EPA Reopens Public Comment Period on Plan to Clean Up Contamination at the Universal Oil Products Superfund Site in East Rutherford, N.J.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed an interim cleanup plan to address sediment contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) next to Berry’s Creek waterways at the Universal Oil Products Superfund Site in East Rutherford, N.J. The original public meeting was cancelled due to the government shutdown, and the public comment period expired during that time. EPA has re-opened the public comment period on the cleanup proposal and re-scheduled a public meeting for March 6. EPA will now accept comments submitted by the public through March 22, 2019. EPA’s proposed interim cleanup for the Universal Oil Products Superfund site, includes removing the top two feet of sediment totaling approximately 16,300 cubic yards. The excavated areas would then be backfilled with clean sand and gravel. Once a remedy is selected and implemented, these actions will reduce fish and wildlife exposures to harmful contaminants and prevent PCBs and other contaminants from impacting surrounding marshes and Berry’s Creek.

Other highlights of the EPA’s cleanup proposal include:

- Dewatering, treatment, transportation, and off-site disposal of contaminated sediment.
- Institutional controls, including New Jersey’s fish consumption advisories; and
- Post-cleanup monitoring program that:
  - Monitors the surrounding ecosystem’s response to the cleanup as well as the adjacent marshes, waterways east of Murray Hill Parkway, and Berry’s Creek, which are hydrologically connected to the Universal Oil Products site.
  - Assesses whether volatile organic compounds from the shallow groundwater are discharging to the waterways, and whether this potential discharge could compromise the interim sediment cleanup.

To learn more and to review the EPA’s cleanup proposal, please visit: [www.epa.gov/superfund/universal-oil](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/universal-oil)

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DO YOU HAVE ARTICLES FOR THE SMALLBIZ@EPA NEWSLETTER? FORWARD TO: ELNORA THOMPSON AT: THOMPSON.ELNORA@EPA.GOV

EPA’S OMBUDSMAN, JOAN B. ROGERS AT: ROGERS.JOANB@EPA.GOV
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that it has allocated $2 million to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to replace up to 80 model year 2006 and older short-haul trucks that service Port Authority facilities with cleaner, newer model year trucks by offering truckers up to 50 percent of the cost to scrap and replace each vehicle up to $25,000. “The Truck Replacement program is another example of how we are successfully partnering with the private sector by helping support businesses even as we clean up the environment,” said EPA Regional Administrator Pete Lopez. “Pollution from diesel engines is linked to asthma, respiratory problems, heart attacks and is especially dangerous to children and the elderly. Reducing air pollution from diesel engines has enormous health benefits that translates directly into fewer hospitalizations and less missed days of work and school. Replacing old dirty trucks with newer ones makes a significant difference in areas around Port Authority facilities.”

For further information, contact: Andrew G. Carrera on (301)415-1078; email address: Andrew.carreranrc@epa.gov

This Diesel Emissions Reduction Act grant will foster the replacement of older trucks with 2013 and newer trucks and will reduce emissions of diesel particulate matter and other pollutants such as nitrogen oxides. EPA expects this grant to result in emission reductions of 49.5 tons of nitrogen oxides, 16.5 tons of carbon monoxide and 2.15 tons of fine particulates per year. These are short-haul trucks, commonly called drayage trucks, which frequently call at the Port Authority’s Marine Terminals.
National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Surface Coating of Wood Building Products Residual Risk and Technology Review

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has finalized the residual risk and technology review (RTR) conducted for the Surface Coating of Wood Building Products source category regulated under national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP). In addition, EPA are taking final action addressing periods of startup, shutdown, and malfunction (SSM). We are finalizing our proposed determination that the risks are acceptable and that the current NESHAP provides an ample margin of safety to protect public health. EPA identified no new cost-effective controls under the technology review to achieve further emissions reductions. These final amendments include provisions regarding electronic reporting, adding an alternative compliance equation under the current standards, and technical and editorial changes. This action also finalizes a new EPA test method to measure isocyanate compounds in certain surface coatings. These amendments are being made under the authority of the Clean Air Act (CAA) and will improve the effectiveness of the rule. The amendments are environmentally neutral.

For further information, contact: John Bradfield on (202)566-1742; email address: Bradfield.john@epa.gov.
**Small Business Environmental Assistance Program**

**Question:** I operate a small parts manufacturing shop and use a solvent blend that includes xylene and MEK. I generate about 20 gallons of dirty solvent a month. As a small business owner, I’m always watching my costs and now that I have accumulated about three drums of this spent solvent, what are my disposal options? Any chance I can just take the lids off and let it evaporate? Going forward, are there any changes I should be considering to minimize this waste generation?

**Sincerely, Melissa Manufacturing**

**Dear Melissa:** The spent-solvent mixture generated at your facility is considered a hazardous waste based on both toxicity and ignitability. It typically carries an EPA waste code of F005. This makes your facility a hazardous waste generator. The total quantity of hazardous waste generated dictates what category of hazardous waste generator your facility is. Quantities are based on monthly generation and accumulations from month to month. Generator categories and associated performance standards vary from state to state, so it is best to contact your state Small Business Environmental Assistance Program or call 800-578-8898 for help.

In addition to helping you understand any associated permit or compliance requirements, your state SBEAP may also be able to help you identify ways to reduce the toxicity and quantity of waste generated. For example, have you tried cleaning with acetone instead of the MEK blend solvent? Does it make sense to implement a two-stage cleaning process to extend the life of your solvent and reduce waste? Is solvent distillation an option? The SBEAP can also help you consider less toxic alternatives.

As we noted in a December 2018 article, the EPA has compiled a list of chemicals analyzed by third-party profilers based on toxological and environmental data and verified to meet a standard known by its “Safer Choice” label. The listings are grouped by functional-use class, so if you are looking for a solvent alternative, those choices would be grouped together. Chemicals on the Safer Choice Chemical Ingredient List must meet criteria regarding their toxological status such as whether or not they are carcinogenic, bioaccumulative, toxic to internal organs or asthmatogenic. Chemicals on the list are also given designations based on strength of the data collection.
SMALL ENTITY INPUT - Proposed rule to revise the definition of “waters of the United States.”

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Army (Army) (herein after “the agencies”), are interested in hearing from small entities on the proposed rule to revise the definition of “waters of the United States.”

The agencies’ proposal would provide the public with a straightforward definition to protect the nation’s waterways, help sustain economic growth and reduce barriers to business development. The agencies’ proposal is the second step in a two-step process to review and revise the definition of “waters of the United States” consistent with the February 2017 Presidential Executive Order 13778. The proposed rule is grounded in law and Supreme Court precedent and respects the limitations on power granted to the federal government by the Constitution and to the agencies to regulate navigable waters by Congress through the Clean Water Act.

The agencies reviewed and considered the extensive feedback and recommendations received from stakeholders throughout consultations and pre-proposal meetings and webinars. This input helped highlight the issues that are most important to stakeholders, including small entities, directly affected by the scope of Clean Water Act jurisdiction.

The in-person listening session with small entities will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, from 9:00 to 11:00 am Eastern Time at the U.S. EPA’s Headquarters located at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004. To facilitate the building security process, and to request reasonable accommodation, those who wish to attend must contact Joan B. Rogers (202-564-6568 or rogers.joanb@epa.gov), no later than Monday, March 11, 2019. RSVPs will be accepted until March 11, or until room capacity has been reached (100 max), whichever occurs first.

If you would like to provide a three minute “oral presentation” at the in-person listening session, please let Joan B. Rogers know by the registration date listed above so she can schedule your slot.

The agencies will prepare a written summary of the presentations and this will be included as part of the rulemaking docket. You are also invited to submit a copy of your oral presentation, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2018-0149, at https://www.regulations.gov.

Thank you in advance for your interest in the waters of the United States rulemaking. We look forward to your participation in this important effort.
SUBJECT: National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Coal- and Oil- Fired Electric Utility Steam Generating Units; Reconsideration of Supplemental Finding and Residual Risk and Technology Review

http://www.epa.gov/dockets/contacts.html

Federal Register: Vol. 84, No. 40,
Thursday, February 28, 2019/Notices
AGENCY: EPA
ACTION: Notice of public hearing and extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a document in the Federal Register to announce its proposed National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Coal- and Oil- Fired Electric Utility Steam Generating Units Reconsideration of Supplemental Finding and Residual Risk and Technology Review. The document also requested public comment on the proposed action. EPA is announcing that it will hold a public hearing to provide interested parties the opportunity to present data, views, or arguments concerning the proposed action. In addition, the EPA will extend the public comment period. EPA will hold a public hearing on March 18, 2019, in Washington, DC. The deadline for accepting written comments is being extended by 9 days, to April 17, 2019.

For further information contact: Adrian Gates, (919) 541–4860, email at gates.adrian@epa.gov.

EPA FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

SUBJECT: Information Collection Request Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; NESHAP for Steel Pickling, HCl Process Facilities and Hydrochloric Acid Regeneration Plants (Renewal)

http://www.epa.gov/dockets/contacts.htm

Federal Register: Vol. 84, No. 40,
Monday, February 28, 2019/Notices
AGENCY: EPA
ACTION: Notice of meeting

SUMMARY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has submitted an information collection request (ICR), NESHAP for Steel Pickling, HCl Process Facilities and Hydrochloric Acid Regeneration Plants (EPA ICR Number 1821.09, OMB Control Number 2060– 0419), to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through January 31, 2019. Public comments were previously requested, via the Federal Register, on June 29, 2017 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. A fuller description of the ICR is given below, including its estimated burden and cost to the public. An agency may neither conduct nor sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

For further information contact: Patrick Yellin, (202)564–2970, email at yellin.patrick@epa.gov.