Date: July 11, 2016
From: Patrick N. Breyssse, PhD, CIH
       Director, National Center for Environmental Health and Agency for Toxic
       Substances and Disease Registry (NCEH/ATSDR), CDC
Subject: Request for OMB Paperwork Reduction Act Emergency Review
To: Stephanie I. Mok, PhD
       CDC Desk Officer, OIRA, OMB
Through: Leroy Richardson, MS, MPH, MSCJ, CPHA
         Chief, Information Collection Review Office (ICRO), CDC

In response to mounting public concern over potential health risks associated with
synthetic turf fields, the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is coordinating a
federal multi-agency action. On February 12, 2016, the United States Environmental Protection
Agency (US EPA), ATSDR, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), released the
Federal Research Action Plan on Recycled Tire Crumb Used on Playing Fields and
Playgrounds. This action plan addresses the safety of recycled tire crumb used in playing fields
and playgrounds in the United States.

As part of the action plan, US EPA and ATSDR are co-sponsoring a research study titled
Collections Related to Synthetic Turf Fields with Crumb Rubber Infill. The study aims to engage
key stakeholders like manufacturing facilities, athletes, and parents; to fill data or knowledge
gaps; to identify chemicals in recycled tire crumb; and to identify physical activities leading to
chemical exposures. The agencies have completed required steps to consult with interested
agencies and members of the public. They published a 60-day Federal Register Notice on
February 18, 2016, extended the comment period at the public’s request for two additional weeks
to May 2, 2016, and received and addressed over 80 comments.

Pursuant to the OMB procedures established under 5 CFR 1320, Controlling Paperwork
Burdens on the Public, ATSDR requests that the information collection be processed in
accordance with Section 1320.13 Emergency Processing. This study must begin immediately as
data are needed to complete a draft status report for CEQ by the end of November 2016. Given
the time constraints, US EPA and ATSDR cannot reasonably comply with normal Paperwork
Reduction Act (PRA) clearance procedures. The agencies request that OMB waive the 30-day
public comment requirement. The use of normal clearance procedures is likely to prevent or
disrupt the collection of this urgently needed information in time to meet the CEQ report
deadline.

This information collection is anticipated to last for up to 180 days, and is essential to
ATSDR’s mission to protect the people’s health from environmental hazards. ATSDR is
requesting OMB approval by July 18, 2016, as field work is scheduled to begin on July 20 2016.

Patrick N. Breyssse, PhD, CIH
       Director, NCEH/ATSDR, CDC

Attachment:
Federal Research Action Plan on Recycled Tire Crumb Used on Playing Fields and Playgrounds