

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6005-5]

Common Sense Initiative Council, (CSIC)**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notification of public advisory CSI Iron and Steel, and printing sector subcommittee meetings: Open meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. 92-463, notice is given that the Iron and Steel and the Printing Sector Subcommittees of the Common Sense Initiative Council will meet on the dates and times described below. Both meetings are open to the public. Seating at both meetings will be a first-come basis and limited time will be provided for public comment. For further information concerning specific meetings, please contact the individuals listed with the three announcements below.

(1) Iron and Steel Sector Subcommittee—May 14, 1998

Notice is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency will hold an open meeting of the CSI Iron and Steel Sector Subcommittee on Thursday, May 14, 1998 from 10:00 a.m. CT to 4:00 p.m. CT. The meeting will be held at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, 5615 N. Cumberland Avenue, Chicago, IL 60631 (773-693-5800 or 1-800-996-3426) which is near the Chicago O'Hare airport.

The purpose of this meeting is to review the Subcommittee's past activities and discuss its next steps. In particular, the Subcommittee will consider what its goals and objectives might be, what process options it might follow to meet these goals and objectives, what information exchange and/or feedback mechanisms would be useful for disseminating information about environmental management in the iron and steel sector, and the disposition of its ongoing projects.

For more information concerning meeting times or any other information about this or other Iron and Steel meetings, please call Ms. Judith Hecht at 202-260-5682 in Washington, DC, by fax on (202) 401-3372, or by E-mail at hecht.judy@epamail.epa.gov or Mr. Robert Tolpa at 312-886-6706, or by E-mail at tolpa.robert@epamail.epa.gov.

(2) Printing Sector Subcommittee—May 28-29, 1998

Notice is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency will

hold an open meeting of the CSI Printing Sector Subcommittee on May 28-29, 1998. The Subcommittee meeting will be from 1:00 p.m. EST until 5:30 p.m. EST. The meeting will be held at Resolve, located at 1255 23rd Street, NW, Suite 275 in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the meeting will be to review the progress in implementing the New York City Education Project and to discuss the plans to implement pilot projects of the PrintSTEP program. A formal agenda will be available at the meeting.

For further information concerning meeting times and agenda of this Printing Sector Subcommittee meeting, please contact Gina Bushong, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), at EPA by telephone on (202) 564-5081 in Washington, DC, by fax on (202) 564-0009, or by e-mail at bushong.gina@epamail.epa.gov.

Inspection of Subcommittee Documents

Documents relating to the above topics will be publicly available at the meeting. Thereafter, these documents and the minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection in room 3802M of EPA Headquarters, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460, telephone number 202-260-7417. Common Sense Initiative information can be accessed electronically on our web site at <http://www.epa.gov/commonsense>.

Dated: April 23, 1998.

Kathleen Bailey,*Designated Federal Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-11379 Filed 4-28-98; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6005-7]

Announcement of National Drinking Water Advisory Council Benefits Working Group Open Meeting

Under Section 10(a)(2) of Pub. L. 92-423, "The Federal Advisory Committee Act," notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Benefits Working Group of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) established under the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 300f *et seq.*), will be held on May 19, 1998 from 9:00 AM until 4:30 PM (approximate), and May 20, 1998 from 8:30 AM until 1:00 PM (approximate), in the Washington Room of the Ramada Plaza Hotel—Old Town, 901 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria,

VA 22314. The meeting is open to the public, but seating will be limited.

The purpose of this meeting is to review those quantifiable and non-quantifiable benefits that could be considered when developing drinking water regulations and provide recommendations to the Agency on which benefits should be evaluated in developing its regulations. The working group members are meeting to analyze relevant issues and facts, and contribute input to "white papers" which EPA staff will write after the meeting. The Working Group will be asked to review and comment upon these papers, which will ultimately be presented to NDWAC. The meeting is open to the public to observe and statements will be taken from the public as time allows.

For more information, please contact, John Bennett, Designated Federal Officer, Benefits Working Group, U.S. EPA, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (4607), 401 M Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20460. The telephone number is 202-260-0446, fax 202-260-3762, and e-mail address bennett.johnb@epamail.epa.gov.

Dated: April 22, 1998.

Charlene E. Shaw,*Designated Federal Officer, National Drinking Water Advisory Council.*

[FR Doc. 98-11380 Filed 4-28-98; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6005-8]

Announcement of Stakeholder Forum on Perchlorate in Water**AGENCY:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.**ACTION:** Notice of stakeholder forum.

SUMMARY: The Interagency Perchlorate Steering Committee (IPSC) will be holding a two and a half day stakeholder forum on May 19-21, 1998 in Henderson, Nevada. The IPSC, a working partnership of government agencies chartered to facilitate identification of the issues and coordinate the exchange of scientific information related to potential perchlorate contamination in the environment, includes representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Defense (DoD), Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Native American Tribes, Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Nevada

Division of Environmental Protection, and California Department of Health Services. The purpose of this stakeholder forum is to disseminate information on the key scientific issues, to identify additional issues, and to hear stakeholder concerns. The IPSC is seeking input from State and Tribal drinking water programs, the regulated community (public water systems), public health organizations, academia, environmental and public interest groups, engineering firms, and the public on a number of issues related to perchlorate contamination in the environment. The IPSC encourages the full participation of stakeholders at the forum.

DATES: The forum will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 1998 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. PDT, Wednesday, May 20, 1998 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. PDT, with an additional public outreach evening session from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. PDT, and Thursday, May 21, 1998 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. PDT.

LOCATION: The Henderson Convention Center in Henderson, Nevada. To register, please contact the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or 703-285-1093 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. EDT. Those registered by May 13, 1998, will receive a draft agenda, logistics information, and discussion papers prior to the forum. Members of the public who cannot attend in person may participate via conference call and should also register with the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline by May 13, 1998. When registering, please indicate it is for the "Perchlorate Forum" and provide your name, organization, title, mailing address, telephone number, facsimile number, and e-mail address. Conference lines will be allocated on the basis of first-come, first served.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information on forum logistics, please contact the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Perchlorate is used as an oxidizer component in solid propellant (fuel) for rockets, missiles, and fireworks. It is very soluble in water, mobile in aqueous systems and can persist for many decades under typical ground water and surface water conditions. Recent (April 1997) advances in the analytical detection capability for low concentrations of perchlorate, from 400 to 4 parts per billion (ppb), have led to the discovery of the chemical at various manufacturing sites and some drinking

water supply wells of communities in California, Nevada, and Utah. Perchlorate has been found in ground water at six Superfund hazardous waste sites in California, at six other California non-Superfund waste sites, two sites in the Henderson, Nevada area, one site in Utah, and in the discharge to a creek in Texas. Water suppliers in both northern and southern California, and the Las Vegas Water Authority have found perchlorate in their water supplies generally at levels less than 18 ppb but ranging as high as 280 ppb, with several in the 100–200 ppb range. Perchlorate has also been detected at low levels (5 to 9 ppb) in the Colorado River.

Concerns have been raised about perchlorate because of the lack of adequate scientific information about the contaminant, including: where the contamination occurs, what reliable methods exist to detect it in various media, what the potential health effects are, and what treatment technologies exist. Historically, potassium perchlorate was used therapeutically to treat hyperthyroidism in Graves' Disease patients because it inhibits iodine uptake and thereby reduces thyroid hormone production. Thyroid hormone deficiencies can affect normal metabolism, growth, and development.

Currently, perchlorate does not have a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) or Health Advisory (HA) established. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), as amended in 1996, EPA is required to develop a list of contaminants, known as the Contaminant Candidate List (CCL), that are known or anticipated to occur in public water systems and may require regulation under SDWA [section 1412(b)(1)]. As a result of public comment on a draft of the CCL published on October 6, 1998 (62 FR 52193), perchlorate was added to the final CCL that was published on March 2, 1998 (63 FR 10274). At this time, additional research on health effects, effective treatment technologies, analytical methods, and occurrence is necessary before a determination can be made of whether to regulate perchlorate with an NPDWR or to develop guidance.

B. Request for Public Involvement

The IPSC is encouraging development of a sound research and management strategy by the involved government agencies through facilitating identification of the issues concerning perchlorate contamination and by coordinating information exchange to ensure the incorporation of the best available science and stakeholder input on technical and policy issues.

The stakeholder forum will cover a broad range of topics including: (1) Key exposure characterization issues (occurrence and sites of known contamination, transport and transformation, analytical methods); (2) perchlorate health risk assessment (health effects and toxicology studies, the peer review process); (3) key technical assessments (treatment technologies, waste stream handling); (4) ecological impacts; (5) regulatory and policy issues and; (6) future stakeholder involvement. Background materials on perchlorate issues will be sent in advance of the forum to those who register with the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline by May 13, 1998.

The IPSC has announced this forum to hear the views of stakeholders on actions that the agencies represented by the IPSC are taking or are planning to take to address perchlorate contamination. The public is invited to participate fully during the May 19–21, 1998 forum and during future opportunities for stakeholder participation.

Dated: April 24, 1998.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, Environmental Protection Agency.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-34121; FRL-5778-7]

Certain Chemicals; Availability of Reregistration Eligibility Decision Documents for Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces availability and starts a 60 day public comment period of the Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) documents for the active ingredients listed below. The REDs for the chemicals listed above are the Agency's formal regulatory assessments of the health and environmental data base of the subject chemicals and present the Agency's determination regarding which pesticidal uses are eligible for reregistration.

DATES: Written comments on these decisions must be submitted by June 29, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Three copies of comments identified with the docket control number "OPP-34121" and the case number (noted below), should be