

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-00329; FRL-6814-9]

National Advisory Committee for Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Hazardous Substances; Notice of Charter Renewal**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The charter for EPA's National Advisory Committee for Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Hazardous Substances (NAC/AEGL Committee) is renewed for an additional 2-year period. EPA has determined that the NAC/AEGL Committee is necessary and finds that it is in the public's interest that the NAC/AEGL Committee be continued.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *For general information contact:* Barbara Cunningham, Acting Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7401), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

For technical information contact: Paul S. Tobin, Economics, Exposure, and Technology Division (7406M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564-8557; e-mail address: tobin.paul@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. General Information***A. Does this Action Apply to Me?*

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may be of particular interest to anyone who may be affected if AEGL values are adopted by government agencies for emergency planning, prevention, or response programs, such as EPA's Risk Management Program under the Clean Air Act and Amendments Section 112r. It is possible that other Federal agencies besides EPA, as well as State agencies and private organizations, may adopt AEGL values for their programs. As such, 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 technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document or Other Related Documents?

1. *Electronically.* You may obtain electronic copies of this document, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. To access this document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations," "Regulations and Proposed Rules," and then look up the entry for this document under the "**Federal Register**—Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

2. *In person.* The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPPTS-00329. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received during an applicable comment period, and other information related to this action, including any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). This official record includes the documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. The public version of the official record does not include any information claimed as CBI. The public version of the official record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments submitted during an applicable comment period, is available for inspection in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, North East Mall Rm. B-607, Waterside Mall, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC. The Center is open from noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Center is (202) 260-7099.

II. Background*A. What Action is the Agency Taking?*

EPA is renewing the charter for the NAC/AEGL Committee for an additional 2-year period.

The NAC/AEGL Committee provides advice and recommendations to the Administrator of EPA on issues associated with the development of acute exposure guideline levels for hazardous substances. Acute exposure guideline levels for hazardous substances are used by other Federal agencies, State and local governments, and private organizations for exposure limits in chemical emergency programs.

It is determined that the NAC/AEGL Committee is in the public's interest and is related to the performance of duties imposed on the Agency by law.

B. What is the Agency's Authority for Taking this Action?

The charter for the NAC/AEGL Committee is in accordance with the provisions of FACA, 5 U.S.C. App., section 9(c).

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Acute exposure guideline levels, Hazardous substances, Public health, Safety, Worker protection.

Dated: January 3, 2002.

Stephen L. Johnson,

Assistant Administrator for the Office of Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 02-961 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP;-00756;FRL-6820-1]

FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel; Notice of Public Meeting**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: There will be a 4-day meeting of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) to review a set of issues being considered by the Agency pertaining to methods used to conduct a preliminary cumulative risk assessment for organophosphorous pesticides. Seating at the meeting will be on a first-come basis. Individuals requiring special accommodations at this meeting, including wheelchair access, should contact Paul Lewis at the address listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** at least 5 business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

DATES: The meeting will be held on February 5th-8th, 2002 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202. The telephone number for the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel is (703) 486-1111.

Requests to participate may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit I. of the

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To ensure proper receipt by EPA, your request must identify docket control number

OPP-00756 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Lewis, Designated Federal Official, Office of Science Coordination and Policy, (7201M), Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564-8450; fax number: (202) 564-8382; e-mail address: lewis.paul@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

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 are or may be required to conduct testing of chemical substances under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), FIFRA and FQPA. 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 Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document and Other Related Documents?

1. *Electronically.* A meeting agenda and background documents relevant to this meeting are now available. The EPA's position paper and questions to the FIFRA SAP, and Panel composition (i.e. SAP members and consultants) will be available as soon as possible, but no later than mid January. In addition, the Agency may provide additional background documents as the material becomes available. You may obtain electronic copies of these documents, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the FIFRA SAP Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/scipoly/sap>. To access this document on the Home Page select **Federal Register** notice announcing this meeting. You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

2. *In person.* The Agency has established an administrative record for this meeting under docket control number OPP-00756. The administrative record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this notice, any public comments received during an applicable comment period, and other material information, including any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). This

administrative record includes the documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. In addition, the Agency may provide additional background documents as the material becomes available. The public version of the administrative record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments that may be submitted during an applicable comment period, is available for inspection in the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

C. How Can I Request to Participate in this Meeting?

You may submit a request to participate in this meeting through the mail, in person, or electronically. Do not submit any information in your request that is considered CBI. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP-00756 in the subject line on the first page of your request. Public statements presented at the meetings should not be repetitive of previously submitted oral or written statements.

Oral comments: Although requests for oral comments are accepted until the date of the meeting (unless otherwise stated), to the extent that time permits, interested persons may be permitted by the Chair of the FIFRA SAP to present oral statements at the meeting. Each individual or group wishing to make a brief oral presentation to the SAP is strongly advised to submit their request to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** no later than noon Eastern Standard Time, Thursday, January 31, 2002 in order to be included on the meeting agenda. 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, 35 mm projector, chalkboard). Oral statements before the Panel are limited to approximately 5 minutes unless prior arrangements have been made. In addition, the speaker should bring to the meeting 30 copies of their comments and presentation slides for distribution to the Panel at the meeting.

Written comments: Although requests for written comment are accepted until the date of the meeting (unless otherwise stated), the Agency encourages that written statements be submitted no later than noon Eastern Standard Time, Thursday, January 31,

2002 to provide Panel members the time necessary to consider and review the comments. There is no limit on the extent of written comments for consideration by the Panel. Persons wishing to submit written comments at the meeting should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** and submit 30 copies.

1. *By mail.* You may submit a request to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier.* Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. The PIRIB is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

3. *Electronically.* You may submit your request electronically by e-mail to: opp-docket@epa.gov. Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. Use WordPerfect 6.1/8.0 or ASCII file format and avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Be sure to identify by docket control number OPP-00756. You may also file a request online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

II. Background

A. Purpose of the Meeting

The Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 amended the FIFRA and the FFDCA. One of the major changes is the requirement that EPA consider risk posed by pesticides acting by common mechanism of toxicity. For such groups of pesticides, EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) has treated cumulative risk, under FQPA, as the risk of a common toxic effect associated with concurrent exposure by all relevant pathways and routes.

Organophosphorous pesticides were assigned priority for tolerance reassessment early during the process of FQPA implementation. OPP considered whether this group of pesticides caused common toxic effects by a common mechanism of toxicity using EPA's "guidance for identifying pesticide chemicals and other substances that have a common mechanism of toxicity." The inhibition of acetylcholinesterase was a focal point given that most

organophosphorous pesticides cause this response as their critical and common effect. When acetylcholinesterase is inhibited, acetylcholine accumulates and cholinergic toxicity results due to continuous stimulation of cholinergic receptors throughout the central and peripheral nervous systems which innervate virtually every organ in the body. Cholinergic effects associated with exposures to OP pesticides have been found in both humans and animals.

OPP proceeded with the methodology and risk assessment development in a step by step process. The approach to the risk assessment was evaluated using a case study of 3 organophosphorous pesticides. That assessment was reviewed by the SAP (September and December, 1999), who recommended that OPP proceed with a more comprehensive case study. OPP developed the hazard, dose-response and exposure assessment for twenty four OP pesticides and brought it to the SAP for comment in September and December of 2000. Based on the comments, the hazard and dose-response assessment was revised and again reviewed by the SAP in September, 2001.

The exposure assessment of the OP pesticides presented here incorporates probabilistic approaches in all pathways considered: Food, drinking water, and residential/non-occupational. The methodology for conducting a preliminary cumulative risk assessment for the organophosphorous pesticides presented here is a first time that the Agency has assessed risk combining multiple sources of exposure for multiple chemicals acting via a common mechanism of toxicity. The general methodology and the specific approach have been under development for 5 years and have been subject to extensive peer review and public comment.

B. Panel Report

The Panel will prepare a report of its recommendations to the Agency in approximately 60 days. The report will be posted on the FIFRA SAP web site or may be obtained by contacting the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch at the address or telephone number listed in Unit I. of this document.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: January 8, 2002.

Vanessa Vu,

Director, Office of Science Coordination and Policy

[FR Doc. 02-960 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7128-9]

Notice of the Eighth Meeting of the Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; announcement meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the Eighth Meeting of the Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force. The purpose of this Task Force, consisting of federal, state, and tribal members, is to lead efforts to coordinate and support nutrient management and hypoxia-related activities in the Mississippi River and Gulf of Mexico watersheds. The major matter to be discussed at the meeting is the implementation of the Action Plan for Reducing, Mitigating, and Controlling Hypoxia in the Northern Gulf of Mexico. The Plan was developed in fulfillment of a requirement of section 604(b) of the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research Control Act (Pub. L. 105-383—Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1998) and was submitted as a Report to Congress on January 18, 2001. The public will be afforded an opportunity to provide input to the Task Force during open discussion periods. The meeting coincides with a meeting of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission in the vicinity, and will afford opportunities for exchange between the participants of both meetings. The meeting room accommodates approximately 125 people.

DATES: The two-day meeting will be held from 2 p.m.–5:30 p.m., February 7, 2002 and from 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m., February 8, 2002.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel and Suites Downtown, 200 North Fourth Street, St. Louis, MO 63102. A block of rooms has been reserved at the hotel. For reservations, call (314) 621-8200 or 1-800-925-1395. When making room reservations, use the group name "EPA Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Meeting." (Internet: <http://www.radisson.com/stlouismo>)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Mary Belefski, U.S. EPA, Assessment and Watershed Protection Division (AWPD), Mail Code 4503F, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; Phone (202)-260-7061; E-mail: belefski.mary@epa.gov. For additional information on logistics and accommodations, contact Ansu John, Tetra Tech, Inc., 10306 Eaton Place, Suite 340, Fairfax, VA 22030; Phone: (703) 385-6000; E-mail: ansu.john@tetratech-ffx.com.

Dated: January 8, 2002.

Robert Wayland III,

Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds.

[FR Doc. 02-956 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7129-1]

Notice of Public Meeting of the National Environmental Education Advisory Council

Notice is hereby given that the National Environmental Education Advisory Council, established under section 9 of the National Environmental Education Act of 1990 (the Act), will hold a public meeting on January 31 and February 01, 2002. The meeting will take place at the Four Seasons Hotel, 411 University Street, Seattle, WA, 98101 from 9 am to 5 pm on Thursday, January 31st and Friday, February 1st. The purpose of this meeting is to provide the Council with an opportunity to advise EPA's Office of Communications, Education and Media Relations (OCEMR) and the Office of Environmental Education (OEE) on its implementation of the Act. Members of the public are invited to attend and to submit written comments to EPA following the meeting.

For additional information regarding the Council's upcoming meeting, please contact Ginger Keho, Office of Environmental Education (1704), Office of Communications, Education and Media Relations, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460 or call (202) 564-0453.

Dated: January 8, 2002.

Ginger Keho,

Designated Federal Official, National Environmental Education Advisory Council.

[FR Doc. 02-957 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

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