

Dated: May 18, 1998.

Richard T. Westlund,

Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-400130; FRL-5792-5]

Public Meetings on the Toxics Release Inventory Reporting Form

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: EPA will hold approximately nine public meetings to solicit comments relating to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) reporting form, the Form R. The purpose of the meetings is to obtain comments from stakeholders on ways to improve the type of right-to-know information available to communities and to help streamline right-to-know reporting to ease the paperwork burden for businesses affected by the requirements. The first five meetings were held in November 1997 and February and April 1998. This notice announces two upcoming meetings. Additional meeting dates will be announced through future **Federal Register** notices.

DATES: The meetings will take place:

1. Thursday, June 18, 1998, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the Ramada Inn, 70 John Wesley Dobbs Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30303. Participants must register to speak by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 11, 1998.

2. Wednesday, June 24, 1998, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the Holiday Inn City Center, 1215 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64105. Participants must register to speak by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Each comment must bear the docket control number "OPPTS-400130." All comments should be sent in triplicate to: OPPT Document Control Officer (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Rm. G-099, East Tower, Washington, DC 20460.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to: oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov. Follow the instructions under Unit II. of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

All comments which contain information claimed as CBI must be clearly marked as such. Three sanitized copies of any comments containing

information claimed as CBI must also be submitted and will be placed in the public record for this action. Persons submitting information on any portion of which they believe is entitled to treatment as CBI by EPA must assert a business confidentiality claim in accordance with 40 CFR 2.203(b) for each such portion. This claim must be made at the time that the information is submitted to EPA. If a submitter does not assert a confidentiality claim at the time of submission, EPA will consider this as a waiver of any confidentiality claim and the information may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to the submitter.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Vicki R. Anderson, (Mail Stop 7408), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone: (202) 260-3544; fax number: (202) 401-8142; e-mail: anderson.vicki@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

EPA plans to hold approximately nine public meetings to solicit comments relating to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) reporting form, the Form R. The first five meetings took place in November 1997 and February and April 1998. The docket control number for the November meetings is "OPPTS-400117" and the docket control number for the February and April meetings is "OPPTS-400124." Comments presented at these meetings are available for review as described in Unit II. of this document.

The purpose of the meetings is to obtain comments from stakeholders on ways to improve the type of right-to-know information available to communities and to help streamline right-to-know reporting to ease the paperwork burden for businesses affected by the requirements. Topics for comment include the format of the Form R; nomenclature used in the Form R; opportunities for burden reduction in both the Form R and Form A; additional clarification of the elements in the Form R; and EPA's presentation of the data in public information documents. EPA would like to receive comments on these issues from interested parties for changes, modifications, deletions, and/or additions of data elements to the Form R and the Form A. These issues are outlined in greater detail in an issue paper available on the TRI Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/tri> under the heading "TRI Stakeholder Dialogue" and the subheading "TRI Public Meetings."

The sections of the Form R that EPA would like specific comment on are

sections 5, 6, and 8. In section 5, there have been a number of issues raised with regard to the definition of "release," particularly with respect to Class I underground injection wells and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) subtitle C landfills. Several commenters believe that EPA's interpretation of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA) definition of "release" will lead to the misperception that a reported EPCRA section 313 "release" necessarily results in an actual exposure of people or the environment to a toxic chemical. The Agency would like to hear suggestions on ways to collect and disseminate the data that are consistent with the Agency's interpretation of the EPCRA definition of "release" and would address the concerns raised regarding public misperception.

There have also been a number of issues raised with regard to the reporting of toxic chemicals in wastes in section 8 of the Form R. Section 8 collects information on waste managed at the facility whether or not the waste was generated at the reporting facility. Some individuals are concerned about public misperception of the data in section 8 because of the focus on the amount of waste managed at the facility and not the waste generated. EPA would like comments on ways to change section 8 of the Form R, which would continue to allow the user to assess wastes managed by the facility but would minimize the perception that the wastes reported in section 8 were generated by the reporting facility.

Individuals wishing to attend these meetings or participate via conference call must sign-up in advance in order to assure that all participants have an opportunity to speak. Depending on the number of individuals registered, oral presentations or statements will be limited to approximately 5 to 15 minutes. To register, contact Vicki Anderson at (202) 260-3544. For those who cannot travel to the public meeting location, there will be 10 conference call lines available on a first come, first served basis. When registering, give your name, organization, postal (and electronic, if any) mailing address, telephone, and fax number. If there is insufficient interest in any of the meetings, that meeting may be canceled. Individuals registered will be notified in the event a meeting is canceled. The Agency bears no responsibility for attendees' decision to purchase nonrefundable transportation tickets or accommodation reservations.

II. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this action, as well as the public version, has been established for this action under docket control number "OPPTS-400130" (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 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, Rm. NE-B607, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:
oppt.ncic@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 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number "OPPTS-400130." Electronic comments on this action may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection,
Community right-to-know.

Dated: May 19, 1998.

Thomas D. Tillman,

*Acting Director, Environmental Assistance
Division, Office of Pollution Prevention and
Toxics.*

[FR Doc. 98-13897 Filed 5-22-98; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket No. 96-45; DA 98-856]

Proposed Third Quarter 1998 Universal Service Contribution Factors

AGENCY: Federal Communications
Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Common Carrier Bureau announces proposed universal service contribution factors for the third quarter of 1998. If the Commission takes no action regarding these proposed factors within 14 days of publication in the **Federal Register**, the projections shall be deemed approved by the Commission and shall be used to calculate third quarter universal service contributions.

DATES: If the Commission takes no action regarding these proposed factors by June 9, 1998, the proposed third quarter contribution factors will become effective.

ADDRESSES: One original and five copies of all comments responsive to this Public Notice must be sent to Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20554. Three copies also should be sent to Sheryl Todd, Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau, 2100 M Street, NW, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Frances Downey, Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau, (202) 418-7371.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

In this Public Notice, the Accounting Policy Division of the Common Carrier Bureau announces proposed universal service contribution factors for the third quarter of 1998. On May 1, 1998, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), Schools and Libraries Corporation (SLC), and Rural Health Care Corporation (RHCC) submitted the following projections of third quarter 1998 demand and administrative expenses:

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

Program	Program demand	Administrative expenses	Interest income	Total program costs
Schools and Libraries	690.0	4.4	(0.0)	694.4
Rural Health Care	24.3	1.2	(0.5)	25.0
Subtotal	714.3	5.6	(0.5)	719.4
High Cost	414.1	0.8	(0.7)	414.2
Low Income	125.3	0.4	(1.0)	124.7
Subtotal	539.4	1.2	(1.7)	538.9
Total	1,253.7	6.8	(2.2)	1,258.3

Based on information contained in the Universal Service Worksheets, FCC Form 457, USAC submitted on May 1, 1998, end-user telecommunications revenues for the 1997 calendar year. Funding bases for the third and fourth quarters are determined by subtracting the revenues reported for January through June 1997 (on the September Worksheet) from the 1997 calendar year revenues reported on the March Worksheet. The amounts are as follows:

Total Interstate, Intrastate, and International End-User Telecommunications Revenues from

July 1, 1997—December 31, 1997: \$93.534 billion.

Total Interstate and International End-User Telecommunications Revenues from July 1, 1997—December 31, 1997: \$34.988 billion.

We estimate quarterly revenues by dividing the six-month revenue estimates listed above by two.

Based on the figures submitted by USAC, SLC, and RHCC, the proposed contribution factors for the third quarter of 1998 are as follows:

Contribution factor for the schools and libraries and rural health care support mechanisms:

Total Program Costs/Contribution Base (Interstate, International, and Intrastate)=\$0.719 billion/(\$93.534 billion/2)=0.0154.

Contribution factor for the high cost and low income support mechanisms:

Total Program Costs/Contribution Base (Interstate and International)=\$0.539 billion/(\$34.988 billion/2)=0.0308.

These factors are the proposed third quarter 1998 universal service