

teleconference meeting on September 13, 2000. Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and 5 U.S.C. App. 2, and section (c)(6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6), EPA has determined that the meeting will be closed to the public. The purpose of the meeting is to recommend new Board members to the Assistant Administrator for Research and Development to serve on the BOSC. In making these decisions, the members need to have full and frank discussions. Such personnel issues, where disclosure would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personnel privacy, are protected from disclosure by exemption 2 and 6 of section 552(b)(6) of the U.S.C. In accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, minutes of the meeting will be kept for Agency and Congressional review.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Shirley R. Hamilton, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, NCER (MC 8701R), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460, telephone: (202) 564-6853 or e-mail at: hamilton.shirley@epa.gov.

Dated: August 11, 2000.

Carol M. Browner,
Administrator.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6853-3]

Notice of Availability of Draft Aquatic Life Criteria Document for Cadmium

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability of draft Aquatic Life Criteria Document for Cadmium.

SUMMARY: Section 304(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop and publish, and from time to time revise, criteria for water accurately reflecting the latest scientific knowledge. EPA is revising its aquatic life criteria for cadmium. Today, EPA is notifying the public about the availability of the draft document and is also announcing that the draft document is ready to undergo peer review.

EPA is notifying the public about the availability of this draft document and its peer review in accordance with the Agency's new process for developing or revising criteria (63 FR 68354, December

10, 1998). As indicated in the December 10, 1998 FR notice, the Agency believes it is important to provide the public with an opportunity to submit scientific information on draft criteria. EPA is soliciting views from the public on issues of science pertaining to the information used in deriving the draft criteria.

DATES: All significant scientific information must be submitted to the Agency under docket number W-00-15. All significant scientific information submissions are requested to be submitted within 60 days after publication of this notice. Information submitted after this date may not receive the degree of consideration of information submitted earlier. The Administrative Record supporting this draft guidance document is available at the Water Docket, Room EB-57, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street SW., Washington, DC 20460 on Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. For access to docket materials call (202) 260-3027 for an appointment. A reasonable fee will be charged for photocopies.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and three copies of any written significant scientific information to W-00-15 Comment Clerk, Water Docket, Ariel Rios 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. Comments may be hand-delivered to the Water Docket, Room EB57, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460. Issues may also be submitted electronically to OW-Docket@epa.gov. Information should be submitted as a WP5.1, 6.1 and/or 8.0 or an ASCII file with no form of encryption.

Copies of the draft criteria document entitled, *2000 Update of Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Cadmium*, may be obtained from EPA's Water Resource Center by phone at (202) 260-7786, or by e-mail to center.water-resource@epa.gov or by conventional mail to EPA Water Resource Center, RC-4100, 401 M Street SW., Washington, DC 20460. Alternatively, consult www.epa.gov/OST/standards for download availability.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cindy Roberts, Health and Ecological Criteria Division (4304), US EPA, Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20460; (202) 260-2787; roberts.cindy@epa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

What Are Water Quality Criteria?

Section 304(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act requires the EPA to develop and publish, and from time to time revise,

criteria for water accurately reflecting the latest scientific knowledge. Water quality criteria developed under section 304(a) are based solely on data and scientific judgments. They do not consider economic impacts or the technological feasibility of meeting the criteria in ambient water. Section 304(a) criteria provide guidance to States and Tribes in adopting water quality standards and provide a scientific basis for them to develop controls of discharges or releases of pollutants. The criteria also provide a scientific bases for EPA to develop Federal regulations under section 303(c).

Why Is EPA Notifying the Public About the Draft Cadmium Document and Peer Review?

Today, EPA is notifying the public about the availability of the draft aquatic life criteria document for cadmium and its peer review to expand the public's involvement in the criteria development process.

In following the Agency's new process, EPA notified the public of its intentions to revise the aquatic life criteria for cadmium in the **Federal Register** on October 29, 1999 (64 FR 58409). At that time EPA made available to the public all references identified by a recent literature review and solicited any additional pertinent data or scientific views that would be useful in revising the aquatic life criteria. EPA revised the aquatic life criteria for cadmium based on the new data and now has a draft document that is ready to undergo peer review.

As indicated in the December 10, 1998 FR notice, the Agency believes it is important to provide the public with an opportunity to submit scientific information on draft criteria. EPA is soliciting views from the public on issues of science pertaining to the information used in deriving the draft criteria. EPA will review and consider significant scientific information submitted by the public that might not have otherwise been identified during development of these criteria.

Where Can I Find More Information on EPA's Revised Process for Developing New or Revised Criteria?

The Agency published detailed information about its revised process for developing and revising criteria in the **Federal Register** on December 10, 1998 (63 FR 68354) and in the EPA document entitled, *National Recommended Water Quality—Correction* (EPA 822-Z-99-001, April 1999). The purpose of the revised process is to provide expanded opportunities for public input, and to

make the criteria development process more efficient.

Jeanette Wiltse,

Acting Director, Office of Science and Technology.

[FR Doc. 00-20972 Filed 8-16-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6852-8]

Air Quality Criteria for Carbon Monoxide (Final)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of availability of a final document.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Center for Environmental Assessment, is today announcing the availability of a final document, Air Quality Criteria for Carbon Monoxide, EPA 600/P-99/001F, dated June 2000. Required under sections 108 and 109 of the Clean Air Act, the purpose of this document is to provide an assessment of the latest, relevant scientific information that may have an impact on the next periodic review of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for carbon monoxide (CO).

ADDRESSES: A limited number of copies of the Air Quality Criteria for Carbon Monoxide are available from the National Service Center for Environmental Publications. Request a copy by telephoning 1-800-490-9198 or 513-489-8190 and providing the title and the EPA number for the document, EPA 600/P-99/001F. 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/>.

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.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Sections 108 and 109 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) require that the EPA carry out a periodic review of the scientific information available for the "criteria" air pollutants such as carbon monoxide and revise, where appropriate, the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for them. In keeping with these requirements of the CAA, the

National Center for Environmental Assessment-RTP, within the Office of Research and Development, has proceeded with review and revision of the CO Air Quality Criteria Document (AQCD). The scientific information selected for assessment in the CO AQCD includes the more recent literature published since completion of the previous CO AQCD in 1990.

As part of EPA's standard AQCD development process, a draft of the revised CO AQCD underwent peer review at a workshop conducted on September 17-18, 1998 (63 FR 47494, September 8, 1998). In addition, two subsequent external review drafts were released for public comment from March to May 1999 (64 FR 13198, March 17, 1999) and October to November 1999 (64 FR 55923, October 15, 1999). The Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) reviewed the respective external review drafts on June 9, 1999 (64 FR 27784, May 21, 1999) and November 18, 1999 (64 FR 57453, October 25, 1999). Final closure from CASAC was received on January 11, 2000. Revisions in response to the comments received have been incorporated into the final document.

Dated: July 24, 2000.

William H. Farland,

Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. 00-20970 Filed 8-16-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6853-1]

Notice of Availability for Draft Guidance on BACT for NO_x Control at Combined Cycle Turbines

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The EPA is making available for public review and comment a preliminary draft of its pending guidance on BACT for NO_x Control on Combined Cycle Turbines. Several issues have been brought to EPA's attention as a result of recent controversies involving State permitting agencies, utilities, and turbine manufacturers over appropriate best available control technology (BACT) controls for NO_x at natural gas combined cycle turbines for electric power generation. Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) has been considered BACT for limiting NO_x emissions on many natural gas combined cycle

turbines in attainment areas. These issues have to do with the impact of requiring selective catalytic reduction on dry low NO_x natural gas combined cycle turbines for electric generation.

The BACT is required for new or modified major sources in order to prevent significant deterioration of air quality in attainment areas. The Clean Air Act allows permitting authorities to weigh environmental, energy, and economic concerns against the proven environmental benefits of technologies such as SCR in making BACT determinations in order to determine whether a less effective technology for NO_x control is warranted in specific cases. In the case of dry low NO_x natural gas combined cycle turbines, the NO_x reduction that SCR achieves is sufficiently small that other considerations may become relatively important to consider in determining BACT. The guidance and supporting background information review those considerations.

A draft of EPA's guidance is available for public review and comment. The EPA does not intend to respond to individual comments, but rather to consider the comments from the public in the preparation of the final guidance. It is important that the draft guidance being made available today for public review and comment does not represent official EPA policy or a formal position on the subject matter discussed and therefore is not to be relied on in interpreting EPA policy.

DATES: The comment period on the draft guidance will close on September 18, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Pamela J. Smith, Information Transfer and Program Integration Division (MD-12), Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711, telephone 919-541-0641, telefax 919-541-5509 or E-mail smith.pam@epa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ellen Brown, Office of Policy Analysis and Review, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20460, telephone 202-564-1669 or E-mail brown.ellen@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A copy of the draft guidance document may be obtained by calling or E-mailing Pamela J. Smith. The draft guidance may also be downloaded from the NSR Web Site <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/nsr> under the topic "What's New on NSR."