

OMB Control # 0920-1422

National Wastewater Surveillance System for Infectious Diseases to Inform Public Health Action

Request for OMB approval of a Revision of a Currently Approved Collection

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Supporting Statement B

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This data collection does not involve statistical methods. Once collected, data may be analyzed by methods such as trend calculation for the purpose of making statistical generalizations beyond the particular respondents.

1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

Respondents are US state, tribal, local and territorial (STLT) health departments, wastewater utilities, and public health, academic, and private contract laboratories. The collection of data may come from any participating wastewater utility or STLT jurisdiction in the United States. STLT health department participate in wastewater surveillance based on state public health interest in wastewater surveillance, state priorities, resources and capacity, and the selection of wastewater utilities is determined by STLT health departments in coordination and discussion with local wastewater utilities or other public health partners. The selection of contract laboratories will be determined based on a competitive contract proposal submission process with objective evaluations led by the CDC.

2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

Wastewater data collection is coordinated by health department jurisdictions in close collaboration with wastewater utilities, testing laboratories, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Data are also collected by private laboratories, working closely with wastewater utilities, that are contracted by CDC or have entered into data sharing agreements with CDC. Wastewater utilities or other public health partners collect grab, time-weighted composite, or flow-weighted composite samples from wastewater influent lines, or from upstream wastewater collection sites or along the treatment pathway at least once a week. The wastewater samples, and their associated sampling metadata (Attachment 02), is shipped to testing laboratories where RNA and/or DNA is extracted and quantified for the presence and concentration of multiple infectious disease targets of public health concern, including normalization and recovery controls. Some samples may be characterized by using targeted or non-targeted sequencing to monitor genetic variants or infectious diseases of concern. The testing laboratory delivers wastewater sample collections and laboratory testing data (Attachment 02) to the jurisdiction health department to compile, review, and submit to 1CDP using the bulk upload template or application programming interface (API) (Attachment 08). Sequencing data will be submitted using

the appropriate NCBI templates and crosswalk data dictionaries (Attachment 03-06) and submitted to CDC's AMD platform. Any laboratories contracted by CDC will compile and submit sampling metadata and testing data directly to 1CDP and CDC's AMD platform through an API or by using the bulk upload template (Attachment 08). In addition to wastewater data, health departments work with participating utilities to obtain spatial files of the utility service areas, when possible, also called a sewershed, which will be uploaded into 1CDP. Optionally, health departments may develop and submit into 1CDP a list of de-identified, reported clinical cases of specific infections associated with the sewershed using a crosswalk template (Attachment 10).

3. Methods to maximize Response Rates and Deal with No Response

Not applicable.

4. Tests of Procedures or Methods to be undertaken

This information collection request is built upon a project currently approved under the COVID-19 public health emergency PRA. The instruments, procedures, and methods in this data collection were refined to minimize burden and improve utility, in part, during a wastewater data pilot collection with three state participants conducted during the COVID-19 response. In coordination with jurisdictions, we determined and refined the average annualized burden to collect pathogens in wastewater testing data, which served as the basis for determining the average annualized burden to collect wastewater testing and sequencing data for infectious diseases, the use of collection instruments, as well as for collection and submission of sewershed spatial files and deidentified sewershed case data and associated collection instruments.

5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data

None.