

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through use of automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No 1848.01 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OP Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20460 (or E-Mail Farmer.Sandy @ epamail.epa.gov);

and
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725-17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: September 23, 1998

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6170-3]

National Drinking Water Advisory Council; Request For Nominations

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites all interested persons to nominate qualified individuals to serve a three-year term as members of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council. This Advisory Council was established to provide practical and independent advice, consultation and recommendations to the Agency on the activities, functions and policies related to the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act as amended. The Council consists of fifteen members, including a Chair. Five members represent the general public; five members represent appropriate state and local agencies concerned with water hygiene and public water supply; and five members represent private organizations or groups demonstrating an active interest in the field of water hygiene and public water supply. On December 15 of each year, five members complete their appointment. Due to a declined appointment last year, an additional vacancy is available to fill a term expiring December 16, 1999, all other terms will expire in the Year 2001. Therefore, this notice solicits names to fill six vacancies occurring on December 16, 1998.

Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals for membership. Nominees should be identified by name, occupation, position, address and telephone number. To be considered, all nominations must include a current resume providing the nominee's background, experience and qualifications.

Persons selected for membership will receive compensation for travel and a nominal daily compensation while attending meetings. The Council holds two face to face meetings each year, generally in the Spring and Fall. Additionally, members will be asked to serve on one of the Council's working groups that are formed each year to assist the EPA in major program issue development. These meetings are held approximately four times a year, with two meetings by conference call.

Nominations should be submitted to Charlene E. Shaw, Designated Federal Officer, National Drinking Water Advisory Council, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (4601), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460, no later than October 23, 1998. The Agency will not formally acknowledge or respond to nominations. E-Mail your questions to shaw.charlene@epamail.epa.gov or call 202/260-2285.

Dated: September 23, 1998.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6169-8]

Science Advisory Board; Notification of Public Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that the Ecological Processes and Effects Committee of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) will meet on October 13-15, 1998 in Room 3709 Mall, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460. The meeting will convene at 8:30 a.m. and end no later than 5:30 p.m. each day. The meeting is open to the public, with seating available on a first-come basis. The purpose of the meeting is to: a) review certain aspects of the Office of Water's Index of Watershed Indicators;

and b) continue work on a Committee project on ecological report cards.

Background

Index of Watershed Indicators: In May 1997, the EPEC prepared an advisory document recommending improvements and modifications to the Agency's Index of Watershed Indicators (IWI). The IWI is a geographic information system (GIS)-based tool for providing integrated information on the condition and vulnerability of watersheds in the United States. The first version of the IWI, released in October 1997, contains 15 data layers (or indicators) providing information on water and sediment quality within a watershed, indicators of urban and agricultural runoff potential, information on aquatic species at risk in a watershed, and so forth. In its September 1997 advisory report, the Committee recommended that subsequent versions of the IWI include a broader range of indicators, including indicators of terrestrial condition, and that the algorithm used to integrate the various indicators into a watershed score be evaluated.

The Charge to the Committee for the October review of the IWI is to provide peer review and advice on the strategic plan for the IWI; the algorithm used to calculate watershed scores; and the proposed indicators of terrestrial condition. In addition, the Committee may comment on other aspects of the IWI, including the ability of the suite of indicators to adequately characterize watershed condition and vulnerability.

Copies of the IWI information provided to the Committee are NOT available from the SAB Office, but may be obtained by contacting Lynda Buie, EPA Office of Water, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460, Mail Code (4503F), telephone (202) 260-7046, or via email at Buie.Lynda@epa.gov.

Ecological Report Cards: The Committee is conducting a self-initiated 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. At its meeting in July 1998, the Committee was briefed on various Agency efforts to develop indicators and progress measures. The October meeting will be an opportunity for the Committee to finalize a project description, and begin discussion of a conceptual framework for ecological report cards. Subsequent meetings will likely focus on the application of the report card framework to example Agency efforts, as well as possible

discussion of data requirements and data-related issues.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The proposed meeting agenda is available from Ms. Mary Winston, Committee Operations Staff, Science Advisory Board (1400), U.S. EPA, 401 M Street, SW., Washington DC 20460, telephone (202) 260-2554, fax (202) 260-7118, or via Email at winston.mary@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 4:00 pm on October 8, 1998 at: Science Advisory Board (1400), Room 3702, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington DC 20460; FAX (202) 260-7118; or E-mail 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 be 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 document 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: September 22, 1998.

Donald G. Barnes,

Staff Director, Science Advisory Board.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6170-1]

Nominations for Peer Reviewers for Perchlorate Toxicological Review

AGENCY: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Request for nominations.

SUMMARY: EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response has retained Research Triangle Institute, Inc. (RTI) to coordinate a scientific peer review of the Toxicological Review document for perchlorate, including the revised provisional reference dose (RfD), cancer assessment and ecological assessment. The peer review workshop is tentatively scheduled to be held in late 1998 or early 1999, in Ontario, California, and will be open to members of the public as observers. The peer review will be conducted in accordance with EPA's 1998 Peer Review Handbook, and is being organized to assist in completing EPA's evaluation of the effects on human health and the environment of perchlorate. RTI is seeking nominations of highly qualified scientists with expertise in general toxicology, thyroid function and toxicology, developmental toxicology, neurotoxicology, immunotoxicology, pharmacology, genetic toxicology, medical endocrinology with an emphasis on thyroid function, biostatistics, assessment of risks due to non-cancer and cancer health effects, and assessment of risks due to ecological effects. RTI will select approximately 10 objective peer reviewers based upon demonstrated expertise of the scientists and the need for balance in affiliation among the peer reviewers. RTI will consider potential conflicts of interest in screening nominees for suitability as peer reviewers. All nominations will be carefully considered, but the source of peer reviewer nominations will not be a factor in the selection of peer reviewers and stakeholders are not guaranteed that any of their nominees will be selected. The peer review will cover the protocols and results of ongoing studies of perchlorate toxicity to human health and the environment, as well as the

Toxicological Review document, including the revised provisional RfD, cancer assessment, and ecological assessment for perchlorate prepared by EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA).

DATES: Nominations for peer reviewers must be submitted by October 29, 1998. A detailed resume for each nominated scientist should be included with the submission. The projected date for the peer review workshop is late 1998 or early 1999, depending on the availability of the peer reviewers.

ADDRESSES: Peer reviewer nominations should be sent to Susan Goldhaber at Research Triangle Institute, Inc., P.O. Box 12194, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, 27709. Peer reviewer nominations may also be submitted by facsimile at 919-541-7155, or by E-mail at sbg@rti.org. The peer review workshop will be held in Ontario, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical and logistical inquiries, contact Susan Goldhaber, Research Triangle Institute, by telephone, at 919-541-5965, by facsimile, at 919-541-7155, or by E-mail, at sbg@rti.org.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

EPA is in the process of developing a toxicological review document for perchlorate, including a revised provisional RfD, cancer assessment, and ecological assessment. An RfD is an estimate of a daily oral human exposure that will result in no deleterious noncancer effects over a lifetime. Ideally, an RfD is based on an array of endpoints that address potential toxicity during various critical life stages, from developing fetus through adult and reproductive stages. The noncancer, cancer and ecological assessments may be used to support development of a health advisory and/or drinking water regulations and cleanup decisions at hazardous waste sites. In accordance with EPA's 1998 Peer Review Handbook, a key step in the development of the Toxicological Review document for perchlorate will be an external peer review, in the form of a workshop, of the recently completed toxicity studies, the Toxicological Review document, and the revised provisional RfD, cancer assessment and ecological assessment in that document.

EPA's Superfund Technical Support Center issued a provisional RfD for perchlorate in 1992 and a revised provisional RfD in 1995. The provisional RfD values (1992 and 1995) were based on an acute study in which