

acceptability of the charge, completeness of the background material provided by the Agency, the need for additional expertise for the Committee to be able to respond to the charge, and clarifications necessary on issues identified by the Committee. Finally, the Committee will begin its discussions of each rule with the intent of formulating a plan of action to be accomplished to guide the remainder of the review.

A second meeting will be scheduled in November or December in order to allow the DWC to fully evaluate and discuss the issues and charge and to draft its recommendations to the Administrator of EPA.

(b) *Panel Development*: The SAB Panel for this review consists of the membership of the DWC, augmented by experts in the following areas: a) public health, b) epidemiology, c) drinking water treatment for microbial contamination, and d) statistical techniques for the determination of the occurrence of microbes in drinking water. The names of members of the Panel for the September 25–26 meeting will be posted on the SAB Website at www.epa.gov/sab by the close of business on September 15, 2001. During its September meeting the Panel will discuss the need for additional persons to provide expertise and/or balance. Members of the public wishing to comment on the composition and balance of the /panel and/or wishing to suggest persons to be added to the Panel for the second meeting in November or December should send those comments by mail to Mr. Thomas O. Miller, Designated Federal Officer, SAB Drinking Water Committee (1400A), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC, 20460; by email at miller.tom@epa.gov, or by Fax at (202) 501–0582. These comments should be sent so that they are received at the SAB no later than October 12, 2001. Nominations for additions to the Panel should be identified by name, expertise (see the four areas of expertise listed above), occupation, position, address, email address, and telephone number. In addition, a nomination should contain a short discussion of why the candidate should be added to the Panel. The nomination should also include a current resume (preferably in electronic format) that provides details on the nominee's background, experience and qualifications to address the issues before the Panel. These comments and suggestions will be considered in the SAB's decision on the final makeup of the review Panel for the November/December meeting. The final list of names for the SAB members and

consultants serving on the Panel will be posted on the SAB website by October 19, 2001.

This clarification of and invitation for public input to the SAB panel selection process is an attempt to explore and respond to recommendations in a recent report from the General Accounting Office (GAO) on the operations of the Office of the Science Advisory Board (GAO Report #GAO–01–531; see GAO Website: www.gao.gov).

For Further Information—Any member of the public wishing further information concerning this meeting should contact Mr. Thomas O. Miller, Designated Federal Officer, SAB Drinking Water Committee as stated above. For a copy of the draft meeting agenda, please contact Ms. Wanda Fields, Management Assistant at (202) 564–4539, FAX at (202) 501–0582, or email at: fields.wanda@epa.gov.

Materials that are the subject of this review are available on the EPA Website as noted in the section on the Charge above or from: a) *Stage 2 DBPs*, Ms. Mary Manibusan, US EPA Office of Water (OW) (MS 4607), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460, Phone: (202) 260–3688 or via email at manibusan.mary@epa.gov; and b) *LT2*, Mr. Dan Schmelling, US EPA Office of Water (OW) (MS 4607), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460, Phone: (202) 260–1439 or via email at schmelling@epa.gov.

Providing Oral or Written Comments at SAB Meetings

It is the policy of the EPA Science Advisory Board to accept written public comments of any length, and to accommodate oral public comments whenever possible. The EPA Science Advisory Board expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted oral or written statements.

Oral Comments: In general, each individual or group wishing to make a brief oral presentation to the Panel must contact Mr. Thomas Miller, DFO for the DWC, no later than noon Eastern Time, Tuesday, September 18, 2001 in order to be included on the agenda. The request should identify the name of the individual who will make the presentation, the organization (if any) they will represent, and any requirements for audio visual equipment (e.g., overhead projector, 35 mm projector, chalkboard, etc.). Presentations at face-to-face meeting will be limited to a total time of five minutes per speaker. For teleconference meetings, opportunities for oral comment will usually be limited to no more than three minutes per speaker

and no more than fifteen minutes total for all speakers together. Speakers should provide to the SAB Staff Office, at least one week prior to the meeting date, a) one signed hard copy of the comments for the file and b) an electronic version of the comments [acceptable file format: WordPerfect, Word, or Rich Text files (in IBM–PC/Windows 95/98 format)]. In addition, the speaker should bring to the meeting at least 35 copies of their comments and presentation slides for distribution to the reviewers and public at the meeting.

Written Comments: Although the SAB accepts written comments until the date of the meeting (unless otherwise stated), written comments should be received in the SAB Staff Office at least one week prior to the meeting date so that the comments may be made available to the committee for their consideration. Comments should be supplied to Mr. Miller (see contact information above) in the following formats: one hard copy with original signature, and one electronic copy via e-mail [acceptable file format: WordPerfect, Word, or Rich Text files (in IBM–PC/Windows 95/98 format)]. Those providing written comments and who attend the meeting are also asked to bring 35 copies of their comments for public distribution.

Meeting Access—Individuals requiring special accommodation at these meetings, including wheelchair access to the conference room, should contact Mr. Miller at least five business days prior to the relevant meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Dated: August 21, 2001.

Donald G. Barnes,

Staff Director, EPA Science Advisory Board.

[FR Doc. 01–21811 Filed 8–28–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP–34239; FRL–6783–8]

Lindane; Availability of Preliminary Risk Assessments

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of documents that were developed as part of EPA's pilot public participation process for making reregistration eligibility decisions for the organophosphate and certain other, non-organophosphate pesticides and for tolerance reassessments consistent with the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic

Act, as amended by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA). These documents are the preliminary human health and ecological fate and effects risk assessments and related documents for lindane. This notice starts a 60-day public comment period for the preliminary risk assessments.

Comments are to be limited to issues directly associated with lindane and raised by the risk assessments or other documents placed in the docket. By allowing access and opportunity for comment on preliminary risk assessments, EPA is seeking to strengthen stakeholder involvement and help ensure that our decisions under FQPA are transparent and based on the best available information. The tolerance reassessment process will ensure that the United States continues to have the safest and most abundant food supply. The Agency cautions that risk assessments at this stage are preliminary only and that further refinements of the risk assessments may be appropriate for this pesticide. These documents reflect only the work and analysis conducted as of the time they were produced and it is appropriate that, as new information becomes available and/or additional analyses are performed, the conclusions they contain may change.

DATES: Comments, identified by the docket control number OPP-34239 for lindane, must be received on or before October 29, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments 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, it is imperative that you identify the docket control number for lindane in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Howard, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 308-8172; e-mail address: howard.markt@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 those 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 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/>. 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/>. In addition, copies of the preliminary risk assessments for lindane may also be accessed at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/status.htm>.

2. *In person.* The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPP-34239. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, 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 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 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 the docket control number for lindane, OPP-34239, in the subject line on the first page of your response.

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

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver your comments to: 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 comments electronically by e-mail to: opp-docket@epa.gov, or you can submit a computer disk as described above. Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. Avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Electronic submissions will be accepted in WordPerfect 6.1/8.0 or ASCII file format. All comments in electronic form must be identified by docket control number OPP-34239. Electronic comments may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

D. How Should I Handle CBI 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**.

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

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

1. Explain your views as clearly as possible.
2. Describe any assumptions that you used.
3. Provide copies of any technical information and/or data you used that support your views.
4. If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate that you provide.
5. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
6. Offer alternative ways to improve the notice.
7. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this document.
8. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, be sure to identify the docket control 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.

II. Background

A. What Action is the Agency Taking?

EPA is making available preliminary risk assessments that have been developed as part of EPA's process for making reregistration eligibility decisions for the organophosphate and other pesticides and for tolerance reassessments consistent with the FFDCA, as amended by the FQPA. The Agency's preliminary human health and ecological fate and effects risk assessments and other related documents for lindane are available in the individual pesticide dockets. As additional comments, reviews, and risk assessment modifications become available, these will also be docketed for lindane.

The Agency cautions that the lindane risk assessments are preliminary only and that further refinements may be appropriate. These documents reflect only the work and analysis conducted as of the time they were produced and it is appropriate that, as new information becomes available and/or additional analyses are performed, the conclusions they contain may change.

The Agency is providing an opportunity, through this notice, for interested parties to provide written comments and input to the Agency on the preliminary risk assessments for the chemicals specified in this notice. Such comments and input could address, for example, the availability of additional data to further refine the risk assessments, such as percent crop treated information or submission of residue data from food processing studies, or could address the Agency's risk assessment methodologies and

assumptions as applied to this specific chemical. Comments should be limited to issues raised within the preliminary risk assessments and associated documents. EPA will provide other opportunities for public comment on other science issues associated with the pesticide tolerance reassessment program. Failure to comment on any such issues 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 should be submitted by October 29, 2001 using the methods in Unit I. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. Comments will become part of the Agency record for lindane.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: August 2, 2001.

Robert McNally,

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

[FR Doc. 01-21569 Filed 8-28-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7046-6]

Waste Characterization Program Documents Applicable to Transuranic Radioactive Waste From the Savannah River Site Proposed for Disposal at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of availability; opening of public comment period.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA, or "we") is announcing the availability of, and soliciting public comments for 30 days on, Department of Energy (DOE) documents on waste characterization programs applicable to certain transuranic (TRU) radioactive waste at the Savannah River Site (SRS) proposed for disposal at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). The documents are procedures and other materials related to the Central Characterization Project (CCP), established by DOE to augment the ability of TRU waste sites to characterize and certify the waste in accordance with EPA's WIPP Compliance Criteria. The documents are available for review in the public dockets listed in **ADDRESSES**. We will use these documents to evaluate the CCP activities at SRS to characterize

SRS-generated contact-handled (CH) TRU debris waste during an inspection conducted the week of September 24, 2001. The purpose of the inspection is to verify that the CCP can properly characterize SRS-generated contact-handled (CH) TRU solid debris waste, consistent with the WIPP Compliance Criteria and Condition 3 of EPA's final certification decision for the WIPP.

DATES: The EPA is requesting public comment on these documents. Comments must be received by EPA's official Air Docket on or before September 28, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be submitted to: Docket No. A-98-49, Air Docket, Room M-1500 (LE-131), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC, 20460.

DOE documents related to the CCP are available for review in the official EPA Air Docket in Washington, D.C., Docket No. A-98-49, Category II-B2, and at the following three EPA WIPP informational docket locations in New Mexico: in Carlsbad at the Municipal Library, Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10am-9pm, Friday-Saturday, 10am-6pm, and Sunday, 1pm-5pm; in Albuquerque at the Government Publications Department, General Library, University of New Mexico, Hours: vary by semester; and in Santa Fe at the New Mexico State Library, Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm.

Copies of items in the docket may be requested by writing to Docket A-98-49 at the address provided above, or by calling (202) 260-7548. As provided in EPA's regulations at 40 CFR Part 2, and in accordance with normal EPA docket procedures, a reasonable fee may be charged for photocopying. Air Docket A-98-49 in Washington, DC, accepts comments sent electronically or by fax (fax no.: 202-260-4400; E-mail: a-and-r-docket@epa.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Rajani D. Joglekar, Office of Radiation and Indoor Air, (202) 564-9310, or call EPA's 24-hour, toll-free WIPP Information Line, 1-800-331-WIPP, or visit our website at <http://www.epa.gov/radiation/wipp/announce.html>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DOE owns and operates the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) facility near Carlsbad in southeastern New Mexico as a deep geologic repository for disposal of TRU radioactive waste. As defined by the WIPP Land Withdrawal Act (LWA) of 1992 (Pub. L. No. 102-579), as amended (Pub. L. No. 104-201), TRU waste consists of materials containing elements having atomic numbers greater than 92 (with half-lives greater than twenty years), in concentrations greater