

and (2) a summary of the above in a biographical sketch ("biosketch") of no more than one page.

The qualifications of nominees received in reply to this notice will be assessed in terms of the specific expertise sought for the HSRB. Qualified nominees who agree to be considered further will be included in a smaller subset (known as the "Short List"). This Short List consisting of nominee's name and biosketch will be posted for public comment on the OSA Web site <http://www.epa.gov/osa/index.htm>. The public will be requested to provide relevant information or other documentation on nominees that OSA should consider in evaluating the candidates. Public comments will be accepted for 14 calendar days on the Short List. Board members will be selected from the Short List. Short List candidates not selected for HSRB membership may be considered for future HSRB membership as vacancies become available or as HSRB consultants for future HSRB meetings. The Agency estimates posting the names of Short List candidates sometime in late May. However, please be advised that this is an approximate time frame and the date could change. Thus, if you have any questions concerning posting of Short List candidates on the OSA Web site, please consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

For the HSRB, a balanced panel is characterized by inclusion of members who possess the necessary domains of knowledge, the relevant technical perspectives, and the collective breadth of experience to adequately address the Agency's charge. Interested candidates who are employees of a federal department or agency (other than EPA) or are members of another federal advisory committee are eligible to serve on the HSRB, and their nominations are welcome. Other factors that will be considered include: Availability to participate in the Board's scheduled meetings, absence of any conflicts of interest and absence of an appearance of a lack of impartiality, independence with respect to the matters under review, and public comments in response to the Short List. Though financial conflicts of interest or the appearance of a lack of impartiality, lack of independence, or bias may lead to nonselection, the absence of such concerns does not ensure that a candidate will be selected to serve on the HSRB. Numerous qualified candidates are likely to be identified. Selection decisions will involve careful weighing a number of factors including, but not limited to, the candidates' areas of expertise and professional

qualifications, and responses to the Short List in achieving an overall balance of different perspectives on the Board.

People who are hired to serve on the Board are subject to the provisions of 5 CFR part 2634, Executive Branch Financial Disclosure, as supplemented by the EPA in 5 CFR part 6401. In anticipation of this requirement, each nominee will be asked to submit a Confidential Financial Disclosure Form for Special Government Employees Serving on Federal Advisory Committees at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA Form 3110-48 [5-02]). This form seeks information regarding the candidate's financial interests, the candidate's employment, stocks, and bonds, and where applicable, sources of research support. However, this form is confidential and will not be disclosed to the public. The EPA will evaluate the candidate's financial disclosure form to assess whether there are financial conflicts of interest, appearance of a lack of impartiality, or any prior involvement with the development of the documents under consideration, including previous scientific peer review, before the candidate is considered further for service on the HSRB.

Candidates selected from the Short List will be appointed to the HSRB. HSRB members are to perform several activities including reviewing extensive background materials between meetings of the Board, preparing draft responses to Agency charge questions, attending Board meetings, participating in the discussion and deliberations at these meetings, drafting assigned sections of meeting reports, and reviewing and helping to finalize Board reports.

Nominations should be submitted by one of the methods listed under **ADDRESSEES**.

The Agency will consider all nominations for HSRB membership that are received on or before April 25, 2007. However, final selection of members is a discretionary function of the Agency and will be announced on the OSA Web site <http://www.epa.gov/osa/index.htm> soon after comments are received on the Short List.

Dated: March 19, 2007.

George M. Gray,
Science Advisor.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-ORD-2007-0216; FRL-8291-4]

Human Studies Review Board; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA or Agency) Office of the Science Advisor (OSA) announces a public meeting of the Human Studies Review Board (HSRB) to advise the Agency on EPA's scientific and ethical reviews of human subjects' research.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on April 18, 2007 from 10 a.m. to approximately 5:30 p.m., Eastern Time and April 19-20, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. to approximately 5:30 p.m., Eastern Time.

Location: Environmental Protection Agency, Conference Center—Lobby Level, One Potomac Yard (South Bldg.), 2777 S. Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202.

Meeting Access: Seating at the meeting will be on a first-come basis. To request accommodation of a disability please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** at least 10 business days prior to the meeting, to allow EPA as much time as possible to process your request.

Procedures for Providing Public Input: Interested members of the public may submit relevant written or oral comments for the HSRB to consider during the advisory process. Additional information concerning submission of relevant written or oral comments is provided in Unit I.D. of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any member of the public who wishes further information should contact Paul Lewis, EPA, Office of the Science Advisor, (8105R), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; *telephone number:* (202) 564-8381; *fax:* (202) 564 2070; *e-mail addresses:* lewis.paul@epa.gov. General information concerning the EPA HSRB can be found on the EPA Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/osa/hsrb/>.

ADDRESSES: Submit your written comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2007-0216, by one of the following methods:

Internet: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

E-mail: ORD.Docket@epa.gov.

Mail: Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC),

ORD Docket, Mailcode: 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

Hand Delivery: The EPA/DC Public Reading Room is located in the EPA Headquarters Library, Room Number 3334 in the EPA West Building, located at 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington DC. The hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST), Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays. Please call (202) 566-1744 or e-mail the ORD Docket at ord.docket@epa.gov for instructions. Updates to Public Reading Room access are available on the Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/dockets.htm>).

Instructions: Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2007-0216. EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through <http://www.regulations.gov> or e-mail. The <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site is an "anonymous access" system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to EPA, without going through <http://www.regulations.gov>, your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Meeting

A. Does This Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may, however, be of interest to persons who conduct or assess human studies, especially studies on substances regulated by EPA or to

persons who are or may be required to conduct testing of chemical substances under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) or the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Access Electronic Copies of This Document and Other Related Information?

In addition to using [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), you may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the "**Federal Register**" listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

Docket: All documents in the docket are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov> index. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, will be publicly available only in hard copy. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in <http://www.regulations.gov> or in hard copy at the ORD Docket, EPA/DC, Public Reading Room. The EPA/DC Public Reading Room is located in the EPA Headquarters Library, Room Number 3334 in the EPA West Building, located at 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays. Please call (202) 566-1744 or e-mail the ORD Docket at ord.docket@epa.gov for instructions. Updates to Public Reading Room access are available on the Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/dockets.htm>).

EPA's position paper(s), charge/questions to the HSRB, and the meeting agenda will be available by late March 2007. In addition, the Agency may provide additional background documents as the materials become available. You may obtain electronic copies of these documents, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) Web site and the HSRB Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/osa/hsrb/>. For questions on document availability or if you do not have access to the Internet, consult

the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

C. What Should I Consider as I Prepare My Comments for EPA?

You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

- Explain your views as clearly as possible.
- Describe any assumptions that you used.
- Provide copies of any technical information and/or data you used that support your views.
- Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns and suggest alternatives.
- To ensure proper receipt by EPA, be sure to identify the docket ID number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation.

D. How May I Participate in This Meeting?

You may participate in this meeting by following the instructions in this section. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket ID number EPA-HQ-ORD-2007-0216 in the subject line on the first page of your request.

a. **Oral comments.** Requests to present oral comments will be accepted up to April 11, 2007. To the extent that time permits, interested persons who have not pre-registered may be permitted by the Chair of the HSRB to present oral comments at the meeting. Each individual or group wishing to make brief oral comments to the HSRB is strongly advised to submit their request (preferably via email) to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** no later than noon, Eastern Standard Time, April 11, 2007 in order to be included on the meeting agenda and to provide sufficient time for the HSRB Chair and HSRB Designated Federal Officer (DFO) to review the agenda to provide an appropriate public comment period. The request should identify the name of the individual making the presentation, the organization (if any) the individual will represent, and any requirements for audiovisual equipment (e.g., overhead projector, LCD projector, chalkboard). Oral comments before the HSRB are limited to five minutes per individual or organization. Please note that this limit applies to the cumulative time used by all individuals appearing either as part of, or on behalf of an organization. While it is our intent to hear a full range of oral comments on the science and ethics issues under discussion, it is not

our intent to permit organizations to expand these time limitations by having numerous individuals sign up separately to speak on their behalf. If additional time is available, there may be flexibility in time for public comments. Each speaker should bring 25 copies of his or her comments and presentation slides for distribution to the HSRB at the meeting.

b. *Written comments.* Although you may submit written comments at any time, for the HSRB to have the best opportunity to review and consider your comments as it deliberates on its report, you should submit your comments at least five business days prior to the beginning of the meeting. If you submit comments after this date, those comments will be provided to the Board members, but you should recognize that the Board members may not have adequate time to consider those comments prior to making a decision. Thus, if you plan to submit written comments, the Agency strongly encourages you to submit such comments no later than noon, Eastern Standard Time, April 11, 2007. You should submit your comments using the instructions in Unit I.C. of this notice. In addition, the Agency also requests that person(s) submitting comments directly to the docket also provide a copy of their comments to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. There is no limit on the length of written comments for consideration by the HSRB.

E. Background

A. Topics for Discussion

The HSRB is a Federal advisory committee operating in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) 5 U.S.C. app.2 section 9. The HSRB provides advice, information, and recommendations to EPA on issues related to scientific and ethical aspects of human subjects research. The major objectives of the HSRB are to provide advice and recommendations on: (a) Research proposals and protocols; (b) reports of completed research with human subjects; and (c) how to strengthen EPA's programs for protection of human subjects of research. The HSRB reports to the EPA Administrator through EPA's Science Advisor.

At the April 2007 meeting of the HSRB, EPA will present for HSRB review:

- The results of two completed insect repellent efficacy studies on an aerosol formulation of the active ingredient IR3535, studies which the Agency intends to rely in making registration

decisions. Protocols for this research were reviewed by the Board at its June and October 2006 meetings.

- A proposal for a new field study of the effectiveness of products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus in repelling mosquitoes.

- Completed studies of human skin irritation and skin sensitization on two pending pesticide products whose use would involve extensive dermal exposure. These studies were conducted before the effective date of EPA's human studies rules (April 7, 2006).

- EPA's assessment of the need for new research on the exposure received by occupational handlers who mix, load, or apply agricultural or antimicrobial pesticides.

- An EPA "draft framework" concerning best practices for recruiting and enrolling subjects in studies of occupational exposure.

In addition, at the Board's request, EPA will present its interpretation and application of the standard in 40 CFR 26.1705: "EPA shall not rely on data from any research initiated after April 7, 2006, unless EPA has adequate information to determine that the research was conducted in substantial compliance with [EPA's human studies rules]." Finally, the Board may also discuss planning for future HSRB meetings.

B. Meeting Minutes and Reports

Minutes of the meeting, summarizing the matters discussed and recommendations, if any, made by the advisory committee regarding such matters will be released within 90 calendar days of the meeting. Such minutes will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/osa/hsrb/> and <http://www.regulations.gov> In addition, information concerning a Board meeting report, if applicable, can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/osa/hsrb/> or from the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Dated: March 19, 2007.

George M. Gray,
Science Advisor.

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COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The National Environmental Policy Act—Collaboration Handbook

AGENCY: Council On Environmental Quality.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) used an interagency work group to develop a handbook to help NEPA practitioners improve the effectiveness of their NEPA processes through collaboration. The handbook focuses on collaboration in the context of the NEPA process, outlines general principles, presents useful steps, and provides information on methods of collaboration. CEQ invites comments on the proposed handbook, "Collaboration in NEPA—A Handbook for NEPA Practitioners," that is available from CEQ directly or at <http://www.NEPA.gov> in the Current Developments section.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted on or before May 4, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed handbook can be requested from CEQ. Electronic comments on the proposed handbook and requests for a copy of the proposed handbook can be sent to horst_greczmiel@ceq.eop.gov with the subject line reading "NEPA Modernization (Collaboration)." Fax written comments and requests to (202) 456-0753 with the subject line reading "NEPA Modernization (Collaboration)." Electronic or facsimile comments or requests are preferred because Federal offices experience intermittent mail delays caused by security screening. Written comments and requests may also be submitted to "NEPA Modernization (Collaboration), Attn: Associate Director for NEPA Oversight, 722 Jackson Place, NW., Washington, DC 20503."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Horst Greczmiel, 202-395-5750.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) established a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Task Force and is now implementing recommendations designed to modernize the implementation of NEPA and make the NEPA process more effective and efficient. Additional information is available on the task force Web site at <http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/ntf>.

The proposed handbook, "Collaboration in NEPA—A Handbook for NEPA Practitioners," was developed to assist those responsible for conducting National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses in expanding the effective use of collaboration as part of the NEPA process. Collaboration is defined for purposes of the handbook as seeking agreements at one or more stages of the NEPA process by cultivating shared vision, trust, and communication. The main goal of the handbook is to