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]

**BILLING CODE 6560–50–P**

## 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.''