

published in the **Federal Register** of August 26, 1999 (64 FR 46673) (FRL-6089-1), EPA identified three issues on which the Agency would like to receive stakeholder input. These included:

1. Which chemicals should be tested?
2. Which tests should be used?
3. How should the program be implemented?

At the kickoff meeting held September 22, 1999, EPA oriented the stakeholders to the background and future plans and goals for this project. EPA informed the stakeholders of the Agency's initial efforts to identify the chemicals to which children and prospective parents may be highly exposed and the testing needed to assess the risk of that exposure. EPA then took comment on its initial efforts and on other issues which were of special interest to stakeholders. Also at the kickoff meeting, the Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA) announced that its members had developed a voluntary testing program which would conduct the same testing contemplated by EPA but in three tiers and with hazard and exposure triggers. A summary of this meeting and the text of most of the presentations are available to the public; to access this information, see instructions provided in Units I.B.1. and I.B.2.

Following the first meeting, EPA initially developed a Framework Document which described how a voluntary program could be structured. The Framework Document addressed how chemicals could be selected for the program and how tests could be tiered and triggered. In mid November 1999, EPA released the Framework Document as a "strawman" proposal and announced it would be a major point of discussion at the second public stakeholder meeting on November 30-December 1, 1999. For the second stakeholder meeting, EPA invited participants from diverse stakeholder interests to participate in roundtable discussions with EPA. EPA had asked stakeholders to participate in the selection of the invited participants via a Nomination Process which had been announced at the first meeting and on the website: <http://www.epa.gov/chemrtk/nominate.htm>. EPA did not ask the invited participants to reach agreement or provide any collective recommendations. EPA's intent was to obtain information about their individual perspectives based on their unique experiences and background. Accordingly, EPA did not organize the stakeholder involvement process as an advisory committee as defined in the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. Although the meeting was

centered around the discussions between EPA and the invited participants, this was a public meeting that other stakeholders and members of the public could attend and, at the conclusion of each discussion, present their opinions to the group. The primary focus of the second meeting was the Framework Document and how tiered testing and triggers could best be used to obtain needed toxicity data. A summary of this meeting is available to the public; to access this information, see instructions provided in Units I.B.1. and I.B.2.

### III. Public Stakeholder Meeting

The third public meeting of the Stakeholder Involvement Process will be held April 26-27, 2000. This meeting will follow the format of the second meeting in which invited participants and EPA representatives discuss the issues of concern to stakeholders. EPA is preparing a revised Framework Document to reflect EPA's current thinking on how the voluntary program could be structured to meet EPA's objective of obtaining needed data to ensure that toxicity test data and exposure information are made publicly available. This Document will be the major focus of discussion at the third meeting, as it will serve as a second "strawman" proposal. The revised Framework Document and the meeting agenda will be made available by April 12, 2000. Instructions for obtaining a copy of the Framework Document are provided in Unit I.B. Instructions for obtaining the meeting agenda are provided in Units I.B.1. and I.B.2.

The meeting will be an open public meeting. As such, there will be opportunities for public comment from anyone who wishes to provide oral comments at the conclusion of each roundtable discussion between the invited participants and EPA. Oral comments from the public may be limited to 5 minutes to allow all those who wish to comment a chance to speak. Commenters with prepared statements are requested to provide at least 35 written copies of their statements. It is encouraged that commenters bring copies sufficient for the number of people who plan to attend the meeting; this number will be under "Meeting Information" on website [www.epa.gov/chemrtk/childhlt.htm](http://www.epa.gov/chemrtk/childhlt.htm) several days before the meeting. The written statements will become a part of the public version of the official record. To enable as many interested parties as possible to contribute their ideas and provide opinions, EPA plans to have a professional facilitator lead the meeting.

Although this is a public meeting, there may be space limitations. Therefore, EPA encourages those who wish to attend to register in advance by following the instructions in Unit I.C. Seating of others at the meeting will be on a first-come basis after those who have registered in advance of the meeting have been accommodated.

In addition to the opportunity to present oral comments at the meeting, the public may also submit written comments on the Framework Document. In order to provide sufficient time for persons interested in responding in writing, including those persons unable to attend the public meeting, the Agency will accept such comments until May 12, 2000. Instructions for submitting written comments are provided in Unit I.D.

The purpose of the meeting is for EPA to obtain information and the individual perspectives of the invited participants and the public. EPA is not asking the roundtable participants to reach agreement or provide any collective recommendations. Accordingly, EPA does not intend to organize the stakeholder involvement process as an advisory committee as defined in the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. The information which is obtained in the course of this process may also be considered in the development of a possible test rule under TSCA section 4.

### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Children, Hazardous substances, Health and safety.

Dated: March 24, 2000.

**Susan H. Wayland,**

*Acting Assistant Administrator, Prevention, Pesticides and Toxics.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-34168A; FRL-6551-5]

### Organophosphate Pesticide; Availability of Revised Risk Assessments

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of the revised risk assessments and related documents for one organophosphate pesticide, pirimiphos-methyl. In addition, this notice starts a 60-day public

participation period during which the public is encouraged to submit risk management ideas or proposals. These actions are in response to a joint initiative between EPA and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to increase transparency in the tolerance reassessment process for organophosphate pesticides.

**DATES:** Comments, identified by docket control number OPP-34168A, must be received by EPA on or before May 30, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit III. of the

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.** To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP-34168A in the subject line on the first page of your response.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karen Angulo, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 308-8004; e-mail address: angulo.karen@epa.gov.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **I. Does this Action Apply to Me?**

This action is directed to the public in general, nevertheless, a wide range of stakeholders will be interested in obtaining the revised risk assessments and submitting risk management comments on pirimiphos-methyl, including environmental, human health, and agricultural advocates; the chemical industry; pesticide users; and members of the public interested in the use of pesticides on food. As such, the Agency has not attempted to specifically describe all the entities potentially 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**.

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

*A. Electronically.* You may obtain electronic copies of this document and other related documents from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. To access this document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations" 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/>.

To access information about organophosphate pesticides and obtain electronic copies of the revised risk assessments and related documents mentioned in this notice, you can also go directly to the Home Page for the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/op/>.

*B. In person.* The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPP-34168A. 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 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 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.

#### **III. How Can I Respond to this Action?**

##### *A. How and to Whom Do I Submit Comments?*

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP-34168A in the subject line on the first page of your response.

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

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division, Office of Pesticide Programs, 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.* Submit electronic comments by e-mail to: "opp-docket@epa.gov," or you can submit a computer disk as described in this unit. Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file, avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on standard computer disks in WordPerfect 6.1/8.0 or ASCII file format. All comments in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number OPP-34168A. Electronic comments may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

##### *B. How Should I Handle CBI Information that I Want to Submit to the Agency?*

Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. You may claim information that you submit to EPA in response to this document as CBI 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. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes any information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public version of the official record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public version of the official record without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

#### **IV. What Action is EPA Taking in this Notice?**

EPA is making available for public viewing the revised risk assessments and related documents for one organophosphate pesticide, pirimiphos-methyl. These documents have been developed as part of the pilot public participation process that EPA and USDA are now using for involving the public in the reassessment of pesticide tolerances under the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), and the reregistration of individual organophosphate pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). The pilot public participation process was developed as part of the EPA-USDA Tolerance Reassessment Advisory Committee (TRAC), which was established in April 1998, as a subcommittee under the auspices of

EPA's National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology. A goal of the pilot public participation process is to find a more effective way for the public to participate at critical junctures in the Agency's development of organophosphate pesticide risk assessments and risk management decisions. EPA and USDA began implementing this pilot process in August 1998, to increase transparency and opportunities for stakeholder consultation. The documents being released to the public through this notice provide information on the revisions that were made to the pirimiphos-methyl preliminary risk assessments, which was released to the public January 8, 1999 (64 FR 5) (FRL-6055-9) through a notice in the **Federal Register**.

In addition, this notice starts a 60-day public participation period during which the public is encouraged to submit risk management proposals or otherwise comment on risk management for pirimiphos-methyl. The Agency is providing an opportunity, through this notice, for interested parties to provide written risk management proposals or ideas to the Agency on the chemical specified in this notice. Such comments and proposals could address ideas about how to manage dietary, occupational, or ecological risks on specific pirimiphos-methyl use sites or crops across the United States or in a particular geographic region of the country. To address dietary risk, for example, commenters may choose to discuss the feasibility of lower application rates, increasing the time interval between application and harvest ("pre-harvest intervals"), modifications in use, or suggest alternative measures to reduce residues contributing to dietary exposure. For occupational risks, commenters may suggest personal protective equipment or technologies to reduce exposure to workers and pesticide handlers. For ecological risks, commenters may suggest ways to reduce environmental exposure, e.g., exposure to birds, fish, mammals, and other non-target organisms. EPA will provide other opportunities for public participation and comment on issues associated with the organophosphate pesticide tolerance reassessment program. Failure to participate or comment as part of this opportunity will in no way prejudice or limit a commenter's opportunity to participate fully in later notice and comment processes. All comments and proposals must be received by EPA on or before May 30, 2000 at the addresses given under the "ADDRESSES" section. Comments and proposals will become

part of the Agency record for the organophosphate pesticide specified in this notice.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: March 23, 2000.

**Jack E. Housenger,**

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

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BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF-928; FRL-6498-5]

#### Notice of Filing Pesticide Petition to Establish Tolerance for Certain Pesticide Chemicals in or on Food

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the initial filing of a pesticide petition proposing the establishment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities.

**DATES:** Comments, identified by docket control number PF-928, must be received on or before April 28, 2000.

**ADDRESS:** Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit I.C. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number PF-928 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** By mail: James A. Tompkins, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 305-5697; e-mail address: Tompkins.Jim@epa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. General Information

##### A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer or pesticide manufacturer. Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to:

| Cat-egories | NAICS                      | Examples of poten-tially affected entities                                             |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Industry    | 111<br>112<br>311<br>32532 | Crop production<br>Animal production<br>Food manufacturing<br>Pesticide manufac-turing |

This listing is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in the table could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes have been provided to assist you and others in determining whether or not this action might apply to certain entities. If you have 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.* 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" 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 PF-928. 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 Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.,