

# U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

## Information Collection Request

**Title:** NESHAP for Mercury (40 CFR Part 61, Subpart E) (Renewal)

**OMB Control Number:** 2060-0097

**EPA ICR Number:** 0113.15

**Abstract:** The Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Mercury (40 CFR Part 61, Subpart E) were proposed on December 7, 1971, promulgated on April 6, 1973, and amended on October 14, 1975, March 19, 1987, October 17, 2000, and February 27, 2014. These regulations apply to existing facilities and new facilities which process mercury ore to recover mercury, use mercury chlor-alkali cells to produce chlorine gas and alkali metal hydroxide, and incinerate or dry wastewater treatment plant sludge. New facilities include those that commenced construction, modification or reconstruction after the date of proposal. This information is being collected to assure compliance with 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart E.

In general, all NESHAP standards require initial notifications, performance tests, and periodic reports by the owners/operators of the affected facilities. They are also required to maintain records of the occurrence and duration of any startup, shutdown, or malfunction in the operation of an affected facility, or any period during which the monitoring system is inoperative. These notifications, reports, and records are essential in determining compliance, and are required of all affected facilities subject to NESHAP.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the currently active ICR without any "Terms of Clearance".

### **Supporting Statement A**

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

*Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection.*

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The EPA is charged under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act, as amended, to establish standards of performance for each category or subcategory of major sources and area sources of hazardous air pollutants. These standards are applicable to new or existing sources of hazardous air pollutants and shall require the maximum degree of emission reduction. In addition, section 114(a) states that the Administrator may require any owner/operator subject to any requirement of this Act to:

- (A) Establish and maintain such records;
- (B) make such reports;
- (C) install, use, and maintain such monitoring equipment, and use such audit procedures, or methods;
- (D) 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);
- (E) keep records on control equipment parameters,

production variables or other indirect data when direct monitoring of emissions is impractical; (F) submit compliance certifications in accordance with Section 114(a)(3); and (G) provide such other information as the Administrator may reasonably require.

In the Administrator's judgment, mercury emissions from mercury ore processing facilities, sludge incineration plants, and sludge drying plants cause or contribute to air pollution that may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health or welfare. Therefore, the NESHAP were promulgated for this source category at 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart E.

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

*Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.*

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The recordkeeping and reporting requirements in these standards ensure compliance with the applicable regulations which were promulgated in accordance with the Clean Air Act. The collected information is also used for targeting inspections and as evidence in legal proceedings.

Performance tests are required in order to determine an affected facility's initial capability to comply with the emission standards. Continuous emission monitors are used to ensure compliance with the standards at all times. During the performance test a record of the operating parameters under which compliance was achieved may be recorded and used to determine compliance in place of a continuous emission monitor.

The notifications required in the standards are used to inform the Agency or delegated authority when a source becomes subject to the requirements of the regulations. The reviewing authority may then inspect the source to check if the pollution control devices are properly installed and operated, leaks are being detected and repaired, and the standards are being met. The performance test may also be observed.

The required annual and semiannual reports are used to determine periods of excess emissions, identify problems at the facility, verify operation/maintenance procedures and for compliance determinations.

## **3. USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

*Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.*

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Some of the respondents are using monitoring equipment that automatically records parameter data. Although personnel at the affected facility must still evaluate the data, internal automation has significantly reduced the burden associated with monitoring and recordkeeping at a plant site.

Electronic copies of records may also be maintained in order to satisfy federal recordkeeping requirements. For additional information on the Paperwork Reduction Act requirements for CEDRI and ERT for this rule, see: <https://www.epa.gov/electronic-reporting-air-emissions/paperwork-reduction-act-pra-cedri-and-ert>.

Information contained in these reports is reported by state and local governments in the ICIS Air database, which is operated and maintained by the EPA's Office of Compliance. The EPA uses ICIS for tracking air pollution compliance and enforcement by local and state regulatory agencies, EPA regional offices, and EPA headquarters. The EPA and its delegated authorities can edit, store, retrieve and analyze the data.

#### **4. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION**

*Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in Item 2 above.*

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For reports required to be submitted electronically, the information is sent through the EPA's CDX, using CEDRI, where the appropriate EPA regional office can review it, as well as state and local agencies that have been delegated authority. If a state or local agency has adopted under its own authority its own standards for reporting or data collection, adherence to those non-Federal requirements does not constitute duplication.

For all other reports, if the subject standards have not been delegated, the information is sent directly to the appropriate EPA regional office. Otherwise, the information is sent directly to the delegated state or local agency. If a state or local agency has adopted its own standards to implement the Federal standards, a copy of the report submitted to the state or local agency can be sent to the Administrator in lieu of the report required by the Federal standards. Therefore, duplication does not exist.

#### **5. MINIMIZING BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES AND SMALL ENTITIES**

*If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe any methods used to minimize burden.*

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A majority of the respondents are large entities (i.e., large businesses). However, the impact on small entities (i.e., small businesses) was taken into consideration during the development of these regulations. Due to technical considerations involving the process operations and the types of control equipment employed, the recordkeeping and reporting requirements are the same for both small and large entities. The Agency considers these to be the minimum requirements needed to ensure compliance and, therefore, cannot reduce them further for small entities. To the extent that larger businesses can use economies of scale to reduce their burden, the overall burden will be reduced.

#### **6. CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION**

*Describe the consequence to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.*

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Less frequent information collection would decrease the margin of assurance that facilities are continuing to meet the standards. Requirements for information gathering and recordkeeping are useful techniques to ensure that good operation and maintenance practices are applied and emission limitations are met. If the information required by these standards was collected less frequently, the proper operation and maintenance of control equipment and the possibility of detecting violations would be less likely.

## 7. GENERAL GUIDELINES

*Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.*

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These reporting or recordkeeping requirements do not violate any of the regulations promulgated by OMB under 5 CFR Part 1320, Section 1320.5.

## 8. PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONSULTATIONS

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### 8a. Public Comment

*If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the Agency's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the Agency in response to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden.*

An announcement of a public comment period for the renewal of this ICR was published in the Federal Register (89 FR 63933) on August 6, 2024. No comments were received on the burden published in the Federal Register for this renewal.

### 8b. Consultations

*Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the Agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported. Consultation with representatives of those from whom information is to be obtained or those who must compile records should occur at least once every 3 years - even if the collection of information activity is the same as in prior periods. There may be circumstances that may preclude consultation in a specific situation. These circumstances should be explained.*

The Agency has consulted industry experts and internal data sources to project the number of affected facilities and industry growth over the next three years. The primary source of information as reported by industry, in compliance with the recordkeeping and reporting provisions in the standard, is the Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS). ICIS is EPA's database for the collection, maintenance, and retrieval of compliance data for industrial and government-owned facilities. The growth rate for the industry is based on our consultations with the Agency's internal industry experts. Approximately 100 respondents will be subject to the standard over the three-year period covered by this ICR.

Industry trade association(s) and other interested parties were provided an opportunity to comment on the burden associated with the standard as it was being developed and the standard has been previously reviewed to determine the minimum information needed for compliance purposes. In developing this ICR, we contacted both the California Association of Sanitation Agencies at (916) 446-0388, and the Wastewater and Sewer Department of the city of Frankfort, IN at (765) 659-4741. In this case, no comments were received.

It is our policy to respond after a thorough review of comments received since the last ICR renewal as well as those submitted in response to the first Federal Register notice. In this case, no comments were received.

## 9. PAYMENTS OR GIFTS TO RESPONDENTS

*Explain any decisions to provide payments or gifts to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.*

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No payments or gifts are made to respondents.

## 10. ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

*Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or Agency policy. If the collection requires a systems of records notice (SORN) or privacy impact assessment (PIA), those should be cited and described here.*

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Any information submitted to the Agency for which a claim of confidentiality is made will be safeguarded according to the Agency 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 40000, September 8, 1978; 43 FR 42251, September 20, 1978; 44 FR 17674, March 23, 1979).

## 11. JUSTIFICATION FOR SENSITIVE QUESTIONS

*Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the Agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.*

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The reporting or recordkeeping requirements in the standard do not include sensitive questions.

## 12. RESPONDENT BURDEN HOURS & LABOR COSTS

*Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. The statement should:*

- Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. Generally, estimates should not include burden hours for customary and usual business practices.*
  - If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and the aggregate the hour burdens.*
  - Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories. The cost of contracting out or paying outside parties for information collection activities should not be included here. Instead, this cost should be included as O&M costs under non-labor costs covered under question 13.*
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### 12a. Respondents/NAICS Codes

The respondents to the recordkeeping and reporting requirements are mercury ore processing facilities, sludge incineration plants, and sludge drying plants. The United States Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code for the respondents affected by the standards, and the corresponding North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes are listed below:

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<b>Standard (40 CFR Part 61, Subpart E)</b>	<b>SIC Codes</b>	<b>NAICS Codes</b>
Other Basic Inorganic Chemical Manufacturing	2819	325180
Sewage Treatment Facilities	4952	221320

Based on our research for this ICR, on average over the next three years, approximately 100 existing respondents (all wastewater sludge incineration and drying plants) will be subject to the standard. It is estimated that no additional respondents per year will become subject, for an overall total of 100 respondents per year. The number of respondents is calculated using the table Number of Respondents that addresses the three years covered by this ICR. None of the facilities in the United States are owned by either state, local, or tribal entities or by the Federal government. They are all owned and operated by privately-owned, for-profit businesses. We assume that they will all respond to EPA inquiries. Based on our consultations with industry representatives, there is an average of one affected facility at each plant site and each plant site has only one respondent (i.e., the owner/operator of the plant site).

The total number of annual responses per year is calculated using the table Total Annual Responses shown below. The number of Total Annual Responses is 100.

#### **12b. Information Requested**

In this ICR, all the data that are recorded or reported is required by the NESHAP for Mercury (40 CFR Part 61, Subpart E). Any owner/operator subject to the provisions of this part shall maintain a file of these measurements and retain the file for at least two years following the date of such measurements, maintenance reports, and records.

A source must make the following reports:

<b>Notifications</b>	
Application of construction or modification.	§§ 61.06 and 61.07
Anticipated date of initial startup.	§ 61.09(a)(1)
Actual startup.	§ 61.09(a)(2)
Physical or operational change which may increase the emission rate.	§ 61.15
Performance test.	§ 61.13(c)
Stack emission test.	§§ 61.53(a)(2), (b)(2), (c)(3), (d)(3)

<b>Notifications</b>	
Parameter excursion that persists for 24 consecutive hours or longer (Administrator must be notified within 10 days).	§ 61.55(b)(6)
Sludge sampling test.	§ 61.54(b)
Annual mercury emissions monitoring for wastewater treatment plant sludge	§ 61.55(a)

<b>Reports</b>	
Stack tests, emission test results and sludge sampling data.	§§ 61.13(f), 61.53(a)(3), (a)(4), (b)(3), (b)(4), (d)(4), (d)(5), 61.54(e), (f)
Optional submission of a plant-specific monitoring, record keeping, and recording plan.	§ 61.55(c)
Annual results of mercury emissions monitoring for wastewater treatment plant sludge.	§ 61.55(a)
Semiannual reports of parameter excursions.	§§ 61.55(b)(7), (b)(8)

A source must keep the following records:

<b>Recordkeeping</b>	
Emission test results and sludge sampling data.	§§ 61.53(a)(5), (b)(5), (d)(6), 61.54(g), and 61.55(a)
Monitoring data, monitoring system calibration checks, and the occurrence and duration of periods where the monitoring system is malfunctioning or	§ 61.14(f)

<b>Recordkeeping</b>	
inoperative.	
Monitoring of process or control device parameters.	§§ 61.55(b)(2), (b)(4)
Certifications and calibrations of monitoring devices.	§61.55(b)(5)
Daily records of all leaks or spills of mercury for two years.	§§ 61.55(d)(1), (d)(2)
Records shall be retained for at least two years, except that records of monitoring device certification must be retained for the life of the device.	§§ 61.14(f), 61.53(a)(5), (b)(5), (d)(6), 61.54(g), 61.55(b)(5), (d)(2)

### 12c. Respondent Activities

<b>Respondent Activities</b>
Familiarization with the regulatory requirements.
For mercury cell chlor-alkali plants, install, operate, maintain, calibrate, and certify monitoring devices.
Perform initial performance test, using Method 101 Appendix B for mercury ore processing facilities, Method 102 for mercury chlor-alkali plants with hydrogen streams, Method 101 Appendix B for mercury chlor-alkali plants with cell room ventilation systems, Method 101A in Appendix B for sludge incineration and drying plants, or the alternative test Method 105 of Appendix B, and repeat performance tests if necessary.
Write the notifications and reports listed above.
Enter information required to be recorded above.
Submit the required reports developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for collecting, validating, and verifying information.
Develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for processing and maintaining information.
Develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for disclosing and providing information.
Train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information.



Respondent Activities
Transmit, or otherwise disclose the information.

#### 12d. Respondent Burden Hours and Labor Costs

Table 1 documents the computation of individual burdens for the recordkeeping and reporting requirements applicable to the industry for the subpart included in this ICR. The individual burdens are expressed under standardized headings believed to be consistent with the concept of burden under the Paperwork Reduction Act. Where appropriate, specific tasks and major assumptions have been identified. Responses to this information collection are mandatory.

The average annual burden to industry over the next three years from these recordkeeping and reporting requirements is estimated to be 16,500 hours (Total Labor Hours from Table 1). These hours are based on Agency studies and background documents from the development of the regulation, Agency knowledge and experience with the NESHAP program, the previously approved ICR, and any comments received.

This ICR uses the following labor rates:

Managerial	\$172.41 (\$82.10 + 110%)
Technical	\$141.75 (\$67.50 + 110%)
Clerical	\$71.36 (\$33.98 + 110%)

These rates are from the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, December 2023, "Table 2. Civilian workers by occupational and industry group." The rates are from column 1, "Total compensation." The rates are increased by 110 percent to account for varying industry wage rates and the additional overhead business costs of employing workers beyond their wages and benefits, including business expenses associated with hiring, training, and equipping their employees.

We assume that burdens for managerial tasks take 5% of the time required for technical tasks because the typical tasks for managers are to review and approve reports. Clerical burdens are assumed to take 10% of the time required for technical tasks because the typical duties of clerical staff are to proofread the reports, make copies and maintain records.

#### 13. RESPONDENT CAPITAL AND O&M COSTS

*Provide an estimate for the total annual cost burden to respondents or record keepers resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden already reflected on the burden worksheet).*

*The cost estimate should be split into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component (annualized over its expected useful life) and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of services component. The estimates should consider costs associated with generating, maintaining, and disclosing or providing the information. Include descriptions of methods used to estimate major cost factors including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, the discount rate(s), and the period over which costs will be incurred. Capital and start-up*

*costs include, among other items, preparations for collecting information such as purchasing computers and software; monitoring, sampling, drilling, and testing equipment; and record storage facilities. If cost estimates are expected to vary widely, agencies should present ranges of cost burdens and explain the reasons for the variance. The cost of purchasing or contracting out information collections services should be a part of this cost burden estimate.*

*Generally, estimates should not include purchases of equipment or services, or portions thereof, made: (1) prior to October 1, 1995, (2) to achieve regulatory compliance with requirements not associated with the information collection, (3) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the government, or (4) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.*

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The only type of industry costs associated with the information collection activity in the regulations are labor costs. There are no capital/startup or operation and maintenance costs.

#### **14. AGENCY COSTS**

*Provide estimates of annualized costs to the Federal government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operational expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information.*

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##### **14a. Agency Activities**

The EPA conducts the following activities in connection with the acquisition, analysis, storage, and distribution of the required information:

- Review notifications and reports, including performance test reports, and excess emissions reports, required to be submitted by industry.
- Audit facility records.
- Input, analyze, and maintain data in the Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) and ICIS.

Following notification of startup, the reviewing authority could inspect the source to determine whether the pollution control devices are properly installed and operated. Performance test reports are used by the Agency to discern a source's initial capability to comply with the emission standard, and note the operating conditions under which compliance was achieved. Data and records maintained by the respondents are tabulated and published for use in compliance and enforcement programs. The semiannual reports are used for problem identification, as a check on source operation and maintenance, and for compliance determinations.

Information contained in the reports is reported by state and local governments in the ICIS Air database, which is operated and maintained by EPA's Office of Compliance. EPA uses ICIS for tracking air pollution compliance and enforcement by local and state regulatory agencies, EPA regional offices and EPA headquarters. EPA and its delegated Authorities can edit, store, retrieve and analyze the data.

##### **14b. Agency Labor Cost**

The 'burden' to the Federal Government is attributed entirely to work performed by either Federal employees or government contractors. The only costs to the Agency are those costs associated with analysis of the reported information. The EPA's overall compliance and enforcement program includes

such activities as the examination of records maintained by the respondents, periodic inspection of sources of emissions, and the publication and distribution of collected information. The average annual Agency burden and cost during the three years of the ICR is estimated to be 497 hours at a cost of \$25,600. See Table 2: Average Annual EPA Burden and Cost – NESHAP for Mercury (40 CFR Part 61, Subpart E) (Renewal).

This cost is based on the average hourly labor rate as follows:

Managerial	\$76.91 (GS-13, Step 5, \$48.07 + 60%)
Technical	\$57.07 (GS-12, Step 1, \$35.67 + 60%)
Clerical	\$30.88 (GS-6, Step 3, \$19.30+ 60%)

These rates are from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), 2024 General Schedule, which excludes locality, rates of pay. The rates have been increased by 60 percent to account for the benefit packages available to government employees. Details upon which this estimate is based appear at the end of this document in Table 2: Average Annual EPA Burden and Cost – NESHAP for Mercury (40 CFR Part 61, Subpart E) (Renewal).

#### **14c. Agency Non-Labor Costs**

There are no non-labor costs to the Agency associated with this information collection.

#### **15) REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN**

*Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in the burden or capital/O&M cost estimates.*

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The decrease in burden from the most recently approved ICR is due to an adjustment(s). The adjustment decrease in burden from the most recently approved ICR for new and existing facilities is due primarily to a program change in a very similar Part 63 regulation for Mercury Cell Chlor-Alkali plants. Beginning on May 6, 2025, any amount of mercury emissions from mercury cell chlor-alkali plants are prohibited pursuant to 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart IIIII. It is assumed that the single mercury cell chlor-alkali facility will either convert its one mercury cell unit to a non-mercury technology (its other units are already using non-mercury technology) or close that mercury cell unit and thereafter rely solely on its other non-mercury units for chlorine production (87 FR 27002). As such, the one mercury cell chlor-alkali plant that was accounted for in the most recently approved ICR is not expected to be in operation.

While there is a decrease in burden from the most recently approved ICR, there is an increase in costs, which is wholly due to the use of updated labor rates.

#### **16) PUBLICATION OF DATA**

*For collections of information whose results will be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.*

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All non-CBI data submitted electronically to the Agency through CEDRI are available to the public for review and printing and are accessible using WebFIRE. Electronically submitted emissions data from performance testing or performance evaluations using the Electronic Reporting Tool or templates attached to CEDRI, as well as data from reports from regulations with electronic templates, are tabulated; data submitted as portable document format (PDF) files attached to CEDRI are neither tabulated nor subject to complex analytical techniques. Electronically submitted emissions data used to develop emissions factors undergo complex analytical techniques and the draft emissions factors are available on the Clearinghouse for Inventories and Emission Factors listserv at <https://www.epa.gov/chief/chief-listserv> for public review and printing. Electronically submitted emissions data, as well as other data, obtained from one-time or sporadic information collection requests often undergo complex analytical techniques; results of those activities are included in individual rulemaking dockets and are available at <https://www.regulations.gov/> for public review and printing.

#### **17) DISPLAY OF EXPIRATION DATE**

*If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.*

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EPA will display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection.

#### **18) CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

*Explain each exception to the topics of the certification statement identified in "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions."*

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There are no exceptions to the topics of the certification statement.

**Table 1: Annual Respondent Burden and Cost – NESHAP for Mercury (40 CFR part 61, Subpart E) (Renewal)**

Burden Item	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)
	Person-hours per occurrence	No. of occurrences per respondent per year	Person-hours per respondent per year (C=AxB)	Respondents per year <sup>a</sup>	Technical person-hours per year (E=CxD)	Management person-hours per year (F=Ex0.05)	Clerical person-hours per year (G=Ex0.1)	Cost (\$) <sup>b</sup>
1. Applications	N/A							
2. Survey and Studies	N/A							
3. Reporting requirements								
A. Familiarization with regulatory requirements <sup>c</sup>	1	1	1	100	100	5	10	\$15,750.65
B. Required activities for New Sources								
Initial performance test <sup>d</sup>	24	1	24	0	0	0	0	\$0
Repeat performance test <sup>e</sup>	24	0.2	4.8	0	0	0	0	\$0
C. Create information	See 3B							
D. Gather existing information	See 3B							
E. Write reports								
New Sources								
Notification of construction/reconstruction <sup>f</sup>	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	\$0
Notification of initial startup <sup>g</sup>	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	\$0
Notification of actual startup <sup>g</sup>	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	\$0
Report of initial performance test								
Notification of initial performance test	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	\$0
Existing Sources								
Report of annual emission test <sup>h</sup>	12	1	12	100	1200	60	120	\$189,007.80
Submit semiannual report <sup>i</sup>	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	\$0
Notification of parameter excursions <sup>j</sup>	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	\$0

<b>Subtotal for Reporting Requirements</b>						<b>1,495</b>		<b>\$204,758</b>
4. Recordkeeping requirements								
A. Familiarization with regulatory requirements	See 3A							
B. Plan activities	See 3B							
C. Implement activities	See 3B							
D. Develop record system								
Record operating parameters <sup>k</sup>	0.25	365	91.25	100	9,125	456.25	912.5	\$1,437,246.81
Record mercury leaks <sup>l</sup>	0.25	365	91.25	0	0	0	0	\$0
Record monitored parameters <sup>l</sup>	0.5	365	182.5	0	0	0	0	\$0
Compile data for semiannual reports <sup>m</sup>	8	2	16	0	0	0	0	\$0
Maintain data on mercury leaks <sup>n</sup>	0.5	52	26	0	0	0	0	\$0
Maintain data on monitored parameters <sup>n</sup>	0.5	52	26	0	0	0	0	\$0
E. Time to enter information								
Records of startup, shutdown, and malfunction <sup>o</sup>	1.5	52	78	50	3900	195	390	\$614,275.35
F. Audits								
<b>Subtotal for Recordkeeping Requirements</b>						<b>14,979</b>		<b>\$2,051,522</b>
<b>TOTAL LABOR BURDEN AND COST (rounded) <sup>p</sup></b>						<b>16,500</b>		<b>\$2,260,000</b>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL AND O&amp;M COSTS (rounded) <sup>p</sup></b>								<b>\$0</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL (rounded) <sup>p</sup></b>								<b>\$2,260,000</b>

#### Assumptions:

<sup>a</sup> We have assumed that there are approximately 100 (100 wastewater sludge incineration and drying plants) existing sources currently subject to this rule. There will be no additional new source that will become subject to the rule over the three-year period of this ICR.

<sup>b</sup> This ICR uses the following labor rates: Managerial \$172.41 (\$82.10+ 110%); Technical \$141.75 (\$67.50 + 110%); and Clerical \$71.36 (\$33.98 + 110%). These rates are from the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, December 2023, “Table 2. Civilian workers by occupational and industry group.” The rates are from column 1, “Total compensation.” The rates are increased by 110 percent to account for varying industry wage rates and the additional overhead business costs of employing workers beyond their wages and benefits, including business expenses associated with hiring, training, and equipping their employees.

<sup>c</sup> We have assumed that it will take 1 hour for existing respondents to refamiliarize themselves with rule requirements.

<sup>d</sup> We have assumed that it will take each new respondent 24 hours to complete initial performance test. Since there are no new respondents estimated, this

requirement does not apply.

<sup>e</sup> We have assumed that 20 percent of new respondents will repeat the performance test due to failure. Since there are no new respondents estimated, this requirement does not apply.

<sup>f</sup> We have assumed that each new respondent will take two hours to write notification reports on construction/reconstruction. Since there are no new respondents estimated, this requirement does not apply.

<sup>g</sup> We have assumed that it will take each new respondent two hours each to write notification reports on initial startup and actual startup. Since there are no new respondents estimated, this requirement does not apply.

<sup>h</sup> We have assumed that 100 of the existing respondents will take 12 hours to write reports on the annual emission tests.

<sup>i</sup> We have assumed that none of the existing respondents will have to submit semiannual reports.

<sup>j</sup> We have assumed that none of the existing respondents will write notification reports on parameter excursions two times per year.

<sup>k</sup> We have assumed that all respondents will record operating parameters 365 days per year.

<sup>l</sup> We have assumed that no respondents will have to record mercury leaks and monitored parameters.

<sup>m</sup> We have assumed that no respondents will compile data for semiannual reports.

<sup>n</sup> We have assumed that no respondents will have to maintain data on mercury leaks and monitored parameters.

<sup>o</sup> We have assumed that 50 percent of the respondents will each take 1.5 hours to record information of startup, shutdown, and malfunctions.

<sup>p</sup> Totals have been rounded to 3 significant figures. Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

**Table 2: Average Annual EPA Burden and Cost – NESHAP for Mercury (40 CFR part 61, Subpart E) (Renewal)**

Activity	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)
	EPA person-hours per occurrence <sup>e</sup>	No. of occurrences per plant per year	EPA person-hours per plant-year (C=AxB)	Plants per year <sup>a</sup>	Technical person-hours per year (E=CxD)	Management person-hours per year (F=Ex0.05)	Clerical person-hours per year (G=Ex0.1)	Cost (\$) <sup>b</sup>
Required activities								
New Plants								
Initial performance test <sup>c</sup>	24	1	24	0	0	0	0	\$0
Repeat initial performance test <sup>c, d</sup>	24	0.2	4.8	0	0	0	0	\$0
Report Review								
New Plants								
Notification of construction <sup>e</sup>	0.5	1	0.5	0	0	0	0	\$0
Notification of initial startup <sup>e</sup>	0.5	1	0.5	0	0	0	0	\$0
Notification of actual startup <sup>e</sup>	0.5	1	0.5	0	0	0	0	\$0
Notification of initial test <sup>e</sup>	0.5	1	0.5	0	0	0	0	\$0
Review test results <sup>f</sup>	8	1.2	9.6	0	0	0	0	\$0
Existing Plants								
Annual emission test	4	1	4	100	400	20	40	\$25,602
Review semiannual reports <sup>g</sup>	8	2	16	0	0	0	0	\$0
Review notification on monitored parameters <sup>h</sup>	8	2	16	0	0	0	0	\$0
<b>TOTAL (rounded) <sup>i</sup></b>					<b>460</b>			<b>\$25,600</b>

**Assumptions:**

<sup>a</sup> We have assumed that there are approximately 100 (100 wastewater sludge incineration and drying plants) existing sources currently subject to this rule. There will be no additional new source that will become subject to the rule over the three-year period of this ICR.



<sup>b</sup> This cost is based on the average hourly labor rate as follows: Managerial \$76.91 (GS-13, Step 5, \$48.07 + 60%); Technical \$57.07 (GS-12, Step 1, \$35.67 + 60%); and Clerical \$30.88 (GS-6, Step 3, \$19.30 + 60%). This ICR assumes that Managerial hours are 5 percent of Technical hours, and Clerical hours are 10 percent of Technical hours. These rates are from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), 2024 General Schedule, which excludes locality, rates of pay. The rates have been increased by 60 percent to account for the benefit packages available to government employees.

<sup>c</sup> We have assumed that the Agency will take 24 hours to participate in the performance tests. It is assumed that all initial performance tests have been completed by existing respondents. Since there are no new respondents estimated, this requirement does not apply.

<sup>d</sup> We have assumed that 20 percent of new respondents will have to repeat the performance tests due to failure. Since there are no new respondents estimated, this requirement does not apply.

<sup>e</sup> We have assumed that it will take 0.5 hours for the Agency to review notification reports for each respondent. Since there are no new respondents estimated, this requirement does not apply.

<sup>f</sup> We have assumed that it will take 8 hours for the Agency to review test results for each respondent. Since there are no new respondents estimated, this requirement does not apply.

<sup>g</sup> We have assumed that none of the existing respondents will have to submit semiannual reports.

<sup>h</sup> We have assumed that no respondents will have to record mercury leaks and monitored parameters.

<sup>i</sup> Totals have been rounded to 3 significant figures. Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

## Number of Respondents

	Respondents That Submit Reports		Respondents That Do Not Submit Any Reports		
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
Year	Number of New Respondents <sup>1</sup>	Number of Existing Respondents	Number of Existing Respondents that keep records but do not submit reports	Number of Existing Respondents That Are Also New Respondents	Number of Respondents (E=A+B+C-D)
1	0	100	0	0	100
2	0	100	0	0	100
3	0	100	0	0	100
Average	0	100	0	0	100

<sup>1</sup> New respondents include sources with constructed, reconstructed and modified affected facilities.

### Total Annual Responses

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
Information Collection Activity	Number of Respondents	Number of Responses	Number of Existing Respondents That Keep Records But Do Not Submit Reports	Total Annual Responses $E=(B \times C)+D$
Notification of construction/reconstruction	0	1	0	0
Notification of initial startup	0	1	0	0
Notification of actual startup	0	1	0	0
Notification of initial performance test	0	1	0	0
Report of annual emission monitoring	100	1	0	100
Submit semiannual report	1	2	0	2
Notification of parameter excursions	1	2	0	2
		<b>Total (rounded)</b>		<b>104</b>