

The following notice was signed on 6/15/2020, and EPA is submitting it for publication in the Federal Register (FR). While we have taken steps to ensure the accuracy of this Internet version of the rule, it is not the official version of the rule for purposes of compliance. Please refer to the official version in a forthcoming FR publication, which will appear on the Government Printing Office's govinfo website (<https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/fr>) and on Regulations.gov (<https://www.regulations.gov>)

6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR 83

[EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-00044; FRL 10011-13-OAR]

RIN 2060-AU51

Increasing Consistency and Transparency in Considering Benefits and Costs in the Clean Air Act Rulemaking Process; Extension of Comment Period and Public Hearing

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking; extension of comment period and notification of public hearing.

SUMMARY: On June 11, 2020, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the proposed rulemaking “Increasing Consistency and Transparency in Considering Benefits and Costs in the Clean Air Act Rulemaking Process.” The EPA is extending the comment period on the proposed rulemaking. The EPA is also announcing that a virtual public hearing will be held for the proposed rulemaking.

DATES: *Comments:* The comment period for the proposed rulemaking published June 11, 2020 (85 FR 35612), is extended. The EPA must receive comments on the proposed action on or before **[INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

Public hearing: The EPA will hold a virtual public hearing on July 1, 2020. Please refer to the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for additional information on the public hearing.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-00044, by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov/> (our preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-00044 for this rulemaking. Comments received may be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov/>, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the “Public Participation” heading of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document. Out of an abundance of caution for members of the public and our staff, the EPA Docket Center and Reading Room was closed to public visitors on March 31, 2020, to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19. Our Docket Center staff will continue to provide remote customer service via email, phone, and webform. We encourage the public to submit comments via <https://www.regulations.gov> or email, as there is a temporary suspension of mail delivery to EPA, and no hand deliveries are currently accepted. For further information on EPA Docket Center services and the current status, please visit us online at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

Virtual Public Hearing. The virtual public hearing will be held via teleconference July 1, 2020. Refer to the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below for additional information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Leif Hockstad, Office of Air Policy and Program Support, Office of Air and Radiation,

Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 6103A, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460; (202) 343-9432; email address: *hockstad.leif@epa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document extends the public comment period for the proposed rulemaking to ensure that the public has sufficient time to review and comment on the proposal. The comment period on the proposed rulemaking will close on **[INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

The EPA is proposing processes that it would be required to undertake in promulgating regulations under the CAA to ensure that information regarding the benefits and costs of regulatory decisions is provided and considered in a consistent and transparent manner. The public hearing will provide interested parties the opportunity to present data, views, or arguments concerning EPA's proposed requirements for benefits and costs analyses for CAA rulemakings. Written statements and supporting information submitted during the comment period will be considered with the same weight as any oral comments and supporting information presented at the public hearings.

Written Comments. Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2020–00044, at <https://www.regulations.gov> (our preferred method), or the other methods identified in the ADDRESSES section. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from the docket. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and

should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (i.e. on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>.

The EPA is temporarily suspending its Docket Center and Reading Room for public visitors to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19. Written comments submitted by mail are temporarily suspended and no hand deliveries will be accepted. Our Docket Center staff will continue to provide remote customer service via email, phone, and webform. We encourage the public to submit comments via <https://www.regulations.gov>. For further information and updates on EPA Docket Center services, please visit us online at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

The EPA continues to carefully and continuously monitor information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), local area health departments, and our Federal partners so that we can respond rapidly as conditions change regarding COVID-19.

Participation in Virtual Public Hearing. Please note that EPA is deviating from its typical approach because the President has declared a national emergency. Because of current CDC recommendations, as well as state and local orders for social distancing to limit the spread of COVID-19, EPA cannot hold in-person public meetings at this time. The EPA will begin pre-registering speakers and attendees for the hearing upon publication of this document in the Federal Register. The EPA will accept registrations

on an individual basis. To register to speak at the virtual hearing, individuals may use the online registration form available via EPA's Increasing Consistency and Transparency in Considering Costs and Benefits in the Rulemaking Process web page for this hearing (<https://www.epa.gov/environmental-economics/increasing-consistency-and-transparency-considering-costs-and-benefits>) or contact Leif Hockstad at (202) 343-9432 or hockstad.leif@epa.gov. The last day to pre-register to speak at the hearing will be June 26, 2020. On June 30, 2020, the EPA will post a general agenda for the hearing that will list pre-registered speakers in approximate order at: <https://www.epa.gov/environmental-economics/increasing-consistency-and-transparency-considering-costs-and-benefits>.

The EPA will make every effort to follow the schedule as closely as possible on the day of the hearing; however, please plan for the hearing to run either ahead of schedule or behind schedule. Additionally, requests to speak will be taken the day of the hearing at the end of each session as timing allows. The EPA will make every effort to accommodate all speakers.

Each commenter will have 5 minutes to provide oral testimony. The EPA recommends submitting the text of your oral comments as written comments to the rulemaking docket. The EPA may ask clarifying questions during the oral presentations but will not respond to the presentations at that time. Written statements and supporting information submitted during the comment period will be considered with the same weight as oral comments and supporting information presented at the public hearing.

The EPA is also asking hearing attendees to pre-register for the hearing, even those who don't intend to provide testimony. This will help the EPA ensure that sufficient

phone lines will be available.

Please note that any updates made to any aspect of the hearing logistics, including potential additional sessions, will be posted online at the EPA's Increasing Consistency and Transparency in Considering Costs and Benefits in the Rulemaking Process website (<https://www.epa.gov/environmental-economics/increasing-consistency-and-transparency-considering-costs-and-benefits>). While the EPA expects the hearing to go forward as set forth above, please monitor our website or contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section to determine if there are any updates.

If you require the services of a translator or special accommodations such as audio description, please pre-register for the hearing and describe your needs by June 26, 2020. EPA may not be able to arrange accommodations without advanced notice.

How can I get copies of the proposed action and other related information?

The EPA has also established the official public docket for the proposed action under Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR-2020-00044. A copy of the proposed action is available at <https://www.epa.gov/environmental-economics/increasing-consistency-and-transparency-considering-costs-and-benefits>, and any detailed information related to the proposed action will be available in the public docket prior to the public hearings. Verbatim transcripts of the hearings and written statements will be included in the rulemaking docket.

Dated:

John Shoaff,

Director, Office of Air Policy and Program Support.