

Dated: August 10, 1999.

William D. Dickerson,

Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6245-4]

Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared July 19, 1999 Through July 23, 1999 pursuant to the Environmental Review Process (ERP), under section 309 of the Clean Air Act and section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at (202) 564-7167.

An explanation of the ratings assigned to draft environmental impact statements (EISs) was published in FR dated April 09, 1999 (64 FR 17362).

Draft EISs

ERP No. D-AFS-J65301-MT Rating EC2, North Belts Travel Plan/Maypie Confederate Vegetation Restoration Project, Improvements, Helena National Forest, Townsend and Helena Ranger District, Broadwater, Lewis and Clark and Meagher County, MT.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns regarding the lack of information and commitment to carrying out a monitoring program to identify actual impacts from all the implementation activities. EPA also expressed concern about aerial application of herbicides, and suggests the final EIS include recommendations to reduce adverse impacts from aerial spraying.

ERP No. D-COE-F36163-00 Rating EO2, Upper Des Plaines River Flood Damage Reduction Project, Recommended Plan to Construction a Lateral Storage Area, National Economic Development (NED), Lake County, IL and Kenosha and Racine Counties, WI.

Summary: EPA expressed objections based on the limited scope of analysis and range of alternative, and the potential significant adverse impacts to wetland and water quality.

ERP No. D-DOE-G06011-NM Rating LO, Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico (SNL), Continue Operation, Site-Wide (DOE/EIS-0281), Albuquerque, NM.

Summary: EPA expressed a lack of objection to the continuation of the

operation of the facility. Overall, the analyses indicates little difference in the environmental impacts among alternative.

ERP No. D-FHW-L40211-AK Rating EC2, C Street Corridor Project, Improvements from O'Malley Road to International Airport Road, NPDES and COE Section 404 Permits, Municipality of Anchorage, AK.

Summary: EPA expressed concerns related to alternatives evaluated in the EIS, air quality impacts, secondary/cumulative effects analysis, and wetland impacts and mitigation debits analysis. More information has been requested for the final EIS.

ERP No. D-FRC-F03006-00 Rating EO2, Independence Pipeline and Market Link Expansion Projects, Construction and Operation, Interstate National Gas Pipeline, (Docket Nos. CP97-315-001, CP97-319-000, CP98-200-000 and CP98-540-000), NPDES and COE Section 404 Permits, IL, IN, MI, OH, PA and NJ.

Summary: EPA expressed objections based on inadequate information in the following areas: (1) Purposed and Need, (2) Cumulative Impact Analysis, (3) Wetlands and mitigation, (4) Upland forests and mitigation, and (5) Water Quality.

ERP No. D-UAF-G11038-00 Rating EC2, Realistic Bomber Training Initiative, Improve the B-52 and B-1 Aircrews Mission Training and Maximize Combat Training Time, Barksdale Air Force Base, LA, NM and TX.

Summary: EPA has identified some environmental concerns that need to be resolved in the Final EIS to insure and fully insure compliance with the requirements of NEPA and the CEQ regulations. EPA specific comments focus on the need to provide more complete analysis of noise impacts and airspace management issues, and to provide references and citations to support the DEIS analysis.

ERP No. D1-IBR-K39050-CA Rating * * *, Programmatic-CALFED Bay-Delta Program, Develop and Implement Long-Term Comprehensive Plan to Restore Ecological Health and Improve Water Management, San Francisco Bay-Sacramento/San Joaquin River Bay-Delta, CA.

Summary: Review of the EIS was not deemed necessary. No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

Final EISs

ERP No. F-AFS-J65299-MT Pinkham Timber Sales and Associated Activities, Implementation, Kootenai National Forest, Rexford Ranger District, Lincoln County, MT.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns regarding potential non compliance with forest standards for open road density, and concern regarding regeneration after timber harvest that may leave many large forest openings. EPA recommended that the final EIS describe water quality/aquatics monitoring that would be required assure efficacy of the mitigation actions.

ERP No. F-BLM-K65206-NV Caliente Management Framework Plan Amendment, Implementation, Management of Desert Tortoise Habitat (Gopherus agassizii), Northeastern Mojave Recovery Unit, Lincoln County, NV.

Summary: Review of the Final EIS was not deemed necessary. No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-COE-G36148-TX Dallas Floodway Extension, Implementation, Trinity River Basin, Flood Damage Reduction and Environmental Restoration, Dallas County, TX.

Summary: The Final EIS adequately responds to EPA comments offered on the Draft EIS.

ERP No. F-COE-L28007-OR Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board Water Supply Expansion Project, (Formerly Known as Joe Ney and Upper Pony Creek Reservoirs Expansion Project), COE Section 10 and 404 Permits, Coos County, OR.

Summary: The Final EIS satisfactorily addresses all of EPA's concerns and comments expressed in the draft EIS.

ERP No. F-FHW-K40231-AZ Red Mountain Freeway (Loop 202) Construction and Operation, between AR 87 (County Club Drive) and US-60 (Superstition Freeway), Funding, NPDES Permit and COE Section 404 Permit, City of Mesa, Maricopa County, AZ.

Summary: Review of the Final EIS was not deemed necessary. No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-NOA-F61018-MN Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program, Approval and Implementation, St. Louis and Cook Counties, MN.

Summary: EPA expressed a lack of objection to the proposed actions assessed in the FEIS.

ERP No. F-NRC-J09802-UT Uranium Mill Tailings Reclamation at Atlas Site, License Amendment Request for existing License No. SUA-917 along the Colorado River near Moab, UT.

Summary: EPA agrees in principle to issue a license amendment to conduct preliminary cleanup action. However, EPA continues to have objections to the proposed action due to the uncertainty

of whether the proposed reclamation of the site will meet the standards necessary to protect an endangered fish species from the leaching of contaminants into the Colorado River.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-34161B; FRL-6093-4]

Organophosphate Pesticide: Methyl Parathion; Availability of Revised Risk Assessments and Public Participation on Risk Management

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of the revised risk assessments and related documents for one organophosphate pesticide, methyl parathion. In addition, this notice starts a 60-day public participation period during which the public is encouraged to submit risk management ideas. These actions are in response to a joint initiative between EPA and the Department of Agriculture to increase transparency in the tolerance reassessment process for organophosphate pesticides. Although methyl parathion is beginning the 60-public participation process, to address dietary risk from food, the Agency has accepted voluntary cancellation of uses on crops that contributed most to children's diet. These canceled uses represent 90% of the dietary risk to children. Removal of these crops brings the acute dietary risk from food to below levels of concern (78% of the population adjusted dose). The agreement was signed and became effective August 2, 1999, with the basic producers of methyl parathion.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket control number OPP-34161B, must be received by EPA on or before October 12, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit III. of the "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION" section. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP-34161B in

the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karen Angulo, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 308-8004; e-mail address: angulo.karen@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general, nevertheless, a wide range of stakeholders will be interested in obtaining the revised risk assessments and submitting risk management comments on methyl parathion, including environmental, human health, and agricultural advocates; the chemical industry; pesticide users; and members of the public interested in the use of pesticides on food. As such, the Agency has not attempted to specifically describe all the entities potentially affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

II. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document or Other Related Documents?

A. Electronically

You may obtain electronic copies of this document and other related documents from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. To access this document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations" and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register—Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

To access information about organophosphate pesticides and obtain electronic copies of the revised risk assessments and related documents mentioned in this notice, you can also go directly to the Home Page for the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/op/>.

B. In Person

The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPP-34161B. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received during an applicable comment period, and other information related to this action, including any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). This official record includes the

documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. The public version of the official record does not include any information claimed as CBI. The public version of the official record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments submitted during an applicable comment period, is available for inspection in Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB) telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

III. How Can I Respond to this Action?

A. How and to Whom Do I Submit Comments?

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, you must identify docket control number OPP-34161B in the subject line on the first page of your response.

1. *By mail.* Submit comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. The Document Control Office (DCO) is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

3. *Electronically.* Submit electronic comments by e-mail to: "opp-docket@epa.gov," or you may mail or deliver your standard computer disk using the addresses in this unit. Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. 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 standard computer disks in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number OPP-34161B. Electronic comments may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.