

Sleasman, Katherine

From:
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 12:44 PM
To:
Cc:
Subject: Response Requested: Consultation on the Information Collection Request (ICR) Renewal for Toxic Chemical Release Reporting
Attachments: ICR_Consultation Questions TRI.docx

Hello All:

I am contacting you to solicit your input on the renewal of the Information Collection Request (ICR) (see attached questions). The existing ICR expires on June 30, 2025, for requirements pursuant to EPCRA section 313 titled, "Toxic Chemical Release Reporting," identified by OMB Control No. 2070-0212. OMB requires federal agencies to consult with nine or fewer potential respondents prior to submitting the ICR renewal to OMB for review and approval. This consultation requirement is in addition to providing the public with 60 days to comment on the proposed collection activity. The notice announcing the ICR renewal and solicitation of comments was published in the **Federal Register** on September 18, 2024 ([89 FR 76470](#)). See <http://www.regulations.gov/>, docket ID EPA-HQ-OPPT-2020-0078, and the ICR supporting statement for this renewal located in that docket for additional information.

The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) requires that agencies receive Office of Management and Budget (OMB) clearance before requesting most types of information from the public. In order to receive OMB clearance, federal agencies prepare draft ICRs providing an overview of the information collection and estimates of the cost and time for the public to respond. The agencies consult with potential respondents and the public about the ICR and, where appropriate, incorporate comments received. The draft ICR is then sent to OMB for its review and approval. These ICRs are periodically renewed. This ICR renewal covers reporting and recordkeeping requirements for certain facilities that manufacture, process, or otherwise use specified toxic chemicals in amounts above reporting threshold levels as provided in [40 CFR 372](#).

Please provide responses back by EPA by **Oct. 3, 2024**.

Thank You,

Consultation Questions for the Information Collection Request (ICR) for Toxic Chemical Release Reporting

(1) Publicly Available Data

- A. Is the data that the Agency seeks available from any public source, or already collected by another office at EPA or by another agency?
- B. If yes, where can you find the data?
(Does your answer indicate a true duplication, or does the input indicate that certain data elements are available, but that they do not meet our data needs very well?)

(2) Clarity of Instructions

The ICR covers the requirement under the PBT rule for respondents to maintain records.

- A. Based on the instructions (regulations, FR Notices, etc.), is it clear what you are required to do? If not, what suggestions do you have to clarify the instructions?
- B. Do you understand that you are required to maintain records?

(3) Electronic Reporting and Record keeping

The Government Paperwork Elimination Act requires agencies make available to the public electronic reporting alternatives to paper-based submissions by 2003, unless there is a strong reason for not doing so. One such reason is that, at the present time, the Agency is unable to ensure the security of CBI that might be transmitted over the Internet.

- A. What do you think about electronic alternatives to paper-based records and data submissions? Would you be interested in pursuing keeping records electronically?

B. Are you keeping your records electronically? If yes, in what format?

(4) Burden and Costs

A. Are the labor rates accurate?

B. The Agency assumes there is no capital cost associated with this activity. Is that correct?

C. Bearing in mind that the burden and cost estimates include only burden hours and costs associated with the paperwork involved with this ICR (*e.g.*, the ICR does not include estimated burden hours and costs for conducting studies) are the estimated burden hours and labor rates accurate? If you provide burden and cost estimates that are substantially different from EPA's, please provide an explanation of how you arrived at your estimates.

D. Are there other costs that should be accounted for that may have been missed?