

Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22) to obtain suggestions and information from other agencies and the public on the scope of issues and alternatives to be considered in preparation of the DSEIS.

DATES: As an opportunity for interested persons to comment on the issues and alternatives of the DSEIS, a public scoping meeting is scheduled as follows: Wednesday, May 24, 2000, 5:30 to 8 P.M. at Rogers Elementary School, 7700 Fine Road, Mehlville, MO 63129.

ADDRESSES: Comments regarding the scope of the DSEIS should be addressed to Mr. Joseph E. Cothorn, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 901 N. 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101. Comments should be received on or before June 15, 2000, at the above address. Written comments may also be sent by facsimile to 913/551-8752 or e-mail at cothorn.joe@epa.gov. Comments received will be available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday) at the above office; please call (913) 551-7148 for an appointment. All comments received will become part of the administrative record and may be released.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Joseph E. Cothorn at the above address and telephone number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Lower Meramec River Basin drainage area lies in the southern and southwestern portions of St. Louis County within the chartered jurisdiction of the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD). Areas in adjacent northern Jefferson County are also tributary. The MSD is empowered to enter into contractual agreements with other authorities, and has provided contract wastewater treatment for the City of Arnold (located in Jefferson County) since 1982 at the Lower Meramec Interim Treatment Lagoons at the site of the proposed regional plant, near (Meramec) river mile 1.5. This facility currently treats an average of 3.6 MGD.

Other MSD treatment facilities in the service area, (which are being considered for decommissioning in this regionalization project), include (proceeding upstream):

- Baumgartner Treatment Lagoons, near river mile 5.5, acquired in the purchase of a private sewer company in 1977, and upgraded by MSD, with average daily flows of 7.95 MGD.
- Fenton Wastewater Treatment Plant, near river mile 15.5, acquired from a

private sewer company in 1979, and upgraded by MSD, presently providing secondary treatment for average daily flows of 4.0 MGD.

- Grand Glaize Wastewater Treatment Plant, near river mile 20, constructed by MSD in 1983 to provide secondary treatment for 20 MGD, and currently receiving average daily flows of 17.7 MGD.

Dated: May 2, 2000.

William Rice,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 7.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6606-1]

Chesapeake Bay Program Activities Grants

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is issuing a request for proposals that will assist the Chesapeake Bay Program in meeting its goals and commitments. Approximately \$2 million is available through the RFP. Subjects addressed in the RFP include air quality, nutrients, sediments, best management practices, chemical contaminants, communication, exotic species, fish, habitat restoration, oysters, student engagement, submerged aquatic vegetation, water quality, local government and community engagement, and sound land use. Functional categories that proposals should fall under include implementation and technical assistance; workshops, seminars, and training; monitoring and assessment; research and analysis; and education and outreach. Applicants must be a non-profit organization, local government, state agency, interstate agency, college, or university institution. Funding will be provided to an organization under the authority of the Clean Water Act, section 117.

The RFP is available starting May 5, 2000 at the following web-site: <http://www.epa.edu/r3chespk/> You may request a paper copy by calling Carol Cochran at 215-815-2986 or by e-mail cochran.carol@epa.gov or by calling Lori Mackey at 410-267-5715 or e-mail at mackey.lori@epa.gov. All proposals must be received by the Chesapeake Bay Program Office by close of business June

9, 2000. Any late, incomplete, or faxed proposals will not be considered.

Peter J. Marx,

Acting Director, Chesapeake Bay Program.

[FR Doc. 00-12000 Filed 5-11-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[WH-FRL-6605-4]

Public Stakeholder Meeting on the National Strategy To Develop Regional Nutrient Criteria

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public stakeholder meeting on the National Strategy to Develop Regional Nutrient Criteria.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is holding a stakeholder meeting on May 25, 2000, to stimulate an information exchange with stakeholders on issues related to the National Strategy to Develop Regional Nutrient Criteria.

DATES: The public stakeholder meeting will start at 9 a.m. and adjourn at 5:30 p.m. on May 25, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert Cantilli (4304), U.S. EPA Headquarters, Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW (MC 4304), Washington, DC 20460 (Telephone: (202) 260-5546).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The public stakeholder meeting will be held at the Hilton—Crystal City, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA for the purpose of conducting an information exchange with stakeholders on issues related to the National Strategy to Develop Regional Nutrient Criteria. The public stakeholder meeting will provide an opportunity for interested persons to discuss the issues and process for developing and implementing regional nutrient criteria. Specifically, EPA will discuss progress it has made in developing draft ecoregional nutrient criteria as well as recommended procedures for implementing these criteria. The stakeholder meeting will also be an opportunity for substantive input and dialogue with the primary authors of the Nutrient Waterbody Type Guidance Documents as well as EPA Regional Nutrient Coordinators who are supporting the development and adoption of regional nutrient criteria at the State and ecoregional level. Participants for the stakeholders meeting who wish to make comments or ask questions are strongly encouraged to

provide an advance written request due to potential time limitations. Requests to speak at the stakeholder meeting should be made to John Bachman, Great Lakes Environmental Center, Inc. at (231) 941-2230 or by e-mail at: jbachman@glec-tc.com.

EPA is inviting all interested members of the public to participate in the stakeholder meeting. Approximately 150 seats will be available for the public. Seats will be available on a first-come, first served basis. On-site registration for the meeting will begin at 8 a.m.

For additional information about the meeting, please contact Robert Cantilli of EPA's Office of Science and Technology at (202) 260-5546 or by e-mail at cantilli.robert@epa.gov.

James Hanlon,

Acting Director, Office of Science and Technology.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6700-1]

Science Advisory Board Notification of Public Advisory Committee Meetings

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of three meetings of Committees of the US EPA Science Advisory Board on the dates and times noted below. All times noted are Eastern Daylight Time. All meetings are open to the public; however, seating is limited and available on a first come basis.

Important Notice: Documents that are the subject of SAB reviews are normally available from the originating EPA office and are not available from the SAB Office—information concerning availability of documents from the relevant Program Office is included below.

1. SAB Executive Committee (EC) Teleconference—May 30, 2000

The Executive Committee (EC) of US EPA's Science Advisory Board will conduct a public teleconference meeting on Tuesday, May 30, 2000, between the hours of 1 and 3 pm Eastern Daylight Time. The meeting will be coordinated through a conference call connection in Room 6013 in the USEPA, Ariel Rios Building North, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. The public is encouraged to attend the meeting in the conference room noted above. However, the public may also attend through a telephonic link, to the

extent that lines are available.

Additional instructions about how to participate in the conference call can be obtained by calling Ms. Priscilla Tillery-Gadsen no earlier than one week prior to the meeting (beginning on May 23) at (202) 564-4533, or via e-mail at tillery.priscilla@epa.gov.

Purpose of the Meeting—In this meeting, the Executive Committee plans to review reports from some of its Committees/Subcommittee, most likely including the following:

(a) Drinking Water Committee (DWC): "Science Advisory Board Report on EPA's Draft Proposal on a Groundwater Rule"

(b) Environmental Economics Advisory Committee (EEAC): "Benefits Adjustments for Long-Term Effects"

(c) Environmental Engineering Committee (EEC): "Review of the Agency's Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program"

Availability of Review Materials:

Drafts of the reports that will be reviewed at the meeting should be available to the public at the SAB website (<http://www.epa.gov/sab>) by close-of-business on May 19, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any member of the public wishing further information concerning this meeting or wishing to submit brief oral comments must contact Dr. Donald Barnes, Designated Federal Officer, Science Advisory Board (1400A), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone (202) 564-4533; FAX (202) 501-0323; or via e-mail at barnes.don@epa.gov. Requests for oral comments must be in writing (e-mail preferred) and received by Dr. Barnes no later than noon Eastern Time on May 26, 2000.

2. Drinking Water Committee (DWC) Meeting—June 5-7, 2000

The Drinking Water Committee of the US EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB), will meet from June 5 through 7, 2000. Days one and two of the meeting, June 5 and 6, 2000, will be held at the Holiday Inn Georgetown, 2101 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20007, phone: (202) 338-4600. On day three, June 7, 2000, the Committee will meet in conference room 6013, USEPA, Ariel Rios Building North, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004; phone: (202) 564-4533. The meeting will begin by 9 a.m. on June 5 and adjourn no later than 3 p.m. on June 7, 2000.

Purpose of the Meeting—The Drinking Water Committee will conduct a review of EPA's proposed drinking water regulation for arsenic. The Committee

will conduct this review in fulfillment of its responsibilities under Section 1412(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA as amended in August 1996) which states that:

The Administrator shall request comments from the Science Advisory Board (established under the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1978) prior to proposal of a maximum contaminant level goal and national primary drinking water regulation. The Board shall respond, as it deems appropriate, within the time period applicable for promulgation of the national primary drinking water standard concerned. This subsection shall, under no circumstances, be used to delay final promulgation of any national primary drinking water standard.

Background—The current National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for arsenic is 50 µg/Liter (0.05 milligrams per liter—mg/L). This regulatory level has been in effect since 1976 and is based on a U.S. Public Health Service standard whose origins date back to 1942. The 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act required the Agency to proceed on two tracks to update the standard: on the one hand, the Agency was directed to develop an arsenic research strategy by February 1997 designed to serve as roadmap for filling gaps in our understanding of the scientific issues surrounding arsenic and, at the same time, to work toward proposing a new primary drinking water regulation by January 1, 2000 and to promulgate a final rule by January 1, 2001.

In response, the Agency met its deadline for developing the research plan and is currently implementing the plan, together with external partners. EPA has also been updating and assembling the various risk management components that will be needed to propose a revised regulation: risk characterization, analytical methods, occurrence, treatment technologies, costs, and benefits. The most challenging of these has been the risk characterization and the underlying risk assessment of the health effects of arsenic. To assist the Agency in its efforts, EPA asked the National Academy of Sciences' National Research Council (NRC) to evaluate all relevant national and international literature concerning the health effects of arsenic and to provide the Agency with its assessment of these data and information. The NRC published its report, *Arsenic in Drinking Water* in March, 1999. That report concluded that studies in Taiwan, Chile, and Argentina link arsenic to skin, bladder and lung