (Source: https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/naics4\_211100.htm#11-0000). The rates are the total compensation rates and include the base rate for wages and salaries, as well as benefits such as paid leave, insurance, and retirement savings. The table below contains a summary of the respondent labor costs detailed in Exhibit 1a, Exhibit 1b, and Exhibit 1c of the R8 FBIR FIP ICR Renewal 2024 Tables.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Number of Responses** | **Total Annual Labor Cost**  **($)** |
| 1 | 2,628 | $12,445,925 |
| 2 | 3,002 | $14,287,880 |
| 3 | 3,377 | $16,165,731 |
| Total | 9,007 | $42,899,536 |
| 3-Year Average | 3,002 | $14,299,845 |

It was estimated that an average of 2,628 facilities will be subject to the FBIR FIP requirements in the first year, 3,002 in the second year, and 3,377 in the third year during the 3-year period of this ICR. These numbers are based on information available from the North Dakota Industrial Commission9 and information provided by oil and natural gas operators in the required FBIR FIP annual reports10 for reporting years 2016 through 2021. The EPA believes this is an overestimation for future development and that the number of facilities (respondents) will decline as lease spacing limitations for drilling are met. For the FBIR FIP, the components of the total annual responses attributable to this ICR are recordkeeping and reporting of an average of 3,002 facilities operated by 10 distinct owners/operators over the 3-year period.

The number of total annual responses for the FBIR FIP is estimated as: 9,007 total respondents (affected facilities) from 10 distinct operators over the 3-year period. The average number of annual responses is 3,002.

The bottom-line respondent burden hours and costs, presented in Exhibit 1a, Exhibit 1b, and Exhibit 1c of the R8 FBIR FIP ICR Renewal 2024 Tables are calculated by adding person-hours per year down each column for technical, managerial, and clerical staff, and by adding down the cost column. The average annual burden for the recordkeeping and reporting requirements for the 10 distinct owners and operators that are subject to the FIP is 137,279 person-hours, with an annual average cost of $14,299,845.

**13. RESPONDENT ANNUAL COST (NON-LABOR)**

Capital/startup and operation and maintenance (O&M) costs associated with the FBIR FIP result from the requirement to monitor and record proper operation of the control device through the use of an auto igniter or continuous pilot flame, each equipped with a remote notification system, malfunction alarm, and continuous recording device. These costs were also included in the EPA’s preliminary cost analysis, which concluded the FBIR FIP was not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.8 The capital/startup costs and O&M costs specific to the auto igniter and continuous pilot flame were provided to the EPA by operators subject to the FBIR FIP. These initial capital/startup costs and O&M costs included the costs for the continuous pilot flame or auto igniter, in addition to the costs for the remote notification system, malfunction alarm, and continuous recording device. Since the EPA obtained information that an auto igniter or continuous pilot flame is typically already included with the control device, the EPA believes the estimated capital/startup and O&M costs are conservative overestimates. Furthermore, the annual capital/startup and O&M costs are expected to decline due to group discounts on equipment and increasing familiarity with the system components by the operators. The initial capital/startup costs were annualized over the expected lifetime of the equipment. Since the estimated lifetime of the equipment exceeds the 3-year period covered by this renewal ICR, those initial annualized capital/startup costs are included for each year of this renewal. The table below shows the expected capital/startup costs and O&M costs for this ICR.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Capital/Startup vs. Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Costs** | | | | | | |
| (A)  Continuous Monitoring Device | (B)  Average Annual Capital/‌Startup Cost for One Respondent | (C)  Average Annual Number of Respondents | (D)  Average Annual Capital/Startup Cost, (B×C) | (E)  Average Annual O&M Costs for One Respondent a | (F)  Average Annual Number of Respondents with O&M b | (G)  Total O&M,  (E×F) |
| Auto igniter or continuous  pilot flame | $5,213.0182 | 3,002.2500 | $ 15,650,784 | $8,367.5815 | 3,002.2500 | $25,121,572 |

**Assumptions:**

a O&M costs reflect operation and maintenance of an auto igniter or continuous pilot flame, which is typically included as part of the control device. Therefore, the above costs are a conservative overestimation of actual costs.

b Capital/Startup and O&M costs for continuous control device monitoring were already included in the cost analysis for the FBIR FIP, as detailed in the technical support document for the rule.

The average annual capital/startup costs for this ICR are $15,650,784. The average annual operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for this ICR are $25,121,572. Combined, the average annual cost for capital/startup and operation and maintenance costs to industry during the 3-year period of the ICR is estimated to be $40,772,356.

**14. AGENCY BURDEN ESTIMATES**

The agency activities associated with the FBIR FIP are to review, analyze, and maintain the annual reports required to be submitted by industry. Data and records maintained by the respondents are tabulated for internal use in compliance and enforcement programs of the EPA or delegated Tribal agency. Records may be maintained by the respondents in hard copy or electronic format to allow flexibility and reduce the burden. As a further effort to minimize the reporting burden, the FBIR FIP allows for the electronic submittal of annual reports via email to r8airreportenforcement@epa.gov. The FBIR FIP also allows owners/operators to submit one report for all their affected facilities, thus reducing the burden for multiple reports. Additionally, owners/operators are allowed to submit their annual reports required by the FBIR FIP at the same time as any required annual reports under the Title V operating permit program. EPA Region 8 will continue to work with owners/operators to streamline the recordkeeping and reporting process whenever possible.

Because the information collection requirements were developed as an incidental part of FIP development under section 301 of the CAA, no costs can be attributed to the development of the information collection requirements. Since reporting and recordkeeping requirements on many of the respondents are potentially required under the operating permits rule in 40 CFR part 71, no additional operational costs will be incurred by the federal government for these sources. Examination of records to be maintained by the respondents will occur incidentally as part of the periodic inspection of sources that is part of the EPA’s overall compliance and enforcement program and therefore is not attributable to the ICR. The only costs that the federal government will incur are user costs associated with the analysis of the reported information as presented in Exhibit 2a, Exhibit 2b, and Exhibit 2c of the FBIR FIP ICR Renewal Tables. The Agency estimates that it will take 1 hour for a GS-13 Step 1 employee to review annual reports, 3 minutes for a GS-14 Step 5 manager to supervise the work and 6 minutes for a GS-7 Step 3 employee to process the work. This cost is based on the average hourly labor rate as follows:

Managerial $112.78 (GS-14, Step 5, $70.90 x 1.6)

Technical $84.22 (GS-13, Step 1, $52.95 x 1.6)

Clerical $42.59 (GS-7, Step 3, $26.78 x 1.6)

These rates are from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), 2023 General Schedule, which includes locality rates of pay for the EPA Region 8 employees in the Denver, Colorado. The rates have been increased by 60 percent to account for the benefit packages available to government employees. The table below contains a summary of the agency labor costs detailed in Exhibit 2a, Exhibit 2b, and Exhibit 2c of the R8 FBIR FIP ICR Renewal 2024 Tables.

**Bottom-Line Annual Agency Burden and Cost**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Task** | **Activity** | **Total Annual Burden Hours** | **Total Burden Costs** |
| 1 | Reporting Requirements | Review Annual Reports | 3,022 | $247,314 |
| 2 | Reporting Requirements | Review Annual Reports | 3,453 | $284,219 |
| 3 | Reporting Requirements | Review Annual Reports | 3,883 | $321,523 |
| Total |  |  | 10,358 | $853,056 |
| 3-Year Average |  |  | 3,453 | $284,352 |

The bottom-line respondent burden hours and costs, presented in Exhibit 1a, Exhibit 1b, and Exhibit 1c in the R8 FBIR FIP ICR Renewal 2024 Tables are calculated by adding person-hours per year down each column for technical, managerial, and clerical staff, and by adding down the cost column. The average annual burden for the recordkeeping and reporting requirements for all 10 distinct owners and operators that are subject to the FIP is 137,279 person-hours, with an annual average cost of $14,299,845.

The average annual EPA cost is $284,352 for an average of 3,453 hours for the FBIR FIP. The bottom-line agency burden hours and costs presented in Exhibit 2a, Exhibit 2b, and Exhibit 2c on the R8 FBIR FIP ICR Renewal 2024 Tables are calculated by adding person-hours per year down each column for technical, managerial, and clerical staff, and by adding down the cost column.

**15. CHANGE IN BURDEN**

For both the respondents and the EPA, there is an increase in the total estimated average annual labor burden and total estimated average annual costs as currently identified in the OMB Inventory of Approved Burdens. There is an increase of 25,279 hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. The ICR currently approved by OMB has a three-year average total annual labor burden of 112,000 hours. This increase is due to the anticipated industry growth projected to occur over the next 3-year period of this ICR. In the initial creation of this program, the capital/O&M costs were annualized over 10 years. This is the third ICR package and it will cover years 10, 11, and 12 since promulgation of the FBIR FIP. The annual estimates over 10 years, along with the anticipated industry growth, and adjustment for inflation explain for the increase in cost. The anticipated industry growth comes from an estimated annual increase of 375 facilities each year. Additionally, the EPA updated the respondent, and the agency labor costs to reflect current rates referenced from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the OPM.

**16. PUBLICATION OF DATA**

EPA Region 8 is not aware of any publication of the data collected.

**17. DISPLAY OF OMB CONTROL NUMBER EXPIRATION DATA ON INSTRUMENTS**

EPA Region 8 is not aware of any instruments used to collect data for this information collection request.

**18. CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

EPA Region 8 is not aware of any exception to the topics of the certification statement under this information collection request.

1. US Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Land Management at 43 CFR part 3160, in the “Onshore Oil and Gas

   Operations; Federal and Indian Oil & Gas Leases; Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 4; Measurement of Oil.” [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
2. US Department of Interior’s Office of Natural Resources Revenue at 30 CFR 1210, “Forms and Reports.” [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
3. Oil and Gas Operating Report, Part A – Well Production, OMB Control Number 1012-0004. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
4. Oil and Gas Operating Report, Part B – Product Disposition, OMB Control Number 1012-0004. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
5. Well Completion or Recompletion Report and Log, OMB Control Number 1004-0137. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
6. Monthly Production Report Index at <https://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/findwellsvw.asp>, accessed June 23, 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)