

mammalian toxicity. Therefore, any dietary exposure would not be harmful to humans. Also *Bacillus pumilus* GB34 is a naturally occurring, ubiquitous microorganism indigenous to the United States.

ii. *Drinking water.* *Bacillus pumilus* is found in the soil and the use rate of GB34 concentrate is 0.1 ounces per 100 pounds of seed, equivalent to 1.7 grams per acre. *Bacillus pumilus* GB34 is unlikely to leach from the treated seed and would not be distinguishable from other naturally occurring *Bacillus pumilus*.

2. *Non-dietary exposure.* As a commercial seed treatment for soybeans, the general population, including infants and children, will have a very low possibility of exposure. Occupational exposure will be limited to employees in commercial facilities handling the seed treatment product. Commercial seed treating equipment minimizes occupational exposure. Wearing protective equipment will also minimize occupational exposure. Non-dietary exposure would not be expected to pose a quantifiable risk.

#### E. Cumulative Exposure

The product strain belongs to the bacterial genus of *Bacillus*. *Bacillus pumilus* GB34 may have a similar mode of action in mammals as *Bacillus subtilis* that has been shown to be non-toxic and non-pathogenic in mammalian species. A similar mode of action of *Bacillus pumilus* GB34 and *Bacillus subtilis* would not be expected to result in an increased adverse effect since both were shown to be non-toxic and non-pathogenic in intravenous toxicity and pathogenicity studies.

#### F. Safety Determination

1. *U.S. population.* Based on the low treating rate of seed treatment use, little evidence of toxicity or pathogenicity and limited exposure potential, Gustafson LLC believes there is a reasonable certainty of no harm to the U.S. population in general from aggregate exposure to *Bacillus pumilus* GB34 residue from all anticipated dietary and non-dietary exposures.

2. *Infants and children.* Based on the lack of toxicity and low exposure there is a reasonable certainty that no harm to infants, children or adults will result from aggregate exposure to *Bacillus pumilus* GB34.

#### G. Effects on the Immune and Endocrine Systems

Gustafson LLC has no information to suggest that *Bacillus pumilus* GB34 will have any effect on the immune and endocrine systems.

#### H. Existing Tolerances

There are no existing tolerances for *Bacillus pumilus* GB34.

#### I. International Tolerances

Gustafson LLC is not aware of any international tolerances, exemptions from tolerance or maximum residue levels for *Bacillus pumilus* GB34.

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### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7123-4]

#### Project Work Plan for Revised Air Quality Criteria for Ozone and Related Photochemical Oxidants

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of external review draft.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of the External Review Draft of a document, Project Work Plan for Revised Air Quality Criteria for Ozone and Related Photochemical Oxidants, NCEA-R-1068, prepared by the Office of Research and Development of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of this document is to describe the managerial procedures for revising EPA's Air Quality Criteria for Ozone and Related Photochemical Oxidants, EPA/600/P-93/004aF,bF,cF, July 1996. This External Review Draft of the Project Work Plan will be reviewed by the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) of EPA's Science Advisory Board and will be revised in light of CASAC's review and comments received from the general public. Information on the date and location of the CASAC public review meeting (likely in March 2002) will be published in a future **Federal Register** notice. The plan may be modified and amended from time to time, as necessary, to reflect actual project requirements and progress. As a result, any proposed schedules and outlines, or any lists of technical coordinator assignments, authors, or reviewers are subject to change.

**DATES:** Anyone who wishes to comment on this document may do so in writing by February 15, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain a copy of the Project Work Plan for Revised Air Quality Criteria for Ozone and Related Photochemical Oxidants (External Review Draft), NCEA-R-1068, contact Diane H. Ray, National Center for Environmental Assessment-RTP Office

(MD-52), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711; telephone: 919-541-3637; facsimile: 919-541-1818; E-mail: ray.diane@epa.gov. Internet users may obtain a copy from the EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) home page. The URL is <http://www.epa.gov/ncea/>.

Send the written comments to the Project Manager for Ozone Project Work Plan, National Center for Environmental Assessment-RTP Office (MD-52), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. James Raub, National Center for Environmental Assessment-RTP Office (MD-52), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711; telephone: 919-541-4157; facsimile: 919-541-1818; E-mail: raub.james@epa.gov.

Dated: December 20, 2001.

**George W. Alapas,**

*Acting Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.*

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### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7123-5]

#### Research Needed To Improve Health and Ecological Risk Assessment for Ozone

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of external review draft.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of the Second External Review Draft of a document, Research Needed to Improve Health and Ecological Risk Assessment for Ozone, EPA/600/R-98/031B, prepared by the Office of Research and Development of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of this document is to identify the scientific areas in which research is most needed to improve health and ecological risk assessment in the process of setting National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone. Many of the research needs identified and discussed in this document became apparent during preparation of the Air Quality Criteria for Ozone and Related Photochemical Oxidants, EPA/600/P-93/004aF,bF,cF, July 1996. The First External Review Draft of this research needs document was reviewed by the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC)