application itself, or a notice of intent to file such an application, to the Commission on or before the specified comment date for the particular application (see 18 CFR 4.36). Submission of a timely notice of intent allows an interested person to file the competing preliminary permit application no later than 30 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing preliminary permit application must conform with 18 CFR 4.30(b) and 4.36.

Preliminary Permit—Any qualified development applicant desiring to file a competing development application must submit to the Commission, on or before a specified comment date for the particular application, either a competing development application or a notice of intent to file such an application. Submission of a timely notice of intent to file a development application allows an interested person to file the competing application no later than 120 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing license application must conform with 18 CFR 4.30(b) and 4.36.

Notice of intent—A notice of intent must specify the exact name, business address and telephone number of the prospective applicant, and must include an unequivocal statement of intent to submit, if such an application may be filed, either a preliminary permit application or a development application (specify which type of application). A notice of intent must be served on the applicant(s) named in this public notice.

Proposed Scope of Studies under Permit—A preliminary permit, if issued, does not authorize construction. The term of the proposed preliminary permit would be 36 months. The work proposed under the preliminary permit would include economic analysis, preparation of preliminary engineering plans, and a study of environmental impacts. Based on the results of these studies, the Applicant would decide whether to proceed with the preparation of a development application to construct and operate the project.

Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene—Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

Filing and Service of Responsive Documents—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title ''COMMENTS'', ''NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE COMPETING APPLICATION'', ''COMPETING APPLICATION'', ''PROTEST'', ''MOTION TO INTERVENE'', as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the filing refers. Any of the above-named documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies provided by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. An additional copy must be sent to Director, Division of Project Review, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, at the above-mentioned address. A copy of any notice of intent, competing application or motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

Agency Comments—Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99–14573 Filed 6–8–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP–00590; FRL–6070–2]

Maximum Residue Limit Petitions for Pesticides on Food/Feed and New Inert Ingredients; Renewal of Pesticide Information Collection Activities and Request for Comments

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the EPA is seeking public comment on the following Information Collection Request (ICR): ''Maximum Residue Limit Petitions for Pesticides on Food/Feed and New Inert Ingredients,'' (EPA ICR No. 0597.07, OMB No. 2070–0024). This ICR involves a collection activity that is currently approved. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection activity and its expected burden and costs. Before submitting this ICR to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval under the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the collection.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before August 9, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit III. of the ''SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION'' section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cameo Smoot, Office of Pesticide Programs, Mail Code 7506C, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, telephone: 703–305–5454, fax: 703–305–5884, e-mail: smoot.cameo@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Does this Notice Apply to Me?

You may be potentially affected by this notice if you have submitted a petition for a Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) or an exemption to the requirement for a MRL for an active or inert ingredient used in pesticides. By law, to protect the public health from unsafe pesticide residues, EPA is authorized to set MRLs on the nature and level of residues permitted to remain on food or feed (see sections 408(a)(1)(A) and (a)(1)(B) and section 408(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA)). This ICR covers all requests for MRLs, or exemptions from the requirement of a MRL and the type of data that is required to be submitted.

Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to the following:

Category	NAICS Code	SIC Codes	Examples of Potentially Affected Entities
Pesticide and other agricultural chemical manufacturing	325320	286—Industrial organic chemicals 287—Agricultural chemicals	Pesticide manufacturing companies, pesticide registrants, Interregional Research Project No. 4 (IR–4) petitioners, and third party registrants

This table is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in this table could also be affected. You or your business are affected by this action if you have a conditional pesticide registration with the Agency. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the technical person listed in the ''FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT'' section.

II. How Can I Get Additional Information or Copies of this Document or Other Support Documents?

A. Electronic Availability

Electronic copies of this document and the ICR are available from the EPA Home Page at the **Federal Register** - Environmental Documents entry for this document under ''Laws and Regulations'' (http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/). You can easily follow the menu to find this **Federal Register** notice using the publication date or the **Federal Register** citation for this notice. Although a copy of the ICR is posted with the **Federal Register** notice, you can also access a copy of the ICR by going directly to http://www.epa.gov/icr/. You can then easily follow the menu to locate this ICR by the EPA ICR number, the OMB control number, or the title of the ICR.

B. Fax-on-Demand

Using a faxphone call 202–401–0527 and select item 6071 for a copy of the ICR.

C. In Person or By Phone

If you have any questions or need additional information about this notice or the ICR referenced, please contact the person identified in the ''FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT'' section.

In addition, the official record for this notice, including the public version, has been established under docket control number OPP–00590, (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of any electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI), is available for inspection in the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) Public Docket, Rm. 119, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The OPP Public Docket telephone number is 703–305–5805.

III. How Can I Respond to this Notice?

A. How and to Whom Do I Submit the Comments?

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. Be sure to identify the appropriate docket control number, OPP–00590, in your correspondence.

1. *By mail.* Submit written comments to: OPP Public Docket, Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver written comments to: OPP Public Docket, Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Rm. 119, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, Telephone: 703–305–5805.

3. *Electronically.* Submit your comments and/or data electronically by e-mail to: opp-docket@epa.gov. Please note that you should not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on standard computer disks in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number OPP–00590. Electronic comments on this notice may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

B. How Should I Handle CBI Information that I Want to Submit to the Agency?

You may claim information that you submit in response to this notice as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must also be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public docket by EPA without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult with the technical person listed in the ''FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT'' section.

C. What Information is EPA Particularly Interested in?

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of PRA, EPA specifically solicits comments and information to enable it to:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility.

2. Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimates of the burdens of the proposed collections of information.

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

4. Minimize the burden of the collections of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated or electronic collection technologies or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

D. What Should I Consider When I Prepare My Comments for EPA?

We invite you to provide your views on the estimates provided, new approaches we haven't considered, the potential impacts of the various options (including possible unintended consequences), and any data or information that you would like the Agency to consider during the development of the final action. You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

- Explain your views as clearly as possible.
- Describe any assumptions that you used.
- Provide solid technical information and/or data to support your views.
- If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate.

• Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.

• Offer alternative ways to improve the collection activity.

• Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this notice.

• At the beginning of your comments (e.g., as part of the ''Subject'' heading), be sure to properly identify the document you are commenting on. You can do this by providing the docket control number assigned to the notice, along with the EPA and OMB ICR numbers.

IV. What Information Collection Activity or ICR Does this Notice Apply to?

EPA is seeking comments on the following ICR:

Title: Maximum Residue Limit Petitions for Pesticides on Food/Feed and New Inert Ingredients.

ICR numbers: EPA ICR No. 0597.07, OMB No. 2070–0024.

ICR status: This ICR is currently scheduled to expire on June 30, 1999. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information that is subject to approval under the PRA, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's information collections appear on the collection instruments or instructions, in the **Federal Register** notices for related rulemakings and ICR notices, and, if the collection is contained in a regulation, in a table of OMB approval numbers in 40 CFR part 9.

Abstract: To protect the public health from unsafe pesticide residues, the EPA is authorized to set MRLs on the nature and level of residues permitted to remain on food or feed (see sections 408(a)(1)(A) and (a)(1)(B) and section 408(b)(1) of the FFDCA). The use of pesticides to increase crop production often results in pesticide residues in or on the crop. While EPA is authorized to set pesticide MRLs, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is responsible for their enforcement. Food or feed commodities found to contain pesticide residues in excess of established MRLs are considered adulterated and are subject to seizure.

This ICR covers all requests for MRLs, or exemptions from the requirement of a MRL, for both active and inert ingredients in pesticides. The type of data that is required to be submitted is dependent on the type of MRL that is sought. There are five types of MRL petitions that may be submitted and EPA may request the submission of data and/or other relevant information to assist it in its review and in setting the appropriate MRLS. The five types are as follows:

1. Temporary MRL (or an exemption from the requirement for a temporary MRL) to permit sale of commodities containing residues resulting from authorized experimental use of an unregistered pesticide. In the absence of such a MRL or exemption, all such commodities must be destroyed. Because exposure is limited by the nature of the experimental use, the range of data required to support a temporary MRL is generally less than for a permanent MRL.

2. Permanent MRL (or an exemption from the requirement for a permanent MRL) for residues which would result from a pesticide use registered under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

3. Permanent MRL (or an exemption from the requirement for a permanent MRL) petitioned by third parties for residues resulting from registered uses, usually on minor crops for which the pesticide registrant is unwilling to seek a MRL. When minor crops are involved, the range of data requirements is adjusted to be commensurate with the extent of pesticide use.

4. MRLs for other ingredients in pesticides, such as solvents, baits, dust carriers, fillers, wetting or spreading agents, propellants, emulsifiers, etc.

5. MRLs for residues on commodities which are not grown in the United States, and therefore for which there is no U.S. registrant (i.e., import MRLs).

When necessary, EPA will also establish an MRL as part of the Agency's review of a state application for an emergency exemption for pesticides under section 18 of FIFRA. However, this information collection does not cover state submitted MRL data pursuant to section 18 activities since EPA collects relevant state MRL data under the ICR entitled ''Application and Summary for an Emergency Exemption for Pesticides'' (OMB No. 2070–0032).

It is EPA's responsibility to ensure that the maximum residue levels likely to be found in or on food/feed are safe for human consumption through a careful review and evaluation of residue chemistry and toxicology data. In addition, it must ensure that adequate enforcement of the MRL can be achieved through the testing of submitted analytical methods. Once the data are deemed adequate to support the findings, EPA will establish the MRL or grant an exemption from the requirement of a MRL.

On August 3, 1996, the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) was signed into law. Effective upon signature, the new statute significantly amended the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. The new amendment establishes a strong health based safety standard for setting MRLs for pesticides in food. The FQPA requires that MRLs be set at a level to ensure that there be ''a reasonable certainty that no harm will result from aggregate exposure.'' Among other things, FQPA requires EPA to consider a number of new factors when setting such MRLs or registering pesticide products, including: (1) Special protection for infants and children; (2) aggregate of exposure and risk from foods and other known sources, such as drinking water and household pesticide use; and (3) consideration of common mechanisms of toxicity (some chemicals have different molecular structures but cause deleterious effects in the same manner).

Since FQPA passed, EPA is applying this tough, new standard to all MRLs for newly-registered chemicals and food uses. In addition, FQPA has set a schedule for reassessing all 10,000 existing MRLs under this new standard by 2006. The new law did not provide for a phase-in period for many of the new requirements which had not previously been a part of EPA's risk assessment process. EPA has not changed the informational requirements of this ICR from the previous ICR. But while EPA does not require registrants to submit any additional information under this ICR, the new FQPA provisions requires EPA to consider additional information in order to make the necessary regulatory decisions. Therefore, petitioners, who submitted data to the Agency prior to passage of FQPA, are encouraged to supplement their original submissions with additional information. Respondents submitting new petitions may want to submit supplemental information to the Agency even without a requirement to do so. To allow for the most efficient processing and review of MRL petitions, the Agency has provided a description of the types of information that EPA considers helpful in the Appendices to Pesticide Registration (PR) Notice No. 97–1.

PR 97–1 applies to most applicants with registration applications, non-crop-destruct experimental use permit applications, and MRL or MRL exemption petitions pending within the Agency. It also applies to most future applicants seeking new or amended pesticide registrations and all actions involving synthetic chemicals, antimicrobial, biochemical and microbial pesticides. However, the notice does not apply to applicants

seeking fast track ''me-too'' registrations or amendments not involving new uses. There are no forms associated with this information collection.

V. What are EPA's Burden and Cost Estimates for this ICR?

Under the PRA, ''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. For this collection it 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.

The ICR provides a detailed explanation of this estimate, which is only briefly summarized in this notice. The annual public burden for the MRL reporting information collection is estimated to average 1,442 hours per response. The following is a summary of the estimates taken from the ICR:

Respondents/affected entities: Pesticide registrants, pesticide companies, Interregional Research Project No. 4 (IR–4) petitioners, and third party registrants.

Estimated total number of potential respondents: 150.

Frequency of response: Once for each raw or processed commodity on which the pesticide is used.

Estimated total/average number of responses for each respondent: 1.

Estimated total annual burden hours: 216,300.

Estimated total annual burden costs: $18,466,650.

VI. Are There Changes in the Estimates from the Last Approval?

No. The annual registrant burden estimate for this information collection will remain at 1,442 hours per year with the number of respondents submitting MRL petitions remaining at 150 annually. Changes to the ICR reflect the cost increase for labor rates only. The individual burden per product for PRA reporting has remained constant at 455 hours.

VII. What is the Next Step in the Process for this ICR?

EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12. EPA will issue another **Federal Register** notice pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(a)(1)(iv) to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB. If you have any questions about this ICR or the approval process, please contact the person listed in the ''FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT'' section.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Information collection requests.

Dated: May 19, 1999.

Susan H. Wayland,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 99–14363 Filed 6–8–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP–00586; FRL–6063–4]

Formation and Request for Nominations to Serve on the Food Quality Protection Act, Science Review Board

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the formation and solicits nominations to serve on the Food Quality Protection Act, Science Review Board. The names, addresses, and professional affiliations of persons already serving on the Science Review Board are provided below. Section 104 of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 established the Science Review Board consisting of at least 60 scientists who shall be available to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, Scientific Advisory Panel on an ad hoc basis to assist in reviews conducted by the Panel. The Scientific Advisory Panel was established under section 25(d) of Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

ADDRESSES: By mail, submit comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC, 20460. In person, bring comments to: Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, telephone: (703) 305–5805.

Comments and data also may be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: opp-docket@epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data also will be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number OPP–00586. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail. Electronic comments may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Paul I. Lewis, FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel (7101C), Office of Science Coordination and Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location, telephone number, and e-mail address: Rm. 117, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, telephone: (703) 305–5369 or 305–7351; e-mail: lewis.paul@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Amendments to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) enacted November 28, 1975 (7 U.S.C. 136w(d)), include a requirement under section 25(d) that notices of intent to cancel or reclassify pesticide regulations pursuant to section 6(b)(2), as well as proposed and final forms of rulemaking pursuant to section 25(a), be submitted to a Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) prior to being made public or issued to a registrant. In accordance with FIFRA section 25(d), the SAP is to have an opportunity to comment on the health and environmental impact of such actions. The Panel shall also make comments, evaluations, and recommendations for operating guidelines to improve the effectiveness and quality of analyses made by Agency scientists.

Section 104 of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA) (Pub. L. 104–170) established the FQPA Science Review Board (SRB) consisting of at least 60 scientists. These scientists shall be available to the SAP on an ad hoc basis to assist in reviews conducted by the Panel.

The Food Quality Protection Act mandated that members of the SRB shall be selected in the same manner as a member of SAP temporary subpanels.