



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

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From: Patrick N. Breysse, PhD, CIH
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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. Breysse, PhD, CIH
Director, NCEH/ATSDR, CDC

Attachment:

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