

Idaho Departments of Agriculture have requested the Administrator to issue specific exemptions for the use of thiabendazole on lentils to control *Ascochyta blight*. Information in accordance with 40 CFR part 166 was submitted as part of this request.

As part of this request, the Applicants assert that a new strain of *Ascochyta blight*, capable of spreading quickly over great distances has become established in northwest lentil fields, which is not controlled by the registered alternatives. This disease is likely to lead to significant economic losses if not adequately controlled. Thiabendazole, as a seed treatment, has proven to prevent this disease from becoming established.

The Applicants propose to make no more than one application, to be applied as a seed treatment, at a rate of 1.7 to 3.0 fluid ounces per 100 pounds of seed. A maximum amount of seed sufficient to plant 100,000 acres could be treated (55,000 acres in Washington; 45,000 acres in Idaho). This would amount to a maximum of 1,289 gallons of formulated product.

This notice does not constitute a decision by EPA on the applications themselves. The regulations governing section 18 of FIFRA require publication of a notice of receipt of an application for a specific exemption proposing a use which has been requested in 3 or more previous years, and a petition for tolerance has not yet been submitted to the Agency. The notice provides an opportunity for public comment on the applications.

The Agency will review and consider all comments received during the comment period in determining whether to issue the emergency exemptions requested by the Washington and Idaho Departments of Agriculture.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: February 17, 2000.

James Jones,

Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 00-4790 Filed 2-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6544-1]

Prospective Purchaser Agreement for Resolution of CERCLA Past Costs

AGENCY: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

ACTION: Notice; proposed CERCLA prospective purchaser agreement.

SUMMARY: U.S. EPA is proposing to execute a Prospective Purchaser agreement (PPA) under section 122 of CERCLA (and pursuant to the inherent authority of the Attorney General of the United States) for the arranged transfer of title of the Gary Lagoons Superfund Site property from a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) Conant Land Limited (Conant) to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). In return for a covenant not to sue and contribution protection from U.S. EPA, and a covenant not to sue for federal and state Natural Resource Damages claims from the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and the State of Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), IDNR will commit to maintaining the Site property in its pristine natural Dune and Swale ecological condition. U.S. EPA is today proposing to accept this arrangement because it forwards the Agency's public policy of protecting human health and the environment, and through the use of a PPA, it allows the State of Indiana to take control of the Site property for the public good. U.S. EPA will resolve outstanding costs of approximately \$4,031,000 dollars, as against IDNR.

DATES: Comments on this proposed settlement must be received on or before March 30, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed settlement are available at the following address for review. (It is recommended that you telephone Mr. Derrick Kimbrough at (312) 886-9749 before visiting the Region V Office). Mr. Derrick Kimbrough, OPA (P19-J), Coordinator, Office of Public Affairs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region V, 77 W. Jackson Boulevard (P-19J), Chicago, Illinois 60604, (312) 886-9749.

Comments on this proposed settlement should be addressed to: (Please submit an original and three copies, if possible). Mr. Derrick Kimbrough, Coordinator, Office of Public Affairs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region V, 77 W. Jackson Boulevard (P-19J), Chicago, Illinois 60604, (312) 886-9749.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Derrick Kimbrough, Office of Public Affairs, at (312) 886-9749.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Site is a 7-acre vacant property located at 5622 and 5624-34 Industrial Highway in Gary, Indiana (Lake County). The Site consisted of two unlined and uncovered lagoons situated in a sandy environment

and surrounded by marshes and wetlands. Pursuant to the terms of the prospective Purchaser Agreement, the Prospective Purchaser (IDNR) will receive this site free of CERCLA liability and Federal or State Natural Resource Damages claims, and EPA will release the federal CERCLA Lien currently placed on the site property. A 30-day period, beginning on the date of publication, is open pursuant to section 122(1) of CERCLA for comments on the proposed prospective Purchaser Agreement. Comments should be sent to Mr. Derrick Kimbrough of the Office of Public Affairs (P-19J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

William E. Muno,

Director, Superfund Division.

[FR Doc. 00-4780 Filed 2-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PB-402404-IL-A; FRL-6399-4]

Lead-Based Paint Activities in Target Housing and Child-Occupied Facilities; State of Illinois Interim Approval of Lead-Based Paint Activities Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; interim approval of the Illinois TSCA Section 402/404 Lead-Based Paint Accreditation and Certification Program.

SUMMARY: On April 16, 1999, the State of Illinois, through the Illinois Department of Public Health, completed an application for EPA approval to administer and enforce training and certification requirements, training program accreditation requirements, and work practice standards for lead-based paint activities in target housing and child-occupied facilities under section 402 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Illinois provided a self-certification letter stating that its program is at least as protective of human health and the environment as the Federal program and it has the legal authority and ability to implement the appropriate elements necessary to receive interim enforcement approval. In the **Federal Register** of September 1, 1999 (64 FR 47807) (FRL-6087-1), EPA published a notice announcing receipt of the State's application and requesting public comment and/or opportunity for a public hearing on the State's application. EPA did not receive any comments regarding any aspect of the

Illinois program and/or application. Today's notice announces the approval of the Illinois application, and the authorization of the Illinois Department of Public Health's Lead-Based Paint Activities Program to apply in the State of Illinois, effective April 16, 1999, in lieu of the corresponding Federal program under section 402 of TSCA. This authorization provides interim approval for the compliance and enforcement program portion of Illinois' lead-based paint program. All elements for final compliance and enforcement program approval must be fully implemented no later than April 16, 2002.

DATES: Based upon the State's self-certification, Lead-Based Paint Activities Program authorization was granted to the State of Illinois effective on April 16, 1999. Interim approval for the compliance and enforcement portion of the program will expire on April 16, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marlyse Wiebenga, Project Officer, Environmental Protection Agency, Region V, 77 W. Jackson Blvd., DT-8J, Chicago, IL 60604. Telephone: 312-886-4437; e-mail address: wiebenga.marlyse@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 firms and individuals engaged in lead-based paint activities in Illinois. 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 or 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 PB-402404-IL. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, this notice, the State of Illinois' authorization application, 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 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The docket is located at the EPA Region V Office, Environmental Protection Agency, Waste, Pesticides and Toxics Division, Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch, Toxic Programs Section, DT-8J, 77 West Jackson Blvd, Chicago, IL.

II. Background

On October 28, 1992, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, Public Law 102-550, became law. Title X of that statute was the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992. That Act amended TSCA (15 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*) by adding Title IV (15 U.S.C. 2681-92), entitled *Lead Exposure Reduction*. Section 402 of TSCA (15 U.S.C. 2682) authorizes and directs EPA to promulgate final regulations governing lead-based paint activities in target housing, public and commercial buildings, bridges and other structures. Under section 404 of TSCA, a State may seek authorization from EPA to administer and enforce its own lead-based paint activities program. On August 29, 1996 (61 FR 45777) (FRL-5389-9), EPA promulgated final TSCA section 402/404 regulations (40 CFR part 745) governing lead-based paint activities in target housing and child-occupied facilities. States and Tribes that choose to apply for program authorization must submit a complete application to the appropriate Regional EPA Office for review. To receive EPA approval, a State or Tribe must demonstrate that its program is at least as protective of human health and the environment as the Federal program, and provides for adequate enforcement (TSCA section 404(b), 15 U.S.C. 2684(b)). EPA's regulations (40 CFR part 745, subpart Q) provide the detailed requirements a State or Tribal program

must meet in order to obtain EPA approval.

Under these regulations, regarding interim compliance and enforcement approval (40 CFR 745.327(a)(1)), a State must demonstrate that it has the legal authority and ability to immediately implement certain elements, including legal authority for accrediting training providers, certification of individuals, work practice standards and pre-renovation notification, authority to enter, and flexible remedies. In order to receive final approval, the State must be able to demonstrate that it is able to immediately implement the remaining performance elements, including training, compliance assistance, sampling techniques, tracking tips and complaints, targeting inspections, follow up to inspection reports, and compliance monitoring and enforcement.

EPA believes that the State of Illinois' audit privilege statute (415 Illinois Compiled Statutes 5/52.2), may impair the State's ability to fully administer and enforce its lead-based paint program. Interim compliance and enforcement approval will provide the State the opportunity to address problems and issues associated with the State's audit privilege law as well as the development and implementation of required performance elements under 40 CFR 745.327(c). EPA will work with the State during this interim approval period to remedy any deficiencies in its laws or implementation of the required performance elements. Interim approval of the compliance and enforcement program portion of the State's program may be granted only once. EPA's interim approval of the compliance and enforcement program portion of the State's program expires on April 16, 2002.

If Illinois does not meet the requirements for final approval of its compliance and enforcement program by April 16, 2002, EPA may be compelled to initiate the process to withdraw Illinois' interim authorization pursuant to 40 CFR 745.324(i). If Illinois has made modifications to its audit privilege law necessary to meet the minimum requirements of its federally authorized environmental programs, this law will no longer present a barrier to final approval of its lead-based paint activities program. In order to maintain authorization, all program and enforcement elements, including all reporting requirements, must be met pursuant to the terms identified in Illinois' application.

III. Federal Overfiling

Section 404(b) of TSCA makes it unlawful for any person to violate, or fail or refuse to comply with, any requirement of an approved State or Tribal program. Therefore, EPA reserves the right to exercise its enforcement authority under TSCA against a violation of, or a failure or refusal to comply with, any requirement of an authorized State or Tribal program.

IV. Withdrawal of Authorization

Pursuant to section 404(c) of TSCA, the EPA Administrator may withdraw a State or Tribal lead-based paint activities program authorization, after notice and opportunity for corrective action, if the program is not being administered or enforced in compliance with standards, regulations, and other requirements established under the authorization. The procedures EPA will follow for the withdrawal of an authorization are found at 40 CFR 745.324(i).

V. Submission to Congress and the General Accounting Office

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before certain actions may take effect, the agency promulgating the action must submit a report, which includes a copy of the action, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. EPA will submit a report containing this action and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of this document in the **Federal Register**. This action is not a "major rule" as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Hazardous substances, Lead, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: February 4, 2000.

Francis X. Lyons

Regional Administrator, Region V.

[FR Doc. 00-4788 Filed 2-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that

at 9:01 a.m. on Thursday, February 24, 2000, the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation met in closed session to consider matters relating to the Corporation's corporate, supervisory, and resolution activities.

In calling the meeting, the Board determined, on motion of Vice Chairman Andrew C. Hove, Jr., seconded by Director Ellen S. Seidman (Director, Office of Thrift Supervision), concurred in by Director John D. Hawke, Jr. (Comptroller of the Currency), and Chairman Donna Tanoue, that Corporation business required its consideration of the matters on less than seven days' notice to the public; that no notice earlier than February 22, 2000, of the meeting was practicable; that the public interest did not require consideration of the matters in a meeting open to public observation; and that the matters could be considered in a closed meeting by authority of subsections (c)(2), (c)(6), (c)(8), (c)(9)(A)(ii), and (c)(9)(B) of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2), (c)(6), (c)(8), (c)(9)(A)(ii), and (c)(9)(B)).

The meeting was held in the Board Room of the FDIC Building located at 550—17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Dated: February 24, 2000.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Valerie J. Best,

Assistant Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-4855 Filed 2-25-00; 10:35 am]

BILLING CODE 6714-01-M

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a proposed reinstatement without change of a previously approved information collection for which approval has expired. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), this notice seeks comments concerning Temporary Housing Assistance for victims of a federally declared disaster.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public Law 93-288, as amended by Public Law 100-707, the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Section 408, authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide Temporary Housing Assistance. This type of assistance could be in the form of mobile homes, travel trailers, or other readily fabricated dwelling. This assistance is used when required to provide disaster housing for victims of federally declared disasters. In the event this assistance is used, and other alternate housing is not available; the law provides for the sale of mobile homes to eligible disaster applicants at prices that are fair and equitable. A provision has been made which includes a formula for adjustments in the sale price when there is a need to purchase the unit as a primary residence because all other housing resources have been exhausted. This provision also takes into account that in addition to his/her own resources, the purchaser cannot obtain sufficient funds through insurance proceeds, disaster loans, grants, and commercial lending institutions to cover the sales price.

Collection of Information

Title: Request for Loan Information Verification.

Type of Information Collection: Reinstatement without change of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

OMB Number: 3067-0125.

Form Numbers: FEMA Form 90-68.

Abstract: Temporary Housing Assistance (Disaster Housing Assistance) uses mobile homes, travel trailers, or other forms of readily fabricated housing. FEMA Form 90-68 is used to obtain information required to determine a fair and equitable sales price of a mobile home to a disaster victim. The ability to borrow money commercially is an important factor in determining the final sales price.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; business or other for profit.

Number of Respondents: 520.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Hours Per Response: 10 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 86.

Estimated Cost: \$1,416.

Comments

Written comments are solicited to (a) evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of