Dated: November 7, 1996.
Donald G. Barnes,
Staff Director, Science Advisory Board.
[FR Doc. 96–29453 Filed 11–15–96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

[PF–671; FRL–5572–7]

Pesticide Tolerance Petition: Notice of Filing

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is a summary of a pesticide petition proposing the establishment of a regulation for residues of glufosinate-ammonium in or on corn and soybeans. This summary was prepared by the petitioner.

DATES: Comments, identified by the docket number [PF–671], must be received on or before December 18, 1996.

ADDRESSES: By mail, submit written comments to: Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW, Washington, DC 20460. In person, bring comments to: Rm. 1132 CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number [PF–671]. Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found below in this document.

Information submitted as comments concerning this notice may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as ''Confidential Business Information'' (CBI). CBI should not be submitted through e-mail. Information marked as CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. All written comments will be available for public inspection in Rm. 1132 at the address given above, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Joanne I. Miller, Product Manager (PM) 23, Registration Division (7505C), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Rm. 237, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA 22202, (703)–305–6224; e-mail: miller.joanne@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has received a pesticide petition (PP) 5F4578 pursuant to section 408(d) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, as amended, 21 U.S.C. Section 346a(d), by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–170, 110 Stat. 1489) from AgrEvo USA Company (AgrEvo), Little Falls Centre One, 2711 Centerville Rd., Wilmington, DE 19808 proposing to amend 40 CFR 180.473 by establishing tolerances for residues of the herbicide, glufosinate-ammonium: butanoic acid, 2-amino-4-(hydroxymethylphosphinyl)-, monoammonium salt and its metabolites: 2-acetamido-4-methylphosphinico-butanoic acid and 3-methylphosphinico-propionic acid expressed as glufosinate free acid equivalents. The new tolerances would be for residues of the herbicide in or on the following raw agricultural commodities: field corn grain, at 0.2 parts per million (ppm); field corn forage, at 4.0 ppm, field corn fodder, at 6.0 ppm, soybeans, at 2.0 ppm, soybean hulls, at 5.0 ppm, aspirated grain fractions, at 25.0 ppm, eggs, at 0.05 ppm, poultry, meat at 0.05 ppm, poultry, fat at 0.05 ppm, and poultry, mbyp (meat byproducts) at 0.10 ppm. The proposed analytical method for determining residues is gas chromatography.

Pursuant to section 408(d)(2)(A)(i) of the FFDCA, as amended, AgrEvo has submitted the following summary of information, data and arguments in support of its pesticide petition. This summary was proposed by AgrEvo and EPA has not yet fully evaluated the merits of the petition. The conclusions and arguments presented are those of the petitioner and not of the EPA although the EPA has edited the summary for clarification as necessary. Glufosinate-ammonium is a non-selective herbicide which will be used for post-emergence weed control in corn and soybeans which have been genetically modified to be resistant to the herbicide.

I. AgrEvo Petition Summary:

A. Plant Metabolism and Analytical Method

1. Plant Metabolism: The metabolism of glufosinate-ammonium in plants is adequately understood for the purposes of these tolerances. The crop residue profile following selective use of glufosinate-ammonium on transgenic crops is different than that found in conventional crops. The only crop residue found after non-selective use is the metabolite 3-methylphosphinico-propionic acid, which is found in only trace amounts. With the exception of corn grain, the principal residue identified in the metabolism studies after selective use of glufosinate-ammonium was 2-acetamido-4-methylphosphinico-butanoic acid, with lesser amounts of glufosinate and 3-methylphosphinico-propionic acid. In corn grain, which exhibited much lower total radiolabelled residues than the other commodities, the principal residue identified was 3-methylphosphinico-propionic acid, with lesser amounts of 2-acetamido-4-methylphosphinico-butanoic acid.

2. Analytical Method: There is a practical analytical method utilizing gas chromatography for detecting and measuring levels of glufosinate-ammonium and its metabolites in or on food with a general limit of quantification of 0.05 ppm that allows monitoring of food with residues at or above the levels proposed in these tolerances. This method has been validated by an independent laboratory and the petitioner has been advised that the EPA concluded its own successful method try out.

B. Magnitude of the Residue

1. Magnitude of the Residue in Plants: Field residue trials with glufosinate-ammonium resistant corn and soybean have been conducted in 1993 and 1994 at several different use rates and timing intervals to represent the use patterns which would most likely result in the highest residue. In these trials, the primary residue in all samples was 2-acetamido-4-methylphosphinico-butanoic acid, which was found at levels at least 2–7 times that of glufosinate or 3-methylphosphinico-propionic acid. In field corn grain, only 15 out of 301 samples analyzed exhibited residues $\geq$ 0.05 ppm (the limit of quantification). The tolerance value has been proposed at 0.2 ppm. In soybean seed, the total mean glufosinate-ammonium derived residues range from 0.32 ppm to 1.89 ppm (mean = 0.92 ppm) and the tolerance has been proposed at 2 ppm. For both corn and

soybean, the tolerances levels have been proposed assuming the following: (1) a maximum of two applications of glufosinate-ammonium to each crop per season, (2) a seasonal maximum rate of 0.8 pound of active ingredient per acre for each crop, (3) the last application made to corn no later than the 24 inch stage of growth and (4) the final soybean application made no later than early bloom.

2. Magnitude of the Residue in Processed Commodities:Studies have been conducted to determine the level of glufosinate derived residues found in or on the processed commodities from glufosinate resistant corn and soybean grain. The studies utilized treatments at significantly exaggerated rates to provide the necessary test sensitivity. No concentration of glufosinate derived residue was found in field corn processed commodities which are relevant food or feed items, i.e., flour, starch, grits, meal or oil. No processed food tolerance is indicated for the use of glufosinate-ammonium on glufosinate-ammonium resistant corn.

In the soybean processing studies, no residues of parent or metabolites were found in the crude or refined soybean oil. Measurable levels of residue were found in the soybean hulls and in the meal. Only the soybean hulls are to be considered a relevant animal feed item and a tolerance of 5 ppm for soybean hulls has been proposed.

3. Magnitude of the Residue in Animals: Ruminant and poultry feeding studies were conducted to determine the magnitude of glufosinate-derived residues in the tissues and milk of cows and the tissues and eggs of chicken hens which were dosed for 28 consecutive days with a mixture of parent (glufosinate-ammonium) and metabolite (2-acetamido-4-methylphosphinico-butanoic acid) in a ratio which represents the terminal residue in animal feed. No residues were detected in meat, milk or eggs at the dose calculated to represent the highest residue legally allowed in livestock feed.

As a consequence of the ruminant and poultry feeding studies, no secondary tolerances in animal commodities above the limit of quantification are necessitated as a result of the proposed use of glufosinate-ammonium on transgenic corn and soybean.

C. Toxicological Profile of Glufosinate-Ammonium

1. Acute Toxicity: The acute oral LD50 values for glufosinate-ammonium technical ranged from 1510 to 2000 mg/kg in rats and from 200 to 464 mg/kg in mice and dogs. The acute dermal LD50 was 2000 mg/kg in rabbits and was 4000 mg/kg in rats. The 4–hour rat inhalation LC50 was 1.26 mg/L in males and 2.6 mg/L in females. Glufosinate-ammonium was not irritating to rabbit skin but was slightly irritating to the eyes. Glufosinate-ammonium did not cause skin sensitization in guinea pigs. Glufosinate-ammonium should be classified as Tox Category II for oral toxicity, Tox Category III for inhalation and dermal toxicity and Tox Category IV for skin irritation and eye irritation.

2. Genotoxicity: No evidence of genotoxicity was noted in an extensive battery of in vitro and in vivo studies. The petitioner has been advised by the EPA that negative studies determined acceptable included Salmonella, E. coli and mouse lymphoma gene mutation assays, a mouse micronucleus assay, and an in vitro UDS assay.

3. Reproductive And Developmental Toxicity: Three developmental toxicity studies were conducted with rats, at dose levels ranging from 0.5 to 250 mg/kg/day. The no observable effect levels (NOELs) for maternal and developmental effects were determined to be 10 mg/kg/day for maternal toxicity and 50 mg/kg/day for developmental toxicity, based on the findings of hyperactivity and vaginal bleeding in dams at 50 mg/kg/day and increased incidence of arrested renal and ureter development in fetuses at 250 mg/kg/day.

A developmental toxicity study was conducted in rabbits at dose levels of 0, 2, 6.3 and 20 mg/kg/day. The maternal NOEL for this study was determined to be 6.3 mg/kg/day, based on increases in abortion and premature delivery, and decreases in food consumption and weight gain at 20 mg/kg/day. No evidence of developmental toxicity was noted at any dose level; thus the developmental NOEL was determined to be 20 mg/kg/day.

A 2-generation rat reproduction study was conducted at dietary concentrations of 0, 40, 120 and 360 ppm. The parental NOEL was determined to be 40 ppm (4 mg/kg/day) based on increased kidney weights at 120 ppm. The NOEL for reproductive effects was determined to be 120 ppm (12 mg/kg/day) based on reduced numbers of pups at 360 ppm.

4. Subchronic Toxicity: A 90–day feeding study was conducted in Fisher 344 rats at dietary concentrations of 0, 8, 64, 500 and 4000 ppm. Although slight evidence of toxicity was observed, there were no treatment-related histopathological findings at any dose level. The NOEL for this study was determined to be 8 ppm, based on increased kidney weights at 64 ppm.

A 90–day feeding study was conducted in NMRI mice at dietary concentrations of 0, 80, 320 and 1280 ppm. There were no treatment-related pathological findings at any dose level but increases in absolute and relative liver weights, serum AST, and serum potassium levels were noted at 320 and/or 1280 ppm. Based on these findings, the NOEL for this study was determined to be 80 ppm (16.6 mg/kg/day).

A 90–day feeding study was conducted in beagle dogs at dietary concentrations of 0, 4, 8, 16, 64 and 256 ppm. There were no treatment-related histopathological findings at any dose level. However, because of reduced weight gain and decreased thyroid weights at 64 and/or 256 ppm, the NOEL was determined to be 16 ppm (0.53 mg/kg/day).

5. Chronic Toxicity/Oncogenicity: A 12–month feeding study was conducted in beagle dogs at dose levels of 0, 2, 5 and 8.5 mg/kg/day. The NOEL was 5 mg/kg/day based on clinical signs of toxicity, reduced weight gain and mortality at 8.5 mg/kg/day.

A 2–year mouse oncogenicity study was conducted in NMRI mice at dietary concentrations of 0, 20, 80 and 160 (males) or 320 (females) ppm. The NOEL was determined to be 80 ppm (10.8 and 16.2 mg/kg/day for males and females, respectively) based on increased blood glucose, decreased glutathione levels and increased mortality in the high-dose males and/or females. No evidence of oncogenicity was noted at any dose level.

A combined chronic toxicity/oncogenicity study was conducted in Wistar rats for up to 130 weeks at dietary concentrations of 0, 40, 140 and 500 ppm. A dose-related increase in mortality was noted in females at 140 and 500 ppm, while increased absolute and relative kidney weights were noted in 140 and 500 ppm males. Thus, the NOEL for this study was determined to be 40 ppm (2.1 mg/kg/day). No treatment-related oncogenic response was noted. However, the high-dose level in this study did not satisfy the EPA criteria for a Maximum Tolerated Dose and thus a data gap currently exists for a rat carcinogenicity study. All glufosinate-ammonium tolerances previously established by the EPA are time-limited because of this gap. A new rat oncogenicity study is currently being conducted and is due to the EPA by July 1, 1998.

6. Animal Metabolism: Numerous studies have been conducted to evaluate the absorption, distribution, metabolism and/or excretion of glufosinate-ammonium in rats. These studies indicate that glufosinate-ammonium is

poorly absorbed (5–10%) after oral administration and is rapidly eliminated, primarily as parent compound. Small amounts of the metabolites 3-methylphosphinico-propionic acid and 2-acetamido-4-methylphosphinico-butanoic acid were found in the excreta, although the latter is believed to be a result of a reversible acetylation and deacetylation process by intestinal bacteria.

7. Metabolite Toxicology: The primary residue resulting from the use of glufosinate-ammonium in genetically transformed corn and soybean consists of the metabolites 2-acetamido-4-methylphosphinico-butanoic acid and 3-methylphosphinico-propionic acid. A considerable number of toxicity studies have been conducted with these metabolites, including developmental toxicity studies in rats and rabbits with both metabolites and a 2-generation rat reproduction study with 2-acetamido-4-methylphosphinico-butanoic acid. Neither metabolite presents an acute toxicity hazard and both were determined to be non-genotoxic in an extensive battery of in vitro and in vivo genotoxicity studies. Neither metabolite demonstrated significant developmental toxicity to either rats or rabbits. Subchronic studies in rats, mice and dogs were conducted with both metabolites with no clear evidence for any specific target organ toxicity and with NOEL's or No Observed Adverse Effects Levels (NOAEL's) substantially higher than those seen with glufosinate-ammonium. Thus, these studies indicate that both metabolites are less toxic than the parent compound and do not pose any reproductive or developmental concerns.

8. Endocrine Effects: No special studies investigating potential estrogenic or endocrine effects of glufosinate-ammonium have been conducted. However, the standard battery of required studies has been completed. These studies include an evaluation of the potential effects on reproduction and development, and an evaluation of the pathology of the endocrine organs following repeated or long-term exposure. These studies are generally considered to be sufficient to detect any endocrine effects but no such effects were noted in any of the studies with either glufosinate-ammonium or its metabolites.

D. Aggregate Exposure

Glufosinate-ammonium is a non-selective, post-emergent herbicide with both food and non-food uses. As such, aggregate non-occupational exposure would include exposures resulting from consumption of potential residues in food and water, as well as from residue exposure resulting from non-crop use around trees, shrubs, lawns, walks, driveways, etc. Thus, the possible human exposure from food, drinking water and residential uses has been assessed below.

1. Dietary (Food) Exposure: For purposes of assessing the potential dietary exposure from food under the proposed tolerances, the petitioner has been advised that the EPA has estimated exposure based on the Theoretical Maximum Residue Contribution (TMRC) derived from the previously established tolerances for glufosinate-ammonium on apples, grapes, tree nuts, bananas, milk and the fat, meat and meat-by-products of cattle, goats, hogs, horses and sheep as well as the proposed tolerances for glufosinate-ammonium on field corn grain, at 0.2 ppm, field corn forage, at 4.0 ppm, field corn fodder, at 6.0 ppm, soybeans, at 2.0 ppm, soybean hulls, at 5.0 ppm, aspirated grain fractions, at 25.0 ppm, eggs, at 0.05 ppm, poultry, meat at 0.05 ppm, poultry, fat at 0.05 ppm, and poultry, mbyp (meat byproducts) at 0.10 ppm. The TMRC is obtained by using a model which multiplies the tolerance level residue for each commodity by consumption data which estimate the amount of each commodity and products derived from the commodity that are eaten by the U.S. population and various population subgroups. In conducting this exposure assessment, the EPA has made very conservative assumptions--100% of all commodities will contain glufosinate-ammonium residues and those residues would be at the level of the tolerance--which result in a large overestimate of human exposure. Thus, in making a safety determination for these tolerances, the Agency took into account this very conservative exposure assessment.

2. Dietary (Drinking Water) Exposure: There is no Maximum Contaminant Level established for residues of glufosinate-ammonium. The petitioner has been advised by the EPA that all environmental fate data requirements for glufosinate-ammonium have been satisfied. The potential for glufosinate-ammonium to leach into groundwater has been assessed in a total of nine terrestrial field dissipation studies conducted in several states and in varying soil types. The degradation of glufosinate-ammonium in these studies was rapid, with half-lives ranging from a low of 6 to a high of 23 days. Despite the relatively high water solubility of glufosinate-ammonium, this compound did not appear to leach under typical test conditions. This is a result of the combination of its rapid degradation and its tendency to bind to certain soil elements such as clay or organic matter. Based on these studies and the expected conditions of use, the potential for finding significant glufosinate-ammonium residues in water is minimal and the contribution of any such residues to the total dietary intake of glufosinate-ammonium will be negligible.

3. Non-Dietary Exposure: As a non-selective, post-emergent herbicide, homeowner use of glufosinate-ammonium will consist primarily of spot spraying of weeds around trees, shrubs, walks, driveways, flower beds, etc. There will be minimal opportunity for post-application exposure since contact with the treated weeds will rarely occur. Thus, any exposures to glufosinate-ammonium resulting from homeowner use will result from dermal exposure during the application and will be limited to adults, not to infants or children. These exposures are not expected to pose any acute toxicity concerns. Furthermore, based on the US EPA National Home and Garden Pesticide Use Survey (RTI/5100/17–01F, March 1992), the average homeowner is expected to use non-selective herbicides only about four times a year. Thus, these exposures would not normally be factored into a chronic exposure assessment.

E. Cumulative Effects

The potential for cumulative effects of glufosinate-ammonium and other substances that have a common mechanism of toxicity must also be considered. The precise mechanism of action for the toxic effects of glufosinate-ammonium in animals is not known but is believed to result, at least in part, from interference with the neurotransmitter function of glutamate, to which it is a close structural analog. No other registered active ingredients are known to have a similar mechanism of action. Thus, no cumulative effects with other substances are anticipated. Furthermore, the residues on transgenic crops will consist primarily of the metabolites of glufosinate-ammonium, not glufosinate-ammonium itself. These metabolites are less toxic than glufosinate-ammonium and, since they are not structural analogs of glutamate, they should not cause the same effects. Thus, consideration of a common mechanism of toxicity is not appropriate at this time and only the potential risks of glufosinate-ammonium need to be considered in its aggregate exposure assessment.

F. Safety Determinations

1. U.S. Population in General: Based on a complete and reliable toxicity database, the EPA has adopted an RfD value of 0.02 mg/kg/day using the NOEL of 2.1 mg/kg/day from the chronic rat toxicity study and a 100–fold safety factor. Using the conservative exposure assumptions described above, the petitioner has been advised that the EPA has concluded that aggregate exposure to glufosinate-ammonium from the previously established and the proposed tolerances will utilize 6.1 percent of the RfD for the U.S. population. There is generally no concern for exposures below 100 percent of the RfD because the RfD represents the level at or below which daily aggregate dietary exposure over a lifetime will not pose appreciable risks to human health. Therefore, there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result from aggregate exposure to glufosinate-ammonium residues to the U.S. population in general.

2. Infants and Children: In assessing the potential for additional sensitivity of infants and children to residues of glufosinate-ammonium, one should consider data from developmental toxicity studies in the rat and rabbit and a 2–generation reproduction study in the rat. The developmental toxicity studies are designed to evaluate adverse effects on the developing organism resulting from pesticide exposure during pre- natal development. Reproduction studies provide information relating to reproductive and other effects on adults and offspring from pre-natal and post-natal exposure to the pesticide.

Three developmental toxicity studies in rats (including pre- and post-natal phases), a developmental toxicity study in rabbits, and a 2-generation rat reproduction study have been conducted with glufosinate-ammonium. No evidence of developmental toxicity was noted in rabbits, even at the maternally toxic dose level of 20 mg/kg/day. No developmental or reproductive effects were noted in rats except at parentally toxic dose levels. The NOEL's for maternal and developmental toxicity in the rat developmental toxicity studies were determined to be 10 mg/kg/day and 50 mg/kg/day, respectively, based on findings of hyperactivity and vaginal bleeding in dams at 50 mg/kg/day and increased incidence of arrested renal and ureter development in fetuses at 250 mg/kg/day. The parental and reproductive NOEL's in the 2-generation rat reproduction study were determined to be 40 ppm (4 mg/kg/day) and 120 ppm (12 mg/kg/day), respectively, based on increased parental kidney weights at 120 ppm and decreased numbers of pups at 360 ppm. In all cases, the reproductive and developmental NOEL's were greater than or equal to the parental NOEL's, thus indicating that glufosinate-ammonium does not pose any increased risk to infants or children.

FFDCA section 408 provides that EPA may apply an additional safety factor for infants and children in the case of threshold effects to account for pre- and post-natal toxicity and the completeness of the database. Based on the current toxicological data requirements, the database relative to pre- and post-natal effects for children is complete. Further, the NOEL at 2.1 mg/kg/day from the chronic rat study with glufosinate-ammonium, which was used to calculate the RfD (discussed above), is already lower than the NOEL's from the reproductive and developmental studies with glufosinate-ammonium by a factor of at least 6–fold. Therefore, an additional safety factor is not warranted and an RfD of 0.02 mg/kg/day is appropriate for assessing aggregate risk to infants and children.

Using the highly conservative exposure assumptions described above, the petitioner has been advised that EPA has concluded that the percent of the RfD that will be utilized by aggregate exposure to residues of glufosinate-ammonium ranges from 13.6 percent for children 1 to 6 years old, up to 28.3 percent for non-nursing infants (≤1 year old). Using more realistic assumptions concerning anticipated residues and percent crop treated, the percent of RfD utilized would be no more than 5% for infants or children. Therefore, based on the completeness and reliability of the toxicity data and a comprehensive exposure assessment, it may be concluded that there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result to infants and children from aggregate exposure to glufosinate-ammonium residues.

G. International Tolerances

Glufosinate-ammonium as a non-selective herbicide is currently registered in more than 60 countries worldwide for both non-crop use as well as for weed control and desiccation in numerous conventional crops, including corn and soybeans. The following Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for glufosinate-ammonium on conventional corn and soybeans have been established: maize, at 0.1 ppm, maize forage, at 0.2 ppm and soya bean (dry) at 0.1 ppm. These tolerances are for non-selective uses such as no-till systems or post-directed applications on non-transgenic crops.

The U.S. tolerances for corn and soybean commodities are being proposed at higher levels based on residue trial data submitted by the petitioner. The residue trials were conducted in the U.S. on transgenic corn and soybeans according to the proposed U.S. label parameters for these crops. These use parameters (application rate, application timing, crop growth stage, pre-harvest interval etc.) differ for direct application use on transgenic crops than for non-selective use on conventional crops. Based on the U.S. data, the petitioner's parent company, AgrEvo GmbH of Berlin, Germany has petitioned the Joint Meeting of the Food and Agriculture Organization Panel of Experts on Pesticide Residues in Food and the Environment and the World Health Organization Expert Group on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) to establish Codex MRLs for use on transgenic corn and soybeans that are identical to the tolerances proposed for these commodities in the U.S. It is anticipated that the JMPR will consider and establish the MRLs for glufosinate-ammonium on transgenic crops during 1997–1998.

II. Administrative Matters

Interested persons are invited to submit comments on the this notice of filing. Comments must bear a notation indicating the document control number, [PF–671]. All written comments filed in response to this petition will be available in the Public Response and Program Resources Branch, at the address given above from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday,except legal holidays.

A record has been established for this notice under docket number [PF–671] (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in Rm. 1132 of the Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the

use of special characters and any form of encryption.

The official record for this notice, as well as the public version, as described above will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into printed, paper form as they are received and will place the paper copies in the official notice record which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing. The official notice record is the paper record maintained at the address in ''ADDRESSES'' at the beginning of this document.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 180

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: November 7, 1996.

Peter Caulkins,

Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 96–29576 Filed 11–15–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

[OPPTS–44632; FRL–5573–3]

TSCA Chemical Testing; Receipt of Test Data

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces EPA's receipt of test data on glycidyl methacrylate (GMA) (CAS No. 106–91–2). These data were submitted pursuant to an enforceable testing consent agreement/order issued by EPA under section 4 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Publication of this notice is in compliance with section 4(d) of TSCA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan B. Hazen, Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. E–543B, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 554–1404, TDD (202) 554–0551; e-mail: TSCA-Hotline@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under 40 CFR 790.60, all TSCA section 4 enforceable consent agreements/orders must contain a statement that results of testing conducted pursuant to testing enforceable consent agreements/orders will be announced to the public in accordance with section 4(d).

I. Test Data Submissions

Test data for glycidyl methacrylate were submitted by Keller and Heckman LLP on behalf of the Dow Chemical Company pursuant to a TSCA section 4 enforceable testing consent agreement/order at 40 CFR 799.5000 and were received by EPA on September 17, 1996. The submission includes a final report entitled ''Glycidyl Methacrylate: Thirteen-Week Vapor Inhalation Toxicity Study in Fischer 344 Rats.'' GMA, a glycidol derivative, is an epoxy resin additive used in paint coating formulations and adhesive applications.

EPA has initiated its review and evaluation process for this data submission. At this time, the Agency is unable to provide any determination as to the completeness of the submission.

II. Public Record

EPA has established a public record for this TSCA section 4(d) receipt of data notice (docket number OPPTS–44632). This record includes a copy of the study reported in this notice. The record is available for inspection from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center (also known as the TSCA Public Docket Office), Rm. B–607 Northeast Mall, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 2603.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Test data.

Dated: November 6, 1996.

Paul J. Campanella,

Acting Director, Chemical Control Division, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

[FR Doc. 96–29454 Filed 11–15–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Hearing Designation Order

The Commission has before it for consideration the following matter:

Licensee	City/State	MM docket No.
Desert Broadcasting Corporation	Desert Center, CA	96–221

(Regarding the renewal application for Station KZAL(FM))

Pursuant to Section 309(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, Desert Broadcasting Corporation's application for renewal of license has been designated for hearing concerning the following issues:

1. To determine the effect of Eugene B. White's state convictions on the basic qualifications of Desert Broadcasting Corporation.

2. To determine whether Desert Broadcasting Corporation has violated Section 1.65(c) of the Commission's Rules.

3. To determine whether Desert Broadcasting Corporation has violated Section 73.3615 of the Commission's Rules.

4. To determine whether Desert Broadcasting Corporation has violated Sections 73.1740 and/or 73.1750 of the Commission's Rules.

5. To determine whether Desert Broadcasting Corporation has the capability and intent to expeditiously resume the broadcast operations of KZAL(FM), consistent with the Commission's Rules.

6. To determine, in light of the evidence adduced pursuant to the preceding issues, whether grant of the subject renewal of license application would serve the public interest, convenience and necessity.

A copy of the complete Hearing Designation Order in this proceeding is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Dockets Branch (Room 320), 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. The complete text may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, International Transcription Service, 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 140, Washington, D.C. 20037 (telephone number 202–857–3800).

Federal Communications Commission

William F. Caton,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–29399 Filed 11–15–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P