

purposes of the evaluation of the bids—UtiliCorp would have entered into, at most, a five-year agreement, and absent certain concessions by CIG, UtiliCorp's preferred term was always one year only.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed on or before April 29, 1998. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-11172 Filed 4-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6005-3]

Good Neighbor Environmental Board

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency gives notice of a meeting of the Good Neighbor Environmental Board.

The Good Neighbor Environmental Board was created by the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative Act of 1992. An Executive Order delegates implementing authority to the Administrator of EPA. The Board is responsible for providing advice to the President and the Congress on the need for implementation of environmental and infrastructure projects within the States contiguous to Mexico in order to improve the quality of life of persons residing on the United States side of the border. The Board is required to submit an annual report to the President and the Congress. The statute calls for the Board to have representatives from U.S. Government agencies; the governments of the States of Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas; and private organizations with expertise on environmental and

infrastructure problems along the southwest border. The Board meets three times annually. At this meeting, the Board will focus primarily on completion of its third annual report.

DATES: The Board will meet on May 27 and 28, 1998. On May 27, the Board will meet from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. On May 28, the Board will meet from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Vancouver Suites Hotel, 1611 Hickory Loop, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005. The meeting is open to the public, with limited seating on a first-come, first-served basis.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Contact Mr. Robert Hardaker, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. EPA, Office of Cooperative Environmental Management, telephone 202-260-2477.

Dated: April 17, 1998.

Robert Hardaker,

Designated Federal Officer, Good Neighbor Environmental Board.

[FR Doc. 98-11263 Filed 4-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6005-4]

National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology, Title VI Implementation Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) now gives notice of a meeting of the Title VI Implementation Advisory Committee of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT).

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits recipients of federal financial assistance from discriminating on the basis of race, color, or national origin in their programs or activities. The purpose of the Title VI Implementation Advisory Committee is to advise the Administrator and Deputy Administrator of EPA on techniques that may be used by EPA funding recipients to operate environmental permitting programs in compliance with Title VI. The Title VI Implementation Advisory Committee is one of four standing committees of NACEPT.

The Committee consists of 23 independent representatives drawn from among state and local governments, industry, the academic

community, tribal and indigenous interests, and grassroots environmental and other non-governmental organizations.

DATES AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT:

The Committee will meet on April 18, 1998 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and April 19, 1998 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The public comment session will be held on April 18 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Members of the public who wish to make brief oral presentations should contact Lois Williams at 202-260-6891 by May 11, 1998 to reserve time during the public comment session. Individuals or groups making presentations will be limited to a total time of five minutes. Those who have not reserved time in advance may make comments during the public comment session as time allows.

ADDRESSES: The Sheraton National Hotel, Columbia Pike and Washington Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22204. The meeting is open to the public. However, seating will be limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Gregory Kenyon, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. EPA, Office of Cooperative Environmental Management, telephone 202-260-8169.

Dated: April 20, 1998.

Gregory Kenyon,

Designated Federal Officer, NACEPT Title VI Implementation Advisory Committee.

[FR Doc. 98-11265 Filed 4-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PB-402404-LA; FRL-5781-5]

Lead-Based Paint Activities in Target Housing and Child-Occupied Facilities; State of Louisiana's Authorization Application

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; request for comments and opportunity for public hearing.

SUMMARY: On March 9, 1998, the State of Louisiana submitted an application for EPA approval to administer and enforce training and certification requirements, training program accreditation requirements, and work practice standards for lead-based paint activities in target housing and child-occupied facilities under section 402 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). This notice announces the receipt of Louisiana's application, and provides a 45-day public comment

period and an opportunity to request a public hearing on the application. Louisiana has provided a certification that its program meets the requirements for approval of a State program under section 404 of TSCA. Therefore, pursuant to section 404, the program is deemed authorized as of the date of submission. If EPA finds that the program does not meet the requirements for approval of a State program, EPA will disapprove the program, at which time a notice will be issued in the **Federal Register** and the Federal program will be established in Louisiana.

DATES: The State program became effective March 9, 1998. Submit comments on the authorization application on or before June 12, 1998. Public hearing requests must be submitted on or before May 12, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Submit all written comments and/or requests for a public hearing identified by docket number "PB-402404-LA" (in duplicate) to: Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, 6PD-T, 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200, Dallas, TX 75202-2733.

Comments, data, and requests for a public hearing may also be submitted electronically to: robinson.jeffrey@epamail.epa.gov. Follow the instructions under Unit IV. of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeffrey Robinson, Regional Lead Coordinator, 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200, 6PD-T, Dallas, TX 75202-2733. Telephone: (214) 665-7577, e-mail address:

robinson.jeffrey@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On October 28, 1992, the U.S. Congress passed Pub. L. 102-550 which included the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992. This Act amended TSCA (15 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*) by adding Title IV--Lead Exposure Reduction (15 U.S.C. 2681 *et seq.*).

Section 402 of TSCA authorizes and directs EPA to promulgate final regulations governing lead-based paint activities to ensure that individuals engaged in such activities are properly trained, that training programs are accredited, and that individuals engaged in these activities are certified and follow documented work practice standards. In lieu of the Federal program, a State or Tribe may seek authorization from EPA to administer and enforce their own lead-based paint

activities program (TSCA, Title IV, section 404(a)).

On August 29, 1996 (61 FR 45777) (FRL-5389-9), EPA promulgated the final TSCA section 402/404 regulations. On August 31, 1998, EPA will institute the Federal program in States or Tribes that do not have an authorized program. States and Tribes that choose to apply for program authorization must submit a complete application to the appropriate Regional EPA Office for review. These applications must be reviewed by EPA within 180 days of receipt of the complete application. To receive final program authorization, a State or Tribe must demonstrate that its program is at least as protective of human health and the environment as the Federal program and provides for adequate enforcement (section 404(b) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. 2684 *et seq.*, 40 CFR 745.324).

A State or Tribe may choose to certify that its lead-based paint activities program meets the requirements for EPA approval by submitting a letter signed by the Governor or Attorney General (or equivalent) that states that the program meets all the requirements set by section 404(b) of TSCA. Upon receipt of a self-certification letter, the program is deemed authorized until such time as EPA disapproves the program application or withdraws the program authorization.

This notice announces the receipt of Louisiana's application, and provides a 45-day public comment period and an opportunity to request a public hearing on the application. EPA is requesting comments on the application and whether Louisiana meets the requirements for authorization in 40 CFR 745.324(e). Louisiana has provided a self-certification letter from the Governor that its program meets the requirements for approval of a State program under section 404 of TSCA. Therefore, pursuant to section 404, the program is deemed authorized as of the date of submission. If EPA finds that the program does not meet the requirements for approval of a State program, EPA will disapprove the program, at which time a notice will be issued in the **Federal Register** and the Federal program will be established in Louisiana.

II. State Program Description Summary

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) Lead Program encompasses a two-fold mission--to enforce regulations of lead-based paint activities and to provide education to the public on the hazards of lead-based paint, lead-contaminated soil, and lead-contaminated dust. The

regulatory framework for this program is contained in Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) 33:Part III. Chapter 28 (Lead-Based Paint Activities) and in LAC 33:Part III. Chapter 2 (Lead Program Fees).

Title 33, Part III, Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities--Recognition, Accreditation, Licensure, and Standards for Conducting Lead-Based Paint Activities, requires that all lead-based paint activities in target housing (pre-1978 residences) and child-occupied facilities (such as day-care centers) are conducted by appropriately certified contractors. The regulation establishes requirements for the certification and training of persons who conduct lead-based paint activities (lead workers, lead project supervisors, lead inspectors, lead risk assessors, and lead project designers), sets forth requirements for individuals who provide training and instruction to this work force, and requires the licensure of lead abatement contractors. The work practice standards contained in the regulation apply to those individuals who perform inspections, lead hazard screens, risk assessments, and abatement projects in target housing and child-occupied facilities. These standards require that the LDEQ be notified prior to the initiation of an abatement activity. A "grandfathering" provision is available to individuals who received EPA-model-curriculum training in lead-based paint activities between January 1, 1995, and March 20, 1998.

The LDEQ's public outreach program utilizes a multi-agency approach to heighten public awareness of lead-based paint hazards and to provide compliance assistance to the regulated community. The Lead Program works with the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service to disseminate information to the citizens of Louisiana on lead in housing issues; with the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals to address environmental lead contamination affecting those children age 6 and under who are found to have elevated blood-lead levels; and with the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors to ensure that lead abatement contractors who seek licenses in Louisiana meet criteria set by the State legislature. LDEQ staff members participate in workshops and seminars with the regulated community, and address concerns of homeowners' associations and nonprofit groups who rehabilitate homes in the community. A multi-media approach, including print, radio, and TV, is used to inform the public of the hazards associated with

lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and lead-contaminated soils.

III. Federal Overfiling

TSCA section 404(b) makes it unlawful for any person to violate, or fail, or refuse to comply with any requirement of an approved State or Tribal program. Therefore, EPA reserves the right to exercise its enforcement authority under TSCA against a violation of, or a failure, or refusal to comply with any requirement of an authorized State or Tribal program.

IV. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this action, as well as the public version, has been established under docket control number "PB-402404-LA." Copies of this notice, the State of Louisiana's authorization application, and all comments received on the application are available for inspection in the Region 6 office, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The docket is located at EPA Region 6 Library, Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200, Dallas, TX.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:
robinson.jeffrey@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 in 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number "PB-402404-LA." Electronic comments on this document may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 2682, 2684.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Hazardous substances, Lead, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: April 17, 1998.

Robert E. Hanneschlager,
Acting Division Director, Multimedia Planning and Permitting, Region VI.

[FR Doc. 98-11270 Filed 4-27-98; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6004-6]

Notice of Proposed Revisions to Approved Programs To Administer the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permitting Program in Illinois and Minnesota Resulting in Part From Adoption of the Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received for review and approval revisions to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) programs in Illinois and Minnesota. Most of the proposed revisions were adopted to comply with section 118(c) of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR 132.4, although in some cases, the State has also proposed revisions that are not related to those required by section 118(c) of the CWA and 40 CFR 132.4. EPA invites public comment on whether EPA should approve these revisions pursuant to 40 CFR 123.62 and 132.5.

DATES: Comments on whether EPA should approve the revisions to Illinois' and Minnesota's NPDES programs must be received in writing by May 28, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on these documents may be submitted to Jo Lynn Traub, Director, Water Division, Attn: GLI Implementation Procedures, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590. In the alternative, EPA will accept comments electronically. Comments should be sent to the following Internet E-mail address: karnauskas.joan@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted in an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. EPA will print electronic comments in hard-copy paper form for the official administrative record. EPA will attempt to clarify electronic comments if there is an apparent error in transmission. Comments provided electronically will be considered timely if they are submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. (Central Daylight Saving time) May 28, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mery Jackson-Willis, Standards and Applied Sciences Branch, Water Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-

3590, or telephone her at (312) 886-3717.

Copies of the rules adopted by the States, and other related materials submitted by the States in support of these revisions, are available for review at: EPA, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, 15th Floor, Chicago, Illinois; Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Library, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois; Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul, Minnesota. To access the docket material in Chicago, call (312)886-3717 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Central Daylight Saving Time) (Monday-Friday); in Illinois, call (217) 782-9691; and in Minnesota, call (612) 296-7398.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 23, 1995, EPA published the Final Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System (Guidance) pursuant to section 118(c)(2) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1268(c)(2). (March 23, 1995, 60 FR 15366). The Guidance, which was codified at 40 CFR Part 132, requires the Great Lakes States to adopt and submit to EPA for approval, water quality criteria, methodologies, policies and procedures that are consistent with the Guidance. 40 CFR 132.4 & 132.5. EPA is required to approve of the State's submission within 90 days or notify the State that EPA has determined that all or part of the submission is inconsistent with the Clean Water Act or the Guidance and identify any necessary changes to obtain EPA approval. If the State fails to make the necessary changes within 90 days, EPA must publish a notice in the **Federal Register** identifying the approved and disapproved elements of the submission and a final rule identifying the provisions of Part 132 that shall apply for discharges within the State.

On February 13 and 20, 1998, EPA Region 5 received submissions from Minnesota and Illinois, respectively. The bulk of these submissions consist of new, revised or existing water quality standards which EPA is reviewing for consistency with the Guidance in accordance with 40 CFR 131 and 132.5. EPA is not soliciting comment on those portions of these submissions relating to the water quality criteria and methodologies, use designations or antidegradation. EPA also is not soliciting comment on the Guidance itself.

Instead, EPA is only requesting comment on whether it should approve, pursuant to 40 CFR 123.62, and 132.5(g), those portions of these submissions that revise the States' approved National Pollutant Discharge