

dimethylolpropionic acid as a pigment dispersant for pigments used as components of food-contact articles.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vir D. Anand, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS-215), Food and Drug Administration, 200 C St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202-418-3081.

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 9B4637) has been filed by GEO Specialty Chemicals, c/o Keller and Heckman LLP, 1001 G St. NW., suite 500 West, Washington, DC 20001. The petition proposes to amend the food additive regulations in § 178.3725 *Pigment dispersants* (21 CFR 178.3725) to provide for the safe use of dimethylolpropionic acid as a dispersant for pigments used as components of food-contact articles.

The agency has determined under 21 CFR 25.32(i) that this action is of the 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: December 1, 1998.

Laura M. Tarantino,

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

[FR Doc. 98-33055 Filed 12-11-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Industry Training on Electronic Records; Electronic Signatures; Video Teleconferences; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (Office of External Affairs, Office of Regulatory Affairs, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, and the Center for Devices and Radiological Health) is announcing the following meeting (video teleconferences) entitled "Industry Training on 21 CFR Part 11." The topics to be discussed are current good manufacturing practice electronic recordkeeping requirements, validation of electronic recordkeeping systems, and the answers to frequently asked questions on part 11 (21 CFR part 11).

Date and Time: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 1999, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Registration information should be faxed to the contact person listed in Table 1 of this document by January 8, 1999.

Contact Person: Laura C. Woolf, Office of Communications, Training and Manufacturers Assistance (HFM-40), Food and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, suite 200N, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-827-3840, FAX 301-827-3843, e-mail address "woolf@cber.fda.gov".

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: These video teleconferences are intended to inform the FDA regulated industries, and especially, small business about the requirements for electronic recordkeeping according to part 11 and to provide for a dialogue with FDA. These video teleconferences address the requirements of both the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (Pub. L. 104-121) that mandates outreach activities by Government agencies directed to small businesses and section 406 (b) of The Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997 (Pub. L. No. 105-115) that calls for involvement of FDA with its stakeholders in cooperative activities to assure the quality of marketed products.

Location: The meeting (video teleconferences) will be held as follows:

TABLE 1.—PUBLIC MEETING (VIDEO TELECONFERENCES)

FDA Office/Region	Meeting Address	Time	Contact Person
Cincinnati District Office	6751 Steger Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45237	1 p.m. to 4 p.m., eastern standard time (e.s.t.)	Geraldine H. Cobb (HFR-MA430), Food and Drug Administration, 6751 Steger Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45237, 513-679-2700, ext. 100, FAX 513-679-2771
New Jersey District Office	10 Waterview Blvd., 3d Fl., Parsippany, NJ 07054	1 p.m. to 4 p.m., e.s.t.	Marie T. Falcone (HFR-SW17), Food and Drug Administration, 900 U.S. Customhouse, 2d & Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, PA 19106, 215-597-4391, ext. 4003, FAX 215-597-5798
Chicago District Office	300 South Riverside Plaza, suite 500 South, Chicago, IL 60606	12 m. to 3 p.m., central standard time (c.s.t.)	Joe T. Petty (HFR-CE1), Food and Drug Administration, 20 North Michigan Ave., suite 510, Chicago, IL 60602, 312-353-9400, ext. 23, FAX 312-886-1682
Chicago-Central Region	20 North Michigan Ave., suite 510, Chicago, IL 60602	12 m. to 3 p.m., c.s.t.	Joe T. Petty (HFR-CE1), Food and Drug Administration, 20 North Michigan Ave., suite 510, Chicago, IL 60602, 312-353-9400, ext. 23, FAX 312-886-1682
Seattle District Office	22201 23d Dr. SE., Bothell, WA 98021	10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pacific standard time (P.s.t.)	Judy R. Keast (HFR-PA13), Food and Drug Administration, 1301 Clay St., suite 1180N, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-637-3960, ext.12, FAX 510-637-3976

TABLE 1.—PUBLIC MEETING (VIDEO TELECONFERENCES)—Continued

FDA Office/Region	Meeting Address	Time	Contact Person
San Francisco District Office	1431 Harbor Bay Pkwy., Alameda, CA 94502	10 a.m. to 1 p.m., P.s.t.	Judy R. Keast (HFR-PA13), Food and Drug Administration, 1301 Clay St., suite 1180N, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-637-3960, ext.12, FAX 510-637-3976
Los Angeles District Office	19900 MacArthur Blvd., suite 300, Irvine, CA 92715	10 a.m. to 1 p.m., P.s.t.	Judy R. Keast (HFR-PA13), Food and Drug Administration, 1301 Clay St., suite 1180N, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-637-3960, ext.12, FAX 510-637-3976
Dallas Southwest Regional Office	7920 Elmbrook, suite 102, Dallas, TX 75247	12 m. to 3 p.m., c.s.t.	Brenda C. Cox (HFR-SW17), Food and Drug Administration, 7920 Elmbrook, suite 102, Dallas, TX 75247, 214-655-8100, ext. 133, FAX 214-655-8114
Nashville District Office	297 Plus Park Blvd., Nashville, TN 37217	12 m. to 3 p.m., c.s.t.	Marie B. Clendening (HFR-SE300), Food and Drug Administration, 297 Plus Park Blvd., Nashville, TN 37217, 615-781-5392, FAX 615-781-5383
Atlanta District Office	60 Eighth St. NE., Atlanta, GA 30309	1 p.m. to 4 p.m., e.s.t.	Barbara L. Ward-Groves (HFR-SE17), Food and Drug Administration, 60 Eighth St. NE., Atlanta, GA 30309, 404-347-4001, ext. 5256, FAX 404-347-4349
Atlanta District Raleigh Resident Post	ATCOM, 4920 South Alston Ave., Research Triangle Park, NC 27709	1 p.m. to 4 p.m., e.s.t.	Mary C. Lewis (HFR-SE1525), Food and Drug Administration, 310 New Bern Ave., rm. 370, Raleigh, NC 27611, 919-856-4456, FAX 919-856-4776
Denver District Office	6th and Kipling Sts., Bldg. 20, Denver, CO 80225	11 a.m. to 2 p.m., mountain standard time (m.s.t.)	Russell W. Gripp (HFR-SW240), Food and Drug Administration, 6th and Kipling Sts., Bldg. 20, Denver, CO 80225, 303-236-3047, FAX 303-236-3551
Kansas City District Office	11630 West 80th St., Lenexa, KS 66214	12 m. to 3 p.m., c.s.t.	Ralph J. Gray (HFR-SW340), Food and Drug Administration, 11630 West 80th St., Lenexa, KS 66214, 913-752-2105, FAX 913-752-2111
Northeast Regional Office	850 Third Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11232	1 p.m. to 4 p.m., e.s.t.	Herman B. Janiger (HFR-NE145), Food and Drug Administration, 850 Third Ave., Brooklyn, NY, 11232, 718-340-7000, ext. 5043, FAX 718-340-7057
Buffalo District Office	300 Pearl St., suite 100, Buffalo, NY 14202	1 p.m. to 4 p.m., e.s.t.	Diana D. Monaco (HFR-NE300), Food and Drug Administration, 300 Pearl St., suite 100, Buffalo, NY 14202, 716-551-4461, ext. 3118, FAX 716-551-3845
Winchester Engineering and Analytical Center	109 Holton St., Winchester, MA 01890	1 p.m. to 4 p.m., e.s.t.	Paula B. Fairfield (HFR-NE245), Food and Drug Administration, One Montvale Ave., Stoneham, MA 02180 781-279-1675, ext. 184, FAX 781-279-1687

Registration: Fax registration information (including name, title, firm name, address, telephone, and fax number) by January 8, 1999, to the contact person listed in Table 1 of this document for the meeting location you wish to attend. There is no charge for attending these meeting. However, space is limited, so you should register early.

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the appropriate contact person at least 7 days in advance.

Dated: December 7, 1998.

William K. Hubbard,

Associate Commissioner for Policy Coordination.

[FR Doc. 98-33051 Filed 12-11-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-01-F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration [HCFA-3432-N2]

Medicare Program; Establishment of the Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee and Request for Nominations for Members

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the establishment of the Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee that will advise the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, as requested by the Secretary, whether medical items and services are reasonable and necessary under title XVIII of the Social Security Act. This notice requests nominations for members for the Committee.

This notice also announces the signing by the Secretary on November 24, 1998 of the charter establishing the Committee. This charter ends at close of business on November 23, 2000 unless renewed by the Secretary.

DATES: Nominations for members will be considered if we receive them at the appropriate address, as provided below, no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 1999.

ADDRESSES: You may mail or deliver nominations for membership to the following address: Health Care Financing Administration, Attention: Richard Coyne, 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop South Building 03-02-01, Baltimore, MD 21244.

A request for a copy of the Secretary's Charter for the Medicare Coverage

Advisory Committee (MCAC) should be submitted to Maria Ellis, Office of Clinical Standards and Quality, Health Care Financing Administration, 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop South Building 3-02-01, Baltimore, MD 21244, (410) 786-0309, or by e-mail to mellis@hcfa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Coyne, (410) 786-4458.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee (MCAC) is governed by provisions of Public Law 92-463 as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), which sets forth standards for the formulation and use of advisory committees.

The MCAC will consist of 120 appointed members from among authorities in clinical and administrative medicine, biologic and physical sciences, public health administration, health care data and information management and analysis, the economics of health care, medical ethics, and other related professions.

The MCAC, functioning on a panel basis, will review and evaluate medical literature, review technical assessments, and examine data and information on the effectiveness and appropriateness of medical items and services that are covered or eligible for coverage under Medicare. The panels will work from an agenda provided by the MCAC that lists specific issues. The panels will develop technical advice to be reviewed and ratified by the MCAC to assist us in determining reasonable and necessary applications of medical services and technology.

We are requesting nominations for voting members to serve on panels of the MCAC. We have a special interest in ensuring that women, minority groups, and physically challenged individuals are adequately represented on the advisory committee and, therefore, encourage nominations of qualified candidates from these groups.

All nominations and curricula vitae for the MCAC should be sent to Richard Coyne at the address above.

Criteria for Members:

Persons nominated for membership should have expertise in one or more of the following fields: clinical and administrative medicine, biologic and physical sciences, public health administration, health care data and information management and analysis, the economics of health care, medical ethics, and other related professions.

We are also seeking nominations from consumer organizations.

Representatives of a consumer organization must possess appropriate qualifications to understand and contribute to the MCAC's work.

Nominations must state that the nominee is willing to serve as a member of the MCAC and appears to have no conflict of interest that would preclude membership. Potential candidates will be asked to provide detailed information concerning such matters as financial holdings, consultancies, and research grants or contracts to permit evaluation of possible sources of conflict of interest.

Members shall be invited to serve for overlapping 4-year terms; terms of more than 2 years are contingent upon the renewal of the MCAC by appropriate action before its termination. A member may serve after the expiration of the member's term until a successor has taken office.

Any interested person may nominate one or more qualified persons. Self-nominations will also be accepted.

Authority: Secs. 1102 and 1871 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1302 and 1395hh).

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773, Medicare—Hospital Insurance; and Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: December 7, 1998

Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,

Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-33011 Filed 12-11-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Library of Medicine; Notice of Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of meetings of the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine.

The meetings will be open to the public as indicated below, 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.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C.,