

comment and allows EPA to contact you in case EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties or needs further information on the substance of your comment. EPA's policy is that EPA will not edit your comment, and any identifying or contact information provided in the body of a comment will be included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket, and made available in EPA's electronic public docket. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment.

*i. EPA Dockets.* Your use of EPA's electronic public docket to submit comments to EPA electronically is EPA's preferred method for receiving comments. Go directly to EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments. To access EPA's electronic public docket from the EPA Internet home page, select "Information Sources," "Dockets," and "EPA Dockets." Once in the system, select "search," and then key in Docket ID No. OEI-2003-0025. The system is an "anonymous access" system, which means EPA will not know your identity, e-mail address, or other contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment.

*ii. E-mail.* Comments may be sent by electronic mail (e-mail) to [oei.docket@epa.gov](mailto:oei.docket@epa.gov). Attention Docket ID No. OEI-2003-0025. In contrast to EPA's electronic public docket, EPA's e-mail system is not an "anonymous access" system. If you send an e-mail comment directly to the Docket without going through EPA's electronic public docket, EPA's e-mail system automatically captures your e-mail address. E-mail addresses that are automatically captured by EPA's e-mail system are included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket, and made available in EPA's electronic public docket.

*iii. Disk or CD ROM.* You may submit comments on a disk or CD ROM that you mail to the mailing address identified in Unit III.2. These electronic submissions will be accepted in WordPerfect or ASCII file format. Avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number OEI-2003-0025. Electronic comments on this document may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

*2. By Mail.* Send three copies of your comments to: Document Control Office, Office of Environmental Information

(OEI), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

*3. By Hand Delivery or Courier.* Comments may be delivered in person or by courier to: EPA Docket Center, (EPA/DC) EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC, attention Docket ID No. OEI-2003-0025.

#### **IV. How Should I Handle CBI Information That I Want to Submit to the Agency?**

All comments which contain information claimed as CBI must be clearly marked as such. Three sanitized copies of any comments containing information claimed as CBI must also be submitted and will be placed in the public record for this document. Persons submitting information any portion of which they believe is entitled to treatment as CBI by EPA must assert a business confidentiality claim in accordance with 40 CFR 2.203(b) for each such portion. This claim must be made at the time that the information is submitted to EPA. Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent, and by means of the procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2, subpart B. If a confidentiality claim does not accompany the information when it is received by EPA, the information may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to the submitter.

#### **V. What Information is EPA Particularly Interested in?**

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

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

B. Proposed changes to the Form R:

A revised draft Form R is included in this ICR. The draft Form R collects all the same information as the prior form; however, it collects that information in a different format. There are no changes to part I of the Form R. EPA is proposing changes to part II of the Form R based on feedback received from stakeholders through various venues (e.g., Stakeholder Phase I process, ICR renewal process in 2002, letters, meetings, etc.). Specifically, stakeholders have been requesting that EPA provide more clarity in the organization of data that are collected. These changes do not collect any new or different information than has been previously collected. Instead part II now clearly identifies on the Form itself the categories for reporting releases and other waste management activities of toxic chemicals. The previous version of this form collected information using codes to specify categories of releases and other waste management activities (e.g., M73 for Land Treatment). One code, U09—Other Energy Recovery Methods, has been dropped from the revised Form because this element is not applicable since the only energy recovery methods are combustion in a kiln, boiler or industrial furnace. Combustion units other than kilns, boilers and industrial furnaces are used for treatment of the toxic chemical (except for metal and metal compounds). This proposed revision incorporates these codes into the form so it is easier to identify the appropriate release or other waste management activity for the toxic chemical reported, and thus provides greater clarity to the information collected.

Also, in light of feedback received from stakeholders, EPA has broken the information collected on releases in section 8.1 of part II into four subcategories which are: total onsite uncontained releases; total onsite contained disposal; total offsite uncontained releases; and total offsite contained disposal. The category of contained disposal would include the quantities sent to on-site or off-site landfills and Class I Underground Injection Control wells. This would provide a more complete characterization of TRI chemicals in waste streams by distinguishing between releases to ambient media and releases to managed facilities consistent with environmental reporting requirements under other laws. The presence of only one of these factors is not considered enough to consider the release "contained"; for example, regulated air stack emissions are clearly not contained releases. Therefore, all