Procedure: Interested persons may present data, information, or views, orally or in writing, on issues pending before the committee. Written submissions may be made to the contact person by January 30, 2001. Oral presentations from the public will be scheduled between approximately 11 and 11:30 a. m. Time allotted for each presentation may be limited. Those desiring to make formal oral presentations should notify the contact person before January 30, 2001, and submit a brief statement of the general nature of the evidence or arguments they wish to present, the names and addresses of proposed participants, and an indication of the approximate time requested to make their presentation.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2).

Dated: December 18, 2000.

Linda A. Suydam,

Senior Associate Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 00–32891 Filed 12–26–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Advisory Committee on Special Studies Relating to the Possible Long-Term Health Effects of Phenoxy Herbicides and Contaminants (Ranch Hand Advisory Committee); Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

This notice announces a forthcoming meeting of a public advisory committee of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The meeting will be open to the public.

Name of Committee: Advisory Committee on Special Studies Relating to the Possible Long-Term Health Effects of Phenoxy Herbicides and Contaminants (Ranch Hand Advisory Committee).

General Function of the Committee: To advise the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary for Health concerning its oversight of the conduct of the Ranch Hand study by the U.S. Air Force and provide scientific oversight of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Army Chemical Corps Vietnam Veterans Health Study, and other studies in which the Secretary or the Assistant Secretary for Health believes involvement by the committee is desirable.

Date and Time: The meeting will be held on January 22, 2001, 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., January 23, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and January 24, 2001, 8:30 to 12 noon.

Location: Parklawn Bldg., 5600 Fishers Lane, conference room K, Rockville, MD.

Contact Person: Barbara J. Jewell, Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, rm. 16–53, Rockville, MD 20857, 301–827–6696, or FDA Advisory Committee Information Line, 1–800–741–8138 (301–443–0572 in the Washington, DC area), code 12560. Please call the Information Line for up-to-date information on this meeting.

Agenda: The committee will provide final comments and recommendations on the scope of work for the physical examinations and final report preparation for the sixth and final round of the Air Force Health Study.

Procedure: Interested persons may present data, information, or views, orally or in writing, on issues pending before the committee. Written submissions may be made to the contact person by January 10, 2001. Oral presentations from the public will be scheduled on January 22, 2001, between approximately 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Time allotted for each presentation may be limited. Those desiring to make formal oral presentations should notify the contact person before January 10, 2001, and submit a brief statement of the general nature of the evidence or arguments they wish to present, the names and addresses of proposed participants, and an indication of the approximate time requested to make their presentation.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2).

Dated: December 15, 2000.

Linda A. Suydam,

Senior Associate Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 00–33022 Filed 12–26–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

This notice announces a forthcoming meeting of a public advisory committee of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). At least one portion of the meeting will be closed to the public.

Name of Committee: Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) Advisory Committee.

General Function of the Committee: To provide advice and recommendations to the agency on FDA's regulatory issues.

Date and Time: The meeting will be held on January 18, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and January 19, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Location: Holiday Inn, Versailles Ballrooms I and II, 8120 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, MD.

Contact Person: William Freas or Sheila D. Langford, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (HFM–71), Food and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, 301–827–0314, or FDA Advisory Committee Information Line, 1–800–741–8138 (301–443–0572 in the Washington, DC area), code 12392. Please call the Information Line for up-to-date information on this meeting.

Agenda: On January 18, 2001, the committee will discuss whether recent information about new variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (nvCJD) in France and bovine spongiform encephalopathy in France and other European countries suggests a need to reconsider FDA policies on suitability of blood donors who lived or traveled in those countries. In the afternoon, the committee will discuss the risks of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) and vCJD transmission by human cells, tissues and cellular and tissue-based products intended for implantation, transplantation, infusion, or transfer that are currently or proposed to be regulated by FDA, and the possible deferral of donors who have resided in the United Kingdom. On January 19, 2001, the committee will discuss issues related to deer and elk infected with or exposed to chronic wasting disease in the United States and potential for human exposure. In the afternoon, the committee will discuss whether a history of possible exposure to various animal transmissible spongiform encephalopathy agents should be considered by FDA in determining suitability of blood donors.

Procedure: On January 18, 2001, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and January 19, 2001, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., the meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may present data, information, or views, orally or in writing, on issues pending before the committee. Written submissions may be made to the contact person by January 12, 2001. Oral presentations from the public will be scheduled between approximately 10:30

a.m. to 10:50 a.m., and 3 p.m. to 3:20 p.m. on January 18, 2001; and between 10:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m., and 3 p.m. to 3:20 p.m. on January 19, 2001. Time allotted for each presentation may be limited. Those desiring to make formal oral presentations should notify the contact person before January 12, 2001, and submit a brief statement of the general nature of the evidence or arguments they wish to present, the names and addresses of proposed participants, and an indication of the approximate time requested to make their presentation.

Closed Committee Deliberations: On January 18, 2001, from 5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., the meeting will be closed to permit discussion and review of trade secret and/or confidential information (5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4)). This portion of the meeting will be closed to permit discussion of this material.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2).

Dated: December 18, 2000.

Linda A. Suydam,

Senior Associate Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 00–33021 Filed 12–26–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

This notice announces a forthcoming meeting of a public advisory committee of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The meeting will be open to the public.

Name of Committee: Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee.

General Function of the Committee: To provide advice and recommendations to the agency on FDA's regulatory issues.

Date and Time: The meeting will be held on January 30, 2001, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and on January 31, 2001, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Location: Holiday Inn, Versailles I, II, and III, 8120 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, MD.

Contact Person: Nancy T. Cherry or Denise H. Royster, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (HFM–71), Food and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, 301 827 0314, or FDA Advisory Committee Information Line, 1–800–741–8138 (301–443–0572 in the Washington, DC area), code 12391. Please call the Information Line for up-to-date information on this meeting.

Agenda: On January 30, 2001, the committee will discuss the influenza virus vaccine formulation for the 2001–2002 season. On January 31, 2001, the committee will hear a review of LYMErix™ (Lyme disease vaccine, SmithKline Beecham) safety profile including an update of post-marketing safety data.

Procedure: On January 30, 2001, from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and on January 31, 2001, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., the meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may present data, information, or views, orally or in writing, on issues pending before the committee. Written submissions may be made to the contact person by January 22, 2001. Oral presentations from the public will be scheduled between approximately 2 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on January 30, 2001. Oral presentation from the public will be heard on January 31, 2001, between approximately 1:45 p.m. and 2:15 p.m. Time allotted for each presentation may be limited. Those desiring to make formal oral presentations should notify the contact person before January 22, 2001, and submit a brief statement of the general nature of the evidence or arguments they wish to present, the names and addresses of proposed participants, and an indication of the approximate time requested to make their presentation.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2).

Dated: December 18, 2000.

Linda A. Suydam,

Senior Associate Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 00–33019 Filed 12–26–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

Notice of Hearing: Reconsideration of Disapproval of Rhode Island State Plan Amendment (SPA) 00–003

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of hearing.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an administrative hearing on January 25, 2001; 10:00 a.m.; Twenty-second Floor; Room 2255; JFK Federal Building; Boston, Massachusetts 02203–0003, to reconsider our decision to disapprove Rhode Island (SPA) 00–003.

DATES: *Closing Date:* Requests to participate in the hearing as a party must be received by the presiding officer by January 10, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathleen Scully-Hayes, Presiding Officer, HCFA, C1–09–13, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244, Telephone: (410) 786–2055.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice announces an administrative hearing to reconsider our decision to disapprove Rhode Island's State Plan Amendment (SPA) 00–003. Rhode Island submitted SPA 00–003 on March 29, 2000. This amendment proposed to include under the State plan disproportionate share (DSH) payments to non-government hospitals to cover the costs of providing inpatient hospital services to inmates in the custody of the Department of Corrections (DOC) or the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF). As explained below, HCFA could not approve Rhode Island's SPA 00–003.

Section 1116 of the Social Security Act (the Act) and 42 CFR part 430 establish Department procedures that provide an administrative hearing for reconsideration of a disapproval of a State plan or plan amendment. The Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) is required to publish a copy of the notice to a State Medicaid agency that informs the agency of the time and place of the hearing and the issues to be considered. If we subsequently notify the agency of additional issues that will be considered at the hearing, we will also publish that notice.

Any individual or group that wants to participate in the hearing as a party must petition the presiding officer within 15 days after publication of this notice, in accordance with the requirements contained at 42 CFR 430.76(b)(2). Any interested person or organization that wants to participate as amicus curiae must petition the presiding officer before the hearing begins in accordance with the requirements contained at 42 CFR 430.76(c). If the hearing is later rescheduled, the presiding officer will notify all participants.

The issue in Rhode Island SPA 00–003 is whether the payments at issue are consistent with the statutory requirements for DSH payments at section 1923 of the Act. The payments are for specific services furnished to individuals not eligible for Medicaid, and are not generally available for the costs to ''serve a disproportionate share