number (noted below), should be submitted to: By mail: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, deliver comments to: Rm. 119, Crystal Mall 2 (CM #2), 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by following the instructions under ''SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION'' of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment in response to this notice may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket.Information not marked confidential will be included in the public docket without prior notice (including comments and data submitted electronically). The public docket is available for public inspection in Rm. 119 at the Virginia address given above, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Technical questions on the RED documents listed below should be directed to the appropriate Chemical Review Manager:

Chemical Name	Case No	Chemical Review Manager	Telephone No.	e-mail Address
Deet	0002	Linda Werrell	703 308–8033	werrell.linda@epa.gov
Triclopyr	2710	Dean Monos	703 308–8074	monos.dean@epa.gov
Propachlor	0177	Anne Overstreet	703 308–8068	overstreet.anne@epa.gov
Dichlobenil	0263	Carmelita White	703 308–7038	white.carmelita@epa.gov
Methylisothiazolinone	3092	Deanna Scher	703 308–7043	scher.deanna@epa.gov

To request a copy of any of the above listed RED documents, or a RED Fact Sheet, contact the OPP Pesticide Docket, Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, in Rm. 119 at the address given above or call (703) 305–5805.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Electronic Availability

Electronic copies of the REDs and RED fact sheets can be downloaded from the Pesticide Special Review and Reregistration Information System at (703) 308–7224, and can also be reached on the internet via EPA's website at: http//www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/REDs/.

II. Reregistration Eligibility Decision

The Agency has issued Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) documents for the pesticidal active ingredients listed above. Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended in 1988, EPA is conducting an accelerated reregistration program to reevaluate existing pesticides to make sure they meet current scientific and regulatory standards. The data base to support the reregistration of each of the chemicals listed above is substantially complete.

All registrants of products containing one or more of the above listed active ingredients have been sent the appropriate RED documents and must respond to labeling requirements and product specific data requirements (if applicable) within 8 months of receipt. Products containing other active ingredients will not be reregistered until those other active ingredients are determined to be eligible for reregistration.

The reregistration program is being conducted under Congressionally mandated time frames, and EPA recognizes both the need to make timely reregistration decisions and to involve the public. Therefore, EPA is issuing these REDs as final documents with a 60 day comment period. Although the 60 day public comment period does not affect the registrant's response due date, it is intended to provide an opportunity for public input and a mechanism for initiating any necessary amendments to the RED. All comments will be carefully considered by the Agency.

III. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this notice, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice under docket control number ''OPP–34155'' (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed and paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located at the Virginia address in ''ADDRESSES'' at the beginning of this document.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comment and data will also be accepted on disks in Wordperfect 5.1/6.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number (OPP–34155). Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: December 3, 1998.

Jack E. Housenger,

Acting Director, Special Review and Reregistration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 98–33337 Filed 12–15–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP–34156; FRL–6050–2]

Availability of the Dicofol Reregistration Eligibility Decision Document for Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of and starts a 60-day public comment period of the Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) document for the active ingredient dicofol. The RED for this chemical is the Agency's formal regulatory assessment of the health and environmental database of the subject

chemical and presents the Agency's determination regarding which pesticidal uses are eligible for reregistration.

DATES: Written comments on the RED decisions must be submitted by February 16, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Three copies of comments identified with the docket control number OPP–34156 and the case number (noted below), should be submitted to: By mail: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, deliver comments to the docket on the first floor (Room 119), CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by following the instructions under ''SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION'' of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment in response to this notice may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public docket without prior notice (including comments and data submitted electronically). The public docket and docket index, including printed paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI will be available for public inspection on the first floor (Room 119) at the address given above, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Technical questions on the RED document should be directed to the appropriate point-of-contact:

Chemical Name	Case No.	Point of Contact	Telephone No.	e-mail Address
Dicofol	0021	Phil Budig	703–308–-8029	budig.phil@epa.gov

To request a copy of the above listed RED document, or a specific RED Fact Sheet, contact the OPP Pesticide Docket, Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, first floor (Room 119), at the address given above or call (703) 305–5805.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Electronic Availability

Electronic copies of this document and various support documents are available from the EPA home page at the Federal Register-Environmental Documents entry for this document under ''Laws and Regulations'' (http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/).

Electronic copies of the REDs and RED fact sheets can be downloaded from the Pesticide Special Review and Reregistration Information System at (703) 308–7224, and also can be reached on the Internet via EPA's website at: http://www.epa.gov/REDs.

II. Reregistration Eligibility Decision

The Agency has issued a Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) document for the pesticidal active ingredient dicofol. Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended in 1988, EPA is conducting a reregistration program to reevaluate existing pesticides to make sure they meet current scientific and regulatory standards. The data base to support the reregistration of dicofol is substantially complete.

All registrants of products containing the above listed active ingredient have been sent the Dicofol RED document and must respond to labeling requirements and product specific data requirements within 8 months of receipt. Products containing other active ingredients will not be reregistered until those other active ingredients are determined to be eligible for reregistration.

The reregistration program is being conducted under congressionally mandated time frames, and EPA recognizes both the need to make timely reregistration decisions and to involve the public. Therefore, EPA is issuing this RED as a final document with a 60–day comment period. Although the 60-day public comment period does not affect the registrant's response due date, it is intended to provide an opportunity for public input and a mechanism for initiating any necessary amendments to the RED. All comments will be carefully considered by the Agency.

III. Background Information

EPA has determined that products containing dicofol may be eligible for reregistration, as specified in the dicofol RED, contingent upon results of a dermal toxicity study due to the Agency in December 1998. EPA has identified a possible unacceptable occupational risk in the dicofol RED. However, the Agency believes that the assumptions used to arrive at this conclusion may have led to an overestimation of that risk (e.g., 100% dermal absorption). Therefore, EPA has found that it is not appropriate to declare dicofol ineligible at this time. One key consideration is the fact that the registrants will be submitting the dermal toxicity study mentioned above, which may be a more appropriate study for regulatory purposes than data currently used. Although the Agency would not normally delay a decision for a study voluntarily conducted by a registrant outside the RED timeframe, three factors make this appropriate here. First, the data will be delivered to the Agency very shortly. Second, the registrants have committed to significant risk mitigation measures to be implemented immediately (listed below), which address risk concern while the new data are being developed and evaluated. Third, the registrants have submitted a voluntary cancellation request, which will immediately go into effect for any dicofol use which is found to have unacceptable risk after consideration of the dermal toxicity study. EPA believes this process will address dicofol risk in a timeframe that is comparable or more rapid than what EPA could achieve through its own regulatory process.

In sum, dicofol risk will be addressed in the interim in the following manner:

To address risks to homeowners, residents, and children:

- All residential uses have been eliminated from labels and will be voluntarily canceled.

To address risks to handlers:

- Mixers/loaders/applicators must wear additional personal protective equipment (PPE), and use enclosed cabs and cockpits.
- All wettable powder formulations produced after December 31, 1998 must be placed in water soluble packaging.
- Application with handheld equipment is eliminated for liquid formulations.
- Liquid formulations produced after December 31, 1998 must bear labeling

requiring closed mixing systems for dry beans.

To address risks to workers (persons entering treated areas following applications of dicofol):

• A revised Restricted Entry Interval (REI) will be set, based on Dislodgeable Foliar Residue (DFR) data submitted in October, 1998, and on the dermal toxicity study being submitted in December, 1998.

To protect the environment and wildlife:

• Dicofol applications are limited to no more than one per year. Previously, for some uses, the number of applications allowed per year was either unrestricted or limited to 2 or 3 applications per year.

• Dicofol applications on citrus will not exceed 3 pounds a.i./acre per year. This has been reduced from 8 pounds a.i./acre per year.

• Dicofol applications on strawberries will not exceed 2 pounds a.i./acre per year. This has been reduced from 2.4 pounds a.i./acre per year.

• A spray drift and Runoff Caution Statement is being added to the label. Also, a statement prohibiting application directly to water is being added to the label.

IV. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this notice, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice under docket control number OPP–34156 (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located at the address in ''ADDRESSES'' at the beginning of this document.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comment and data will also be accepted on disks in Wordperfect 6.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number (OPP–34156). Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: December 4, 1998.

Jack E. Housenger,

Acting Director, Special Review and Reregistration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 98–33334 Filed 12–15–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP–30408A; FRL–6042–6]

Rhone-Poulenc Co.; Approval of Pesticide Product Registrations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces Agency approval of applications to conditionally register the pesticide products Technical Isoxaflutole and Balance WDG Herbicide containing a new active ingredient not included in any previously registered products pursuant to the provisions of section 3(c)(7)(C) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as amended.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Joanne I. Miller, Product Manager (PM) 23, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Rm. 237, CM #2, Environmental Protection Agency, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202, 703–305–6224; e-mail: miller.joanne@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability: Electronic copies of this document and the Fact Sheet are available from the EPA home page at the **Federal Register** Environmental Sub-Set entry for this document under ''Laws and Regulations'' (http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/).

EPA issued a notice, published the **Federal Register** of May 1, 1996 (61 FR 19282)(FRL–5363–6), which announced that Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company, P.O. Box 12014, 2 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, had submitted applications to conditionally register the herbicide products Technical Isoxaflutole and Balance WDG Herbicide (EPA File Symbols 264–LAA and 264–LAT) containing the active ingredient isoxaflutole [5-cyclopropyl-4-(2-methylsulfonyl-4-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)isoxazole] at 98% and 76.5% respectively, an active ingredient not included in any previously registered pesticide products.

The applications were approved on September 15, 1998, for one technical and one end-use product listed below:

1. Technical Isoxaflutole for manufacturing purposes only (EPA Registration Number 264–566).

2. Balance WDG Herbicide for weed control in field corn (EPA Registration Number 264–567).

A conditional registration may be granted under section 3(c)(7)(C) of FIFRA for a new active ingredient where certain data are lacking, on condition that such data are received by the end of the conditional registration period and do not meet or exceed the risk criteria set forth in 40 CFR 154.7; that use of the pesticide during the conditional registration period will not cause unreasonable adverse effects; and that use of the pesticide is in the public interest. The Agency has considered the available data on the risks associated with the proposed use of isoxaflutole, and information on social, economic, and environmental benefits to be derived from such use. Specifically, the Agency has considered the nature and its pattern of use, application methods and rates, and level and extent of potential exposure. Based on these reviews, the Agency was able to make basic health and safety determinations which show that use of isoxaflutole during the period of conditional registration will not cause any unreasonable adverse effect on the environment, and that use of the pesticide is, in the public interest.

Consistent with section 3(c)(7)(C), the Agency has determined that these conditional registrations are in the public interest. Use of the pesticides are of significance to the user community, and appropriate labeling, use directions, and other measures have been taken to ensure that use of the pesticides will not result in unreasonable adverse effects to man and the environment.

More detailed information on these conditional registrations is contained in an EPA Pesticide Fact Sheet on isoxaflutole.

A paper copy of this fact sheet, which provides a summary description of the chemical, use patterns and formulations, science findings, and the Agency's regulatory position and rationale, may be obtained from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161.

In accordance with section 3(c)(2) of FIFRA, a copy of the approved label, the list of data references, the data and other scientific information used to support registration, except for material specifically protected by section 10 of FIFRA, are available for public