

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.

[FR Doc. 98-26005 Filed 9-28-98; 8:45 am]

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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

single doses of potassium perchlorate caused the release of iodide from the thyroids of patients with Graves' Disease. The provisional RfD values did not undergo internal Agency or external peer review. In March of 1997 a peer review panel convened by an independent organization, Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment (TERA), determined that the health effects and toxicity data for perchlorate were insufficient to generate a credible RfD for risk assessment purposes. The reviewers were concerned that developmental toxicity, notably neurological development due to hypothyroidism during pregnancy, could be a critical effect of perchlorate that has not been adequately examined in studies to date. They also concluded that insufficient data were available on potential effects of perchlorate on organs and tissues other than the thyroid.

New Health Effects/Toxicology Studies Underway

A set of toxicological and ecological studies is underway to address key data gaps and provide a comprehensive database related to the toxicity of perchlorate. The studies are being funded and overseen by a variety of organizations with potential responsibility for perchlorate contamination in the environment including the United States Air Force, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Perchlorate Study Group (PSG).¹

To date, a 90-day subchronic oral study, a neurobehavioral developmental toxicity study, and a genotoxicity study have been completed. Currently ongoing studies include a segment II developmental toxicity study, a two-generation reproductive toxicity study, absorption, distribution, metabolism, and elimination (ADME) studies, perchlorate mechanistic studies, and immunotoxicity studies. Ecotoxicity studies in *Daphnia*, earthworms, lettuce and fathead minnow are also being performed. The results of most of these studies will be available for discussion in the Toxicological Review document and for development of the revised RfD, cancer, and ecological assessment for perchlorate.

The peer review will focus on the scientific data, methods, and analyses, along with the assumptions and

uncertainties that are associated with the revised provisional RfD, cancer assessment, and ecological assessment for perchlorate. Following the peer review workshop, RTI will issue a report summarizing the workshop. EPA will consider the results of the workshop prior to issuing the revised Toxicological Review document for perchlorate. Although the completed risk assessment will be one of the factors considered in making future decisions regarding perchlorate contamination in the environment, these decisions and other risk management issues will not be a part of the peer review process.

Dated: September 23, 1998.

Timothy Fields, Jr.,

Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

[FR Doc. 98-26007 Filed 9-28-98; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting; Notice of a Matter To Be Withdrawn From the Agenda for Consideration at an Agency Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that the following matter will be withdrawn from the "discussion agenda" for consideration at the open meeting of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation scheduled to be held at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 29, 1998, in the Board Room on the sixth floor of the FDIC Building located at 550 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.:

Memorandum and resolution re:

Amendments to Part 362—Activities and Investments of Insured State Banks; Part 303—Applications, Requests, Submittals, Delegations of Authority, and Notice Required to be Filed by Statute or Regulation; and Section 337.4—Securities Activities of Subsidiaries of Insured State Banks; Bank Transactions with Affiliated Securities Companies.

Requests for further information concerning the meeting may be directed to Mr. Robert E. Feldman, Executive Secretary of the Corporation, at (202) 898-6757.

Dated: September 25, 1998.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Robert E. Feldman,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-26145 Filed 9-25-98; 10:53 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Notice of Agreement(s) Filed

The Commission hereby gives notice of the filing of the following agreement(s) under the Shipping Act of 1984.

Interested parties can review or obtain copies of agreements at the Washington, DC offices of the Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Room 962. Interested parties may submit comments on an agreement to the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC 20573, within 10 days of the date this notice appears in the **Federal Register**.

Agreement No.: 202-009648A-096.

Title: Inter-American Freight Conference ("IAFC").

Parties:

A.P. Moller-Maersk Line
CSAV/Braztrans Joint Service
Crowley American Transport, Inc.
Ivaran Lines Limited d/b/a/ Ivaran Lines

Companhia Maritima Nacional
Companhia de Navegacao Lloyd Brasileiro

Empresa Lineas Maritimas Argentinas
Empresa de Navegacao Alianca S.A.
Columbus Line

Transportacion Maritima Mexicana
S.A. De C.V.

Sea-Land Service, Inc.

APL Co. Pte. Ltd.

Transroll Navieras Express

Compagnie Generale Maritime S.A.
TNX Transportes Ltda.

Euroatlantic Container Line S.A.

Synopsis: The proposed modification would permit a new IAFC member to continue to honor its existing service contracts, provided that if the new member has or acquires a contractual right to terminate the service contract, or to cease accepting cargo thereunder, the new member must exercise such right when it arises. Any amendment to such a service contract must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the other member lines. The parties have requested expedited review.

Agreement No.: 203-011474-002.

Title: CSAV/CCNI Car Carrier Agreement.

Parties:

Compania Sud Americana de Vapores, S.A.

Compania Chilena de Navegacion

¹ The PSG is a consortium of defense contractors and manufacturers including: Aerojet, Allied Techsystems, American Pacific/Western Electrochemical Company, Atlantic Research Corporation, Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp. Lockheed Martin, Thiokol Propulsion Group, and United Technologies Chemical Systems.