DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

Contract Review Meeting

In accordance with Section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), announcement is made of the following technical review committee to meet during the month of August 1998.

Name: Technical Review Committee of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household and Medical Provider Components.

Date and Time: August 25, 1998, 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Place: Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, Executive Office Center, 6th Floor Conference Room, 2101 East Jefferson Street, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

This meeting will be closed to the public.

Purpose: The Technical Review Committee's charge is to provide, on behalf of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) Contracts Review Committee, recommendations to the Administrator, AHCPR, regarding the technical merit of contract proposals submitted in response to a specific Request for Proposals regarding the AHCPR Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) Household and Medical Provider Components, announced in the Commerce Business Daily on April 6, 1998.

This contract will continue the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research's operations is support of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household and Medical Provider Components. This effort consists of simultaneous data collection and data preparation activities.

The purpose of MEPS is to provide policymakers, health care administrators, businesses, researchers and others with timely, comprehensive information about health care use and costs in the United States. MEPS is unparalleled for the degree of detail in its data as well as its ability to link health expenditure and health insurance information to the demographic, employment and health status characteristics of survey respondents. Moreover, MEPS is the only national survey that provides a foundation for estimating the impact of changes in source of payment and insurance coverage on different economic groups or special populations such as the poor, elderly, families, veterans, the uninsured, and racial and ethnic minorities. The MEPS consists of several components: the Household Component (HC), Medical Provider Component (MPC), Insurance Component (IC) and the Nursing Home Component (NHC).

The objective of the MEPS Household Component and the Medical Provider Component is to produce mean and distributional estimates, at both national and regional levels, representing calendar year and cross-sectional time points for a variety of health related measures. These data are particularly important because they can be generalized to the entire civilian noninstitutionalized population, and because the survey design permits the conduct of research where families as well as individuals are the units of analysis.

Because of its uniqueness and importance, AHCPR is committed to the timely dissemination of all MEPS data products and micro data files. The timely dissemination, release and dissemination of such products and files is of the utmost importance to the overall success of the MEPS project.

Agenda: The Committee meeting will be devoted entirely to the technical review and evaluation of contract proposals submitted in response to the above-referenced Request for Proposals. The Administrator, AHCPR, has made a formal determination that this meeting will not be open to the public. This action is necessary to safeguard confidential proprietary information and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals that may be revealed during this meeting, and to protect the free exchange of views, and avoid undue interference with Committee and Department operations.

This is accordance with section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2, implementing regulations, 41 CFR 101–6.1023 and procurement regulations, 48 CFR section 315.604(d).

Anyone wishing to obtain information regarding this meeting should contact Doris Lefkowitz, Center for Cost and Financing Studies, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, 2101 East Jefferson Street, Suite 500, Rockville, Maryland 20852, telephone (301) 594–1406.

Dated: August 18, 1998.

John M. Eisenberg,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98–22719 Filed 8–24–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–90–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 98F–0707]

Dover Chemical Corp.; Filing of Food Additive Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that Dover Chemical Corp. has filed a petition proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to expand the safe use of 3,9-bis[2,4-bis(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)phenoxy]-2,4,8,10-tetraoxa-3,9-diphosphaspiro[5.5]undecane, which may contain not more than 2 percent by weight of triisopropanolamine, as an antioxidant and/or stabilizer for polycarbonate and polyethylene phthalate polymers intended for use in contact with food.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew J. Zajac, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS–215), Food and Drug Administration, 200 C St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202–418–3095.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (sec. 409(b)(5) (21 U.S.C. 348(b)(5))), notice is given that a food additive petition (FAP 8B4621) has been filed by Dover Chemical Corp., 3676 Davis Rd. NW., Dover, OH 44622. The petition proposes to amend the food additive regulations in § 178.2010 Antioxidants and/or stabilizers for polymers (21 CFR 178.2010) to expand the safe use of 3,9-bis[2,4-bis(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)phenoxy]-2,4,8,10-tetraoxa-3,9-diphosphaspiro[5.5] undecane, which may contain not more than 2 percent by weight of triisopropanolamine, as an antioxidant and/or stabilizer for polycarbonate and polyethylene phthalate polymers intended for use in contact with food.

The agency has determined under 21 CFR 25.32(i) that this action is of a type that does not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

Dated: August 7, 1998.

Laura M. Tarantino,

Acting Director, Office of Premarket Approval, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.

[FR Doc. 98–22747 Filed 8–24–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Current Science and Technology on Sprouts

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the following meeting to review the current science, including technological and safety factors, relating to sprouts and to consider measures necessary to enhance the safety of these products.

Date and Time: The meeting will be held on September 28 through 29, 1998, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: The meeting will be held at Crowne Plaza Washington Hotel,

Sphinx Club Ballroom, 1375 K St. NW., Washington, DC.

Contact: Catherine M. DeRoever, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS–22), Food and Drug Administration, 200 C St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202–205–4251, FAX 202–205–4970, (e-mail) cderoeve@bangate.fda.gov.

Agenda: The purpose of this meeting is to provide a forum for discussion of the scope of the current situation, consumer perspectives, agricultural practices, the state of the science, and possible intervention strategies relating to sprouts.

Registration and Requests for Oral Presentations: Send registration information (including name, title, firm name, address, telephone, and fax number), to the contact person by September 11, 1998. Interested persons may present data, information, or views orally or in writing, on the issue. Written submissions must also be made to the contact person by September 11, 1998. Time allotted for each presentation may be limited. Those desiring to make formal oral presentations should notify the contact person before September 11, 1998, and be prepared to give a brief statement of the general nature of the evidence you wish to present.

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Ms. DeRoever at the above address at least 7 days in advance.

Transcripts: Transcripts of the meeting may be requested in writing from the Freedom of Information Office (HFI–35), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, rm. 12A–16, Rockville, MD 20857, approximately 15 working days after the meeting at a cost of 10 cents per page.

Dated: August 18, 1998.

William K. Hubbard,

Associate Commissioner for Policy Coordination.

[FR Doc. 98–22718 Filed 8–24–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

[Document Identifier: HCFA–R–229]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following proposal for the collection of information. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Type of Information Collection Request: Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Development of an Assessment System for post Acute Care; *Form No.:* HCFA–R–229, OMB # 0938–0720; *Use:* The Minimum Data Set-Post Acute Care (MDS–PAC) will be used to establish patient case mix groups including classes of patients in the rehabilatation facility for the payment system. It will also provide data and seek input from the rehabilitation industry for HCFA to formulate policy and promulgate regulations. *Frequency:* On occasion; *Affected Public:* Individuals or Households, Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit; *Number of Respondents:* 10,465; Total Annual *Responses:* 10,465; *Total Annual Hours:* 23,301.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, E-mail your request, including your address and phone number, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786–1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 30 days of this notice directly to the OMB Desk Officer designated at the following address: OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch Attention: Allison Eydt, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: July 9, 1998.

John P. Burke III,

HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA, Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

[FR Doc. 98–22696 Filed 8–24–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120–03–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of meetings of the Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board.

The meetings will be open to the public, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting.

Name of Committee: Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board Education Subcommittee Meeting.

Date: September 29, 1998.

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Agenda: To discuss education related priorities.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Building 31, Conference Room 10, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: James P. Kiley, PHD, Director, National Center on Sleep Disorders Research, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, NIH, Rockledge Building II, Room 10038, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Name of Committee: Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board Research Subcommittee Meeting.

Date: September 29, 1998.

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review sleep research priorities and programs.

Place: Holiday Inn, Bethesda, 8120 Wisconsin Avenue, Maryland Room, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: James P. Kiley, PHD, Director, National Center on Sleep Disorders Research, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, NIH, Rockledge Building II, Room 10038, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Name of Committee: Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board.

Date: September 30, 1998.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Agenda: To discuss recommendations on the implementation and evaluation of the National Center on Sleep Disorders research programs.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Building 31, Conference Room 10, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: James P. Kiley, PHD, Director, National Center on Sleep Disorders Research, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, NIH, Rockledge Building II, Room 10038, Bethesda, MD 20892.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.233, National Center for Sleep Disorders Research; 93.837, Heart and Vascular Diseases Research; 93.838, Blood Diseases and Resources Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)