

Dated: July 18, 2024.

**Charles Smith,**

Director, Registration Division, Office of  
Pesticide Programs.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OGC-2024-0300; FRL-12115-01-  
OGC]

### Proposed Consent Decree, Clean Air Act Citizen Suit

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

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed consent  
decree; request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with section 113(g) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (“CAA” or “the Act”), the Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA” or “the Agency”) is providing notice of a proposed consent decree in *State of New York v. Regan*, No. 1:23-cv-2767 (D.D.C.). On September 21, 2023, Plaintiffs New York, Alaska, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, Washington, and the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (collectively, “Plaintiffs”), filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia alleging that EPA failed to perform certain non-discretionary duties pursuant to the CAA to, at least every 8 years, review and, if appropriate, revise New Source Performance Standards (“NSPS”) or to promulgate a determination that such review “is not appropriate in light of readily available information on the efficacy of such standard[s]” for New Residential Wood Heaters (“NSPS subpart AAA”) and New Residential Hydronic Heaters and Forced-Air Furnaces (“NSPS subpart QQQQ”). The proposed consent decree would establish deadlines for the EPA Administrator (“Administrator”) to either sign proposed and final rulemakings as to these two NSPS subparts, or sign a final determination not to review, in accordance with the Act.

**DATES:** Written comments on the proposed consent decree must be received by August 26, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OGC-2024-0300, online at <https://www.regulations.gov> (EPA’s preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

**Instructions:** All submissions received must include the Docket ID number for

this action. Comments received may be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the “Additional Information about Commenting on the Proposed Consent Decree” heading under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laura L. Cottingham, Air and Radiation Law Office, Office of General Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; telephone: (202) 564-1038; email address: [Cottingham.Laura@epa.gov](mailto:Cottingham.Laura@epa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Obtaining a Copy of the Proposed Consent Decree

The official public docket for this action (identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OGC-2024-0300) contains a copy of the proposed consent decree. The official public docket is available for public viewing at the Office of Environmental Information (OEI) Docket in the EPA Docket Center, EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the OEI Docket is (202) 566-1752.

The electronic version of the public docket for this action contains a copy of the proposed consent decree, and is available through <https://www.regulations.gov>. You may use <https://www.regulations.gov> to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, key in the appropriate docket identification number then select “search.”

##### II. Additional Information About the Proposed Consent Decree

Plaintiffs filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia alleging that EPA failed to perform certain non-discretionary duties in accordance with CAA section 111(b)(1)(B) to “at least every 8 years, review and, if appropriate, revise” NSPS subparts AAA and QQQQ, or to promulgate a determination that such review “is not appropriate in light of readily available information on the efficacy of such standard[s].”

Under the terms of the proposed consent decree, the Administrator shall review and, if appropriate, revise NSPS subparts AAA and QQQQ, or sign a final determination not to review, by the deadlines established in the proposed consent decree, in accordance with CAA section 111(b)(1)(B). Beginning ninety (90) days after entry of the proposed Consent Decree, EPA will provide quarterly status updates to Plaintiffs regarding the Agency’s progress toward meeting the deadlines in the proposed consent decree.

For a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this notice, the Agency will accept written comments relating to the proposed consent decree. EPA or the Department of Justice may withdraw or withhold consent to the proposed consent decree if the comments disclose facts or considerations that indicate that such consent is inappropriate, improper, inadequate, or inconsistent with the requirements of the Act.

##### III. Additional Information About Commenting on the Proposed Consent Decree

Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OGC-2024-0300, via <https://www.regulations.gov>. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from this docket. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit to EPA’s docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>. For additional information about submitting information identified as CBI, please contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document. Note that written comments containing CBI and submitted by mail may be delayed and deliveries or couriers will be received by scheduled appointment only.

If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name, mailing address, and an email address or other contact information in the body of your comment. This ensures that you can be identified as the submitter of the comment and allows EPA to contact you in case EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties or needs further information on the substance of your comment. Any identifying or contact information provided in the body of a comment will be included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket and made available in EPA's electronic public docket. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment.

Use of the <https://www.regulations.gov> website to submit comments to EPA electronically is EPA's preferred method for receiving comments. The electronic public docket system is an "anonymous access" system, which means EPA will not know your identity, email address, or other contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment.

Please ensure that your comments are submitted within the specified comment period. Comments received after the close of the comment period will be marked "late." EPA is not required to consider these late comments.

**Gautam Srinivasan,**  
Associate General Counsel.  
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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**[EPA-HQ-OPP-2017-0720; FRL-12086-01-OCSPP]**

**Pesticide Registration Review; Draft Human Health and/or Ecological Risk Assessments for Several Pesticides; Notice of Availability**

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

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency) is announcing the availability of and soliciting comment on the Agency's draft human health and/or ecological risk assessments for the registration review of clothianidin, imidacloprid, saflufenacil, and thiamethoxam.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before September 24, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by the docket identification (ID) number for the specific pesticide of interest provided in table 1 of unit II., through the *Federal eRulemaking Portal* at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Additional instructions on commenting and visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

*For pesticide specific information:* The Chemical Review Manager for the pesticide of interest identified in table 1 of unit II.

*For general questions:* Melanie Biscoe, Pesticide Re-Evaluation Division (7508P), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 566-0701; email address: [biscoe.melanie@epa.gov](mailto:biscoe.melanie@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Does this action apply to me?**

This action is directed to the public in general and may be of interest to a wide range of stakeholders including environmental, human health, farm worker, and agricultural advocates; the chemical industry; pesticide users; and members of the public interested in the sale, distribution, or use of pesticides. Since others also may 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 Chemical Review Manager identified in table 1 of unit II.

**II. What action is the Agency taking?**

Pursuant to 40 CFR 155.53(c), this notice announces the availability of EPA's human health and/or ecological risk assessments for the pesticides shown in Table 1 and opens a 60-day public comment period on the risk assessments.

TABLE 1—DRAFT RISK ASSESSMENTS BEING MADE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Registration review case name and No.	Docket ID No.	Chemical review manager and contact information
Clothianidin, Case Number 7620 .....	EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0865	Matthew Khan, <a href="mailto:khan.matthew@epa.gov">khan.matthew@epa.gov</a> , (202) 566-2212.
Imidacloprid, Case Number 7605 .....	EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0844	Matthew Khan, <a href="mailto:khan.matthew@epa.gov">khan.matthew@epa.gov</a> , (202) 566-2212.
Saflufenacil, Case Number 7278 .....	EPA-HQ-OPP-2019-0524	Jonathan Williams, <a href="mailto:williams.jonathanr@epa.gov">williams.jonathanr@epa.gov</a> , (202) 566-2240.
Thiamethoxam, Case Number 7614 .....	EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0581	Matthew Khan, <a href="mailto:khan.matthew@epa.gov">khan.matthew@epa.gov</a> , (202) 566-2212.

**III. What is the Agency's authority for taking this action?**

EPA is conducting its registration review of the chemicals listed in table 1 of unit I pursuant to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) section 3(g) (7 U.S.C. 136(g)) and the Procedural Regulations for Registration Review at 40 CFR part 155, subpart C. FIFRA section 3(g) provides, among other things, that pesticide registrations are to be

reviewed every 15 years. Consistent with 40 CFR 155.57, in its final registration review decision, EPA will ultimately determine whether a pesticide continues to meet the registration standard in FIFRA section 3(c)(5) (7 U.S.C. 136a(c)(5)).

As part of the registration review process, the Agency has completed draft human health and/or ecological risk assessments for all pesticides listed in table 1 of unit I. Pursuant to 40 CFR

155.53(c), EPA generally provides for at least a 30-day public comment period on draft human health and/or ecological risk assessments during registration review. This comment period is intended to provide an opportunity for public input on the Agency's assessment of the human health and/or ecological risks posed by use of these pesticides.