

the nine grant performance criteria. Chapter 3 introduces the risk-based beach evaluation and classification process to prioritize waters. Chapter 4 describes beach monitoring and beach assessment for sampling and detecting bacteria, and Chapter 5 explains the public notification and risk communication to inform the public about risks when swimming in bacterially polluted water.

How Can I Obtain a Copy of the Document?

A copy of the document can also be obtained by downloading the file located at www.epa.gov/waterscience/beaches/grants on the Internet.

II. Public Forums

What Is the Purpose of the Public Forums?

The public forums will assist the stakeholders and the public in their review of the draft Guidance and in preparing comments to submit to EPA.

Will Formal Comments on the Guidance Be Taken at the Public Forums?

No. The public forums are not intended to be a mechanism to submit formal comments, but rather an information session instructing how to submit comments. EPA will later announce in the **Federal Register** the availability of the document, and will at that time announce a formal comment period.

Who Should Attend?

All levels of beach water quality managers and public health officials, as well as the general public should attend.

How Do I Register for the Public Forums?

The public forums are free, but registration is requested/appreciated due to seating. To register for the public forums, visit www.epa.gov/waterscience/beaches/meeting.html on the Internet.

When and Where Will the Public Forums Be Held?

The dates and cities of the public forums are:

1. July 31, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Wilmington, DE, Wyndham Garden Hotel, 700 King St., Wilmington, DE 19801; (302) 655-0400, 1-800-996-3426.

2. August 3, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., San Diego, CA, Town and Country Resort & Convention Center, 500 Hotel Circle N., San Diego, CA 92108; (619) 291-7131, 1-800-772-8527. 3. August 21, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Jacksonville, FL, Radisson Riverwalk

Hotel, 1515 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32207; (904) 396-5100, 1-800-333-3333.

4. August 23, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., New Orleans, LA, Le Meridien New Orleans, 614 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130-9946; (504) 525-6500, 1-800-543-4300.

5. August 23, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Chicago, IL, The Ambassador West, 1300 N State Pkwy, Chicago, IL 60610; (312) 787-3700, 1-800-996-3426.

Dated: July 13, 2001.

Louise P. Wise,

Acting Director, Office of Science and Technology.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-30119; FRL-6789-7]

Triphenyltin Hydroxide (TPTH); Notice of Final Determination for Termination of the TPTH Special Review

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In a **Federal Register** notice published October 20, 2000, EPA proposed to terminate the special review of the pesticide active ingredient triphenyltin hydroxide (TPTH) based on the determination that the benefits of use outweigh the risks. The Agency solicited public comments for a 30-day period. There were no comments submitted, and the Agency believes that the benefits of TPTH use continue to outweigh the risks. Thus, with this notice, EPA is announcing that it has terminated the TPTH Special Review.

DATES: This decision is effective on August 20, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wilhelmina Livingston, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 308-8025; fax number: (703) 308-8005; e-mail address: livingston.wilhelmena@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). This action may be of particular interest to pesticide registrants with registered products which contain TPTH as an active ingredient, or to agricultural producers or mixers, loaders, or applicators using products containing TPTH as an active ingredient. 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/>. To access this document, 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, related documents for TPTH may be accessed through the Home Page for the Office of Pesticide Programs 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-30119. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, 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 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.

II. Response to Comments Submitted on EPA's Proposed Determination to Terminate Special Review

No comments were received during the 30-day public comment period.

III. EPA's Decision Regarding the Special Review

Special Review is a decisionmaking process designed to help EPA determine whether the Agency should initiate formal procedures, such as involuntary cancellation or suspension of a pesticide registration or the imposition of modified terms and conditions of registration because use of the pesticide may cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment (40 CFR 154.1(a)). This notice concludes EPA's administrative special review of the risks and benefits of TPTH, which was initiated in the **Federal Register** notice of January 9, 1985 (50 FR 1107). In the October 20, 2000 **Federal Register** notice (65 FR 204) (FRL-6496-3), EPA announced its intent to terminate the TPTH Special Review. As stated in that document, based on its risk and benefits assessments, EPA has concluded that the benefits provided from the continued existing uses of TPTH outweigh the risks. There were no comments received in response to the October 20, 2000, proposal to terminate the TPTH Special Review. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the October 20, 2000 notice, EPA is announcing that it has terminated the TPTH Special Review.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: July 11, 2001.

Stephen L. Johnson,

Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 01-18200 Filed 7-19-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7015-1]

Methods for Assessing the Chronic Toxicity of Marine and Estuarine Sediment-Associated Contaminants With the Amphipod *Leptocheirus plumulosus*—First Edition

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Methods for Assessing the Chronic Toxicity of Marine and Estuarine Sediment-associated Contaminants with the Amphipod *Leptocheirus plumulosus*—First Edition.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are publishing a technical manual that describes procedures for testing an estuarine organism in the laboratory to evaluate the potential toxicity of contaminants in whole sediments. This document supplements (but does not replace) procedures originally published in 1994 (EPA/600/6-94/025), for measuring acute sediment toxicity in marine and estuarine sediments. This document includes a new method for evaluating sublethal effects of sediment-associated contaminants utilizing long-term sediment exposures.

Availability of Document

Copies of the complete document, titled Methods for Assessing the Chronic Toxicity of Marine and Estuarine Sediment-associated Contaminants with the Amphipod *Leptocheirus plumulosus*—First Edition (EPA/600/R-01/020) can be obtained from the National Service Center for Environmental Publications, P.O. Box 42419, Cincinnati, OH., 45242 by phone at 1-800-490-9198 or on their web site at www.epa.gov/ncepihom/orderpub.html. A pdf version of this document will be made available to be viewed or downloaded from the Office of Science and Technology's home page on the Internet at www.epa.gov/OST.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: D. Scott Ireland, EPA, Standards and Health Protection Division (4305), Office of Science and Technology, Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; or call (202) 260-6091; fax (202) 260-9830; or e-mail ireland.scott@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION Sediment contamination is a widespread environmental problem that can potentially pose a threat to a variety of aquatic ecosystems. Sediment functions as a reservoir for common contaminants such as pesticides, herbicides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and metals such as lead, mercury, and arsenic.

This technical manual describes procedures for testing an estuarine organism in the laboratory to evaluate the potential toxicity of contaminants in

whole sediments. Sediments may be collected from the field or spiked with compounds in the laboratory. Toxicity methods are outlined for the estuarine amphipod, *Leptocheirus plumulosus*. Toxicity tests with this amphipod are conducted for 28 days in 1-L chambers containing 175 mL of sediment and about 725 mL of overlying water. Overlying water is renewed three times per week and test organisms are fed during the toxicity tests. The endpoints of the 28 day test with *L. plumulosus* are survival, growth, and reproduction. This 28 day sediment toxicity test with *L. plumulosus* is recommended for use with sediment with varying levels of salinity from oligohaline to fully marine environments (from 1‰ to 35‰ salinity). The long-term sediment exposures with *L. plumulosus* are started with neonate (newborn) amphipods. After termination of the 28 day sediment exposure, the offspring are counted and the dry-weight or length of the adult amphipods is measured. The use of this uniform sediment testing procedure is expected to increase data accuracy and precision, facilitate test replication, and increase the comparative value of test results. This method provides a basis for consistent cross-program decision making within the EPA. Each EPA program will, however, retain the flexibility of deciding when and how to use this test and whether identified risks would trigger actions. This method also provides a consistent testing protocol for other Federal agencies, States, and Tribes. This technical manual has no immediate or direct regulatory consequence. It does not impose legally binding requirements, and may not apply to a particular situation depending on the circumstances. The EPA or USACE may change this technical manual in the future.

This technical manual has been subjected to review by EPA's National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory and Office of Science and Technology and approved for publication. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement by the Agency or recommendation for use.

Dated: July 3, 2001.

Geoffrey H. Grubbs,

Director, Office of Science and Technology.

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