

Office location: Rm. 119, CM2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA; telephone: (703) 305-5805.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Any member of the public wishing to submit written comments should contact Larry C. Dorsey at the address or the phone number given above to confirm that the meeting is still scheduled and that the agenda has not been modified or changed. Interested persons are permitted to file written statements before the meeting. To the extent that time permits and upon advanced written request to the Designated Federal Official, interested persons may be permitted by the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Panel to present oral statements at the meeting. There is no limit on the length of written comments for consideration by the Panel, but oral statements before the Panel are limited to approximately five minutes. As oral statements only will be permitted as time permits, the Agency urges the public to submit written comments in lieu of oral presentations. Persons wishing to make oral and/or written statements should notify the Designated Federal Official and submit twenty copies of the summary information. Please note that comments should be received by July 20, 1998, to ensure that the Panel Members will have the time necessary to consider and review the comments.

Information submitted as a comment in response to this notice may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information marked CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. An edited copy of the comment that does not contain the CBI material must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public docket. All comments and materials received will be made part of the public record and will be considered by the Panel.

A public record has been established for this notice under docket number "OPP-00540" (including comments and data submitted electronically). A public version of this record, including printed versions of electronic comments, which does not include information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

The public record is located in Rm. 119 of the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency,

Crystal Mall 2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

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 record which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing. The official record is the paper record maintained at the address in "ADDRESSES" at the beginning of this document.

Copies of the Panel's report of their recommendations will be available approximately 30 working days after the meeting and may be obtained by contacting the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, at the address or telephone number given above.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: June 11, 1998.

Stephen L. Johnson,

Acting Director, Office of Pesticide Programs

[FR Doc. 98-16248 Filed 6-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6113-7]

Science Advisory Board; Notification of Public Meetings

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that several committees of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) will meet on the dates and times described below. All times noted are Eastern Time. All meetings are open to the public, however, due to limited space, seating at meetings will be on a first-come basis. For further information concerning specific meetings, please contact the individuals listed below. Documents that are the subject of SAB reviews are normally available from the originating EPA office and are *not* available from the SAB Office.

1. Executive Committee

The Science Advisory Board's (SAB) Executive Committee (EC) will conduct

a public meeting on Wednesday, July 8, 1998, and Thursday, July 9, 1998. The meeting will convene each day at 8:30 a.m., in the Administrator's Conference Room 1103 West Tower of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Building at 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460, and adjourn no later than 5:30 p.m. on each day (Eastern Time). The meeting is open to the public, however, seating is limited and available on a first-come basis.

At this meeting, the Executive Committee will receive updates from its committees and subcommittees concerning their recent and planned activities. As part of these updates, some committees will present draft reports for Executive Committee review and approval. Anticipated drafts include the following:

(a) Ecological Processes and Effects Committee Review of the Blackstone River Initiative in Region I;

(b) Environmental Economics Advisory Committee Advisory on Economic Research Topics;

(c) Radiation Advisory Committee (1) Commentary on the Radiation Quality Assurance Program

(2) Report on the Environmental Radiation Ambient Monitoring System (ERAMS).

Other items on the agenda tentatively include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) Discussion of the Agency's new Urban Environment program and the role of science in the program;

(b) Discussion of the Agency's American Indian Program and the associated scientific issues;

(c) Discussion of Agency requests for SAB reviews in FY99.

For Further Information—Any member of the public wishing further information concerning the meeting or who wishes to submit comments should contact Dr. Donald G. Barnes, Designated Federal Officer for the Executive Committee, Science Advisory Board (1400), U.S. EPA, Washington, DC 20460, phone (202)-260-4126; fax (202)-260-9232; or via Email at: barnes.don@epa.gov. Copies of the draft meeting agenda and the draft reports will be available on the SAB Website (/http://www.epa.gov/sab) by July. Alternatively, these materials can be obtained from Ms. Priscilla Tillery-Gadson at the above phone and fax numbers or via Email: tillery.priscilla@epa.gov.

2. Ecological Processes and Effects Committee

The Ecological Processes and Effects Committee (EPEC) of the Science

Advisory Board will meet on July 9–10, 1998 in Room 3709 Mall, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460. The meeting will convene at 8:30 am and end no later than 5:30 pm on both days. The meeting is open to the public, with seating available on a first-come basis. The purpose of the meeting is to: (a) engage in a consultation with Agency staff on a framework for the application of Toxicity Equivalency Factors in ecological risk assessments; (b) engage in a consultation with Agency staff on the development of further guidance on four ecological risk assessment topics; and (c) develop a Committee strategic project on ecological report cards.

An SAB Consultation in an interaction between SAB members and Agency staff where the advice of individual members is offered, rather than a consensus Committee opinion, and no formal report results from the discussions. The purpose of a Consultation is for SAB members to assist the Agency during the early phases of project scoping and planning. This is in contrast to a formal written review of an Agency work product.

Background

(a) Ecological Toxicity Equivalency Factors

In January 1998, EPA's Risk Assessment Forum and the Department of the Interior sponsored a workshop on the application of recently developed World Health Organization toxicity equivalency factors (TEFs) for assessing risks to mammals, fish, and birds from chemicals that elicit toxicity through an aryl-hydrocarbon mediated mechanism. The participants at the workshop concluded that the TEF methodology is technically appropriate for ecological risk assessments, and proposed to develop a framework for the application of TEFs in Agency ecological risk assessments. The advice of individual Committee members is sought on the scope and content of such a framework document.

(b) Ecological Risk Assessment Topics

EPA's first Agency-wide guidelines for ecological risk assessment were published in the **Federal Register** on May 14, 1998. As part of the review process for the draft guidelines, EPA solicited recommendations for specific ecological risk-related topics requiring further development, considering the state of the science and Agency needs and priorities. The Committee's suggestions for future guidance topics are contained in its report on the draft guidelines (EPA-SAB-EPEC-97-002).

The Risk Assessment Forum, after considering all of the recommendations received, is initiating follow-on projects in FY98 on four topics. Three of these are risk assessment process topics: (a) assessment endpoints and measures of effect; (b) effects at higher levels of biological organization, including landscape-level effects; and (c) risk characterization techniques. The fourth topic, objectives for ecological risk assessment, follows from both the Guidelines and a January 1997 EPA document, *Priorities for Ecological Protection: An Initial List and Discussion Document* ("Priorities"). In a September 1997 Advisory (EPA-SAB-EPEC-ADV-97-002), EPEC urged the Agency to develop additional guidance on ecological risk assessment for risk managers. This Forum project will revisit the list proposed in *Priorities* of ecological entities to consider during the Planning and Formulation steps of ecological risk assessments.

For the consultation on the four risk assessment topics, Committee members have been asked to provide individual feedback in the following areas: (a) How should the content of these broad issues be targeted most effectively to improve ecological risk assessments at the Agency? (b) What aspects of these topics are best suited for guidance in the short-term, and which require long-term emphasis? and (c) What types of products should be considered for short-term and long-term efforts to assist Agency risk assessors with each issue (for example, workshops and reports, white papers, guidance documents, other)?

(c) Ecological Report Cards

The Committee is interested in developing a strategic project to offer advice to the Agency on the content and design of an ecological report card, including the definition of baseline ecological data and benchmarks that can be measured to demonstrate improvements in ecological integrity as a result of management or restoration programs. The Committee will hear briefings from various Agency staff involved in efforts to develop indicators and progress measures, and will develop a proposal for conducting the strategic project.

For Further Information—Copies of the background materials for the consultations on TEFs and Ecological Risk Assessment Topics can be obtained from Ms. Christine Boivin, Risk Assessment Forum, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW (8601-D), Washington, DC, telephone (202) 564-3362. Copies of the agenda are available from Ms. Wanda Fields,

Committee Operations Staff, Science Advisory Board (1400), U.S. EPA, 401 M Street, SW, Washington DC 20460, telephone (202) 260-5510, fax (202) 260-7118, or via Email at fields.wanda@epa.gov.

Any member of the public wishing to submit comments must contact Ms. Stephanie Sanzone, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the Committee, *in writing* no later than noon on July 2nd at: Science Advisory Board (1400), Room 3702, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington DC 20460; FAX (202) 260-7118; or Email at sanzone.stephanie@epa.gov. The request should identify the name of the individual who will make the presentation and an outline of the issues to be addressed. At least 35 copies of any written comments to the Committee are to be given to the DFO no later than the time of the presentation; these will be distributed to the Committee and the interested public.

Providing Oral or Written Comments at SAB Meetings

The Science Advisory Board expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not repeat previously submitted oral or written statements. In general, each individual or group making an oral presentation will be limited to a total time of ten minutes. This time may be reduced at the discretion of the SAB, depending on meeting circumstances. Oral presentations at teleconferences will normally be limited to three minutes per speaker or organization. Written comments (at least 35 copies) received in the SAB Staff Office sufficiently prior to a meeting date, may be mailed to the relevant SAB committee or subcommittee prior to its meeting; comments received too close to the meeting date will normally be provided to the committee at its meeting. Written comments, which may of any length, may be provided to the relevant committee or subcommittee up until the time of the meeting.

Copies of SAB prepared reports mentioned in this FR Notice may be obtained from the SAB's Committee Evaluation and Support Staff at (202) 260-4126, or via fax at (202) 260-1889. Please provide the SAB report number when making a request.

Individuals requiring special accommodation at SAB meetings, including wheelchair access, should contact the appropriate DFO at least five business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Dated: June 15, 1998.

Donald G. Barnes,

Staff Director, Science Advisory Board.

[FR Doc. 98-16407 Filed 6-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-00544; FRL-5798-9]

State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG); Open Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG) will hold a 2-day meeting, June 29 and 30, 1998. This notice announces the location and times for the meeting and sets forth the tentative agenda topics. The meetings are open to the public.

DATES: The SFIREG will meet on Monday, June 29, 1998, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesday, June 30, 1998, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at: The Ronald Reagan National Airport Doubletree Hotel, 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington-Crystal City, VA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Elaine Y. Lyon, Field and External Affairs Division, Office of Pesticide Programs (7506C), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington-Crystal City, VA, CM-II, (703) 305-5306, (703) 308-1850 (fax); e-mail: lyon.elaine@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The tentative agenda of the State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group includes the following:

1. Outcome of the Second Annual Antimicrobial National Workshop.
2. Consumer Information Sheets for Treated Wood.
3. Pesticide Use/Usage Data.
4. Pesticide Residue Data.
5. Update on Biotechnology.
6. OPP Updates on the following:
 - Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)
 - Food Quality Protection Act
 - (i) Section 18 Rule
 - (ii) Tolerance Reassessment Advisory Committee
 - (iii) Impact on 24c Worker Protection Standard Certification and Training Advisory Group
 - International Activities - (NAFTA)
 - Bee Labeling

Chlorine Gas RED
PR Notice for Pesticide Products Used in Greenhouses
Label Language - mandatory vs. advisory

7. Update on the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance activities.

8. Regional and Committee Reports - Presentation of Issue Papers.

9. Other topics as appropriate.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: June 15, 1998.

Jay Ellenberger,

Director, Field and External Affairs Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 98-16573 Filed 6-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6108-9]

Settlement Under Section 122(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA); In the Matter of Spiegelberg Superfund Site, Green Oak Township, MI

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Settlement of CERCLA section 107 Cost Recovery Matter.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to settle a cost recovery claim with a potentially responsible party (PRP) with regard to past costs at the Spiegelberg site (the Site) in Green Oak Township, Michigan. EPA is authorized under section 122(h) of the CERCLA to enter into this administrative settlement.

Response costs totaling \$200,873.35 were incurred by EPA, between December 30, 1993 and September 30, 1997, in connection with the remedial action at the Site. On September 25, 1997 and October 22, 1997, EPA sent the PRP demands for reimbursement of the EPA's past costs. The Settling Party has agreed to pay \$194,000 to settle EPA's claim for reimbursement of response costs related to the Site. The U.S. Department of Justice has approved this settlement, consistent with section 122(h)(1) of CERCLA.

The EPA is proposing to approve this administrative settlement because it reimburses EPA, in part, for costs incurred during its response activities at this Site.

DATES: Comments on this administrative settlement must be received by no later than July 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments relating to this settlement, Docket Number V-W-98-C-461, should be sent to Cynthia N. Kawakami, Associate Regional Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, Mail Code: C-14J, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the Agreement and the Administrative Record for this Site are available at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, Superfund Division, Emergency Response Branch, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590. It is strongly recommended that you telephone Ms. Denise Williams at (312) 886-9481 before visiting the Region 5 Office.

Authority: The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.

Dated: May 22, 1998.

William E. Muno,

Director, Superfund Division.

[FR Doc. 98-16405 Filed 6-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6111-6]

State Program Requirements; Application To Administer the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program; Texas

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Application for approval of Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

SUMMARY: The State of Texas has submitted a request for approval of the Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) program pursuant to section 402(b) of the Clean Water Act (CWA or "the Act"). With this request, the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) seeks approval to administer a major category partial permit program for all discharges of pollutants into waters of the United States under its jurisdiction. Today, EPA Region 6 is providing public notice of Texas' request for TPDES program approval and of both a public hearing and public comment period on the State's program approval submission. EPA will either approve or disapprove the State's request after considering all comments it receives.

ADDRESSES FOR VIEWING/OBTAINING COPIES OF DOCUMENTS: Copies of Texas' TPDES program approval submission