

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY****40 CFR Part 455**

[FRL-6126-7]

**Amendments to the Effluent
Limitations Guidelines, Pretreatment
Standards, and New Source
Performance Standards for the
Organic Pesticide Chemicals
Manufacturing Industry—Pesticide
Chemicals Point Source Category****AGENCY:** Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing amendments to regulations that limit the discharge of pollutants into navigable waters of the United States and into publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) by existing and new sources that manufacture pesticide active ingredients (PAIs). Today's amendments only affect new and existing facilities that manufacture the PAI pendimethalin. EPA is proposing these amendments based on additional effluent monitoring data submitted to the Agency by the sole existing pendimethalin manufacturer, the American Cyanamid Company.

DATES: Comments must be received by September 21, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send comments in triplicate to Ms. Shari H. Zuskin, Office of Water, Engineering and Analysis Division (4303), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington DC 20460. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to:

zuskin.shari@epamail.epa.gov.

Electronic comments must be submitted in ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Electronic comments will also be accepted in WordPerfect 5.1 or 6.1 file format. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail. The public record (excluding confidential business information (CBI)) for this rulemaking is available for review at the EPA's Water Docket, 401 M Street, SW, Washington DC. For access to docket materials, call (202) 260-3027 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. for an appointment. The EPA public information regulation (40 CFR Part 2) provides that a reasonable fee may be charged for copying.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Shari H. Zuskin at (202) 260-7130 or via e-mail at: zuskin.shari@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the final rules section of today's **Federal Register**, EPA is promulgating a "direct final" rule that makes certain changes to the regulations at 40 CFR Part 455 for the pesticide active ingredient Pendimethalin. In conjunction with the direct final rule, EPA is issuing this proposal to adopt the regulation changes contained in the direct final rule. The direct final rule explains EPA's rationale for making these regulation changes. It also explains why EPA is promulgating these changes as a direct final rule on the same day that it is proposing to make these changes and soliciting comment.

If EPA does receive relevant adverse comments, it will publish a timely withdrawal of the direct final rule in the **Federal Register**. The Agency will then

address the public comments in a later final rule that is based on this proposed rule. If, as expected, EPA does not receive relevant adverse comment, then the direct final rule will become effective on its effective date, without further notice. EPA will not provide for a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting on this action must do so at this time.

Related Acts of Congress and Executive Orders

The direct final rule, which is being published in today's **Federal Register** in conjunction with this proposed rule, discusses the related acts of Congress and Executive Orders that EPA has addressed in this rulemaking, including the requirements of Executive Order 12866, the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act, the Regulatory Flexibility Act as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act, the Congressional Review Act, the Paperwork Reduction Act, Executive Order 13045: Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks, and the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 455

Environmental protection, Pesticide chemicals manufacturing, Water treatment and disposal, Water pollution control.

Dated: July 14, 1998.

Carol M. Browner,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-19515 Filed 7-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P