

certain potential EPA claims under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 ("CERCLA"), and potential MDNR claims under the Missouri Hazardous Waste Law.

Under this proposed agreement, the purchaser would be required to sample, if necessary, and dispose of contaminated materials that are excavated during road construction and related construction activities, restrict access to two ponds located north of the Site, and refrain from any activity which disturbs the former lagoon area of the Site and the ground water drainage diversion system at the Site. The purchaser must also provide to EPA copies of all construction plans at least thirty (30) days in advance of construction activities. Further, the settlement also requires the purchaser to restrict the use of ground water and ensure non-interference with the performance, operation, and maintenance of any selected response action.

The purchaser is required to grant access to the property to EPA, its authorized officers, employees, representatives, and all other persons performing response actions under EPA oversight. If the purchaser fails to comply with the terms of the Agreement and Covenant Not to Sue, the purchaser would be liable for all litigation and other enforcement costs incurred by the United States to enforce this Agreement.

This notice is also hereby given in accordance with section 7003(d) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. 6973(d). The proposed settlement includes an EPA covenant not to sue the purchaser pursuant to section 7003 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. 6973. Commenters may request an opportunity for a public meeting in the affected area in accordance with section 7003(d) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. 6973(d).

For thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this notice, the Agency will receive written comments relating to the proposed settlement. The Agency's response to any comments received will be available for public inspection at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 901 North 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101, and the information repository for the Sentinel Wood Treating site located at the Douglas County Public Library, Ava, Missouri.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before January 2, 2002.

Availability: The proposed settlement is available for public inspection at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 901 North 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101, and the information repository for the Sentinel Wood Treating Site located at the Douglas County Public Library, Ava, Missouri. A copy of the proposed agreement may be obtained from Alyse Stoy, Assistant Regional Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 901 North 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101. Comments should reference "The Sentinel Wood Treating Site Prospective Purchaser Agreement" and should be forwarded to Alyse Stoy, at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alyse Stoy, Assistant Regional Counsel, Office of Regional Counsel, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 901 North 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101, (913) 551-7826.

Dated: November 16, 2001.

James B. Gulliford,

Regional Administrator, Region VII.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-OW-7111-4]

Notice of Extension of Comment Period on Draft Aquatic Life Criteria Document for Atrazine

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of extension of comment period on draft aquatic life criteria document for atrazine.

SUMMARY: Section 304(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop and publish, and from time to time revise, criteria for water accurately reflecting the latest scientific knowledge. These criteria provide EPA's recommendations to states and authorized tribes as guidance in establishing their water quality standards as state or tribal law or regulation. On September 26, 2001, at 66 FR 49186, EPA published a notice of availability for a draft aquatic life criteria document for atrazine. Today, in response to an official request, EPA is notifying the public that the comment period on this draft aquatic life criteria document has been extended for an additional sixty days, until January 25, 2002.

As discussed in the original **Federal Register** notice, EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) released its preliminary ecological fate and effects risk assessment of atrazine for a sixty day comment period (66 FR 49180) concurrent with the EPA's Office of Water (OW) draft aquatic life criteria document. However, the 60-day time extension announced today is only for comments on OW's draft aquatic life criteria document. OPP's ecological fate and effects risk assessment will be revised after public comments have been considered and incorporated, and OPP will be soliciting public comment on risk mitigation ideas for 60 days. Both offices continue to ask that comments be submitted to both the OW (W-01-10) and OPP (OPP-34237A) dockets, as discussed in the original **Federal Register** notices.

EPA is notifying the public about the availability of this draft document in accordance with the Agency's process for developing or revising criteria (63 FR 68354, December 10, 1998). As indicated in the December 10, 1998 FR notice, the Agency believes it is important to provide the public with an opportunity to submit scientific information on draft criteria.

DATES: All significant scientific information must be submitted to the Agency under docket number W-01-10. All significant scientific information submissions are requested to be submitted by January 25, 2002. The Administrative Record supporting this draft guidance document is available at the Water Docket, Room EB 57, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street SW., Washington, DC 20460 on Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. For access to docket materials call (202) 260-3027 for an appointment. A reasonable fee will be charged for photocopies.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and three copies of any written significant scientific information to W-01-10 Comment Clerk, Water Docket (MC4101), USEPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. Information may be hand-delivered to the Water Docket, USEPA, Room EB 57, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460. Information may also be submitted electronically to OW-Docket@epa.gov. Information should be submitted as a WP5.1, 6.1 and/or 8.0 or an ASCII file with no form of encryption.

Copies of the criteria document entitled, *Ambient Aquatic Life Water Quality Criteria for Atrazine* may be obtained from EPA's Water Resource

Center by phone at (202) 260-7786, or by e-mail to center.water-resource@epa.gov or by conventional mail to EPA Water Resource Center, RC-4100, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20460. Alternatively, consult www.epa.gov/OST for download availability.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Frank Gostomski, Health and Ecological Criteria Division (4304), US EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20460; (202) 260-1321; gostomski.frank@epa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

What Are Recommended Water Quality Criteria?

Recommended water quality criteria are the concentrations of a chemical in water at or below which aquatic life are protected from acute and chronic adverse effects of the chemical. Section 304(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act requires EPA to develop and publish, and from time to time revise, criteria for water accurately reflecting the latest scientific knowledge. Water quality criteria developed under section 304(a) are based solely on data and scientific judgments. They do not consider economic impacts or the technological feasibility of meeting the criteria in ambient water. Section 304(a) criteria provide guidance to States and Tribes in adopting water quality standards and provide a scientific basis for them to develop controls of discharges or releases of pollutants. The criteria also provide a scientific basis for EPA to develop Federally promulgated water quality standards under section 303(c).

What Is Atrazine and Why Are We Concerned About It?

Atrazine is an organic chemical used as an herbicide throughout the U.S. for control of weeds in agricultural crops. Environmental exposure occurs mainly from its application as an herbicide but may also occur from industrial manufacture, distribution releases, precipitation, field runoff, and drift. Atrazine is moderately volatile and soluble in water, and resistant to natural degradation in water. Because of atrazine's chemical properties and widespread use as an herbicide, concerns have been raised over the potential risks posed by exposure of aquatic organisms to it. For these reasons, EPA has developed the following water quality criteria:

Freshwater

Aquatic life should not be affected unacceptably if the: One-hour average concentration of atrazine does not

exceed 350 ug/l more than once every three years on the average (Acute Criterion); and Four-day average concentration of atrazine does not exceed 12 ug/l more than once every three years on the average (Chronic Criterion).

Saltwater

Aquatic life should not be affected unacceptably if the: One hour average concentration of atrazine does not exceed 760 ug/l more than once every three years on the average (Acute Criterion); and Four-day average concentration of atrazine does not exceed 26 ug/l more than once every three years on the average (Chronic Criterion).

Definitions of Criteria Terminology

One hour average: The average of all samples taken during a one hour period by either continuous sampling or periodic grab samples.

Four day average: The average of all samples taken during four consecutive days by either continuous sampling or periodic grab samples. Also known as a 96-hour average.

Acute Criterion: A chemical concentration protective of aquatic organisms from short term exposure to fast acting chemicals or spikes in concentrations. For example exposure of a fish moving through an area for foraging but not residing in the area.

Chronic Criterion: A chemical concentration protective of aquatic organisms from longer term exposure to slower acting chemicals or relatively steady concentrations. For example, exposure of a fish that resides in an area.

Why Is EPA Notifying the Public About the Extension of the Comment Period on the Draft Atrazine Criteria Document?

Today, EPA is notifying the public about the extension of the comment period on the draft aquatic life criteria document for atrazine to expand the public's involvement in the criteria development process. EPA notified the public of its intent to develop aquatic life criteria for atrazine in the **Federal Register** on October 29, 1999 (64 FR 58409). At that time EPA made available to the public all references identified by a recent literature review and solicited any additional pertinent data or scientific views that would be useful in developing the aquatic life criteria for atrazine. On September 26, 2001, EPA notified the public of the availability of a draft aquatic life criteria document for atrazine (66 FR 49186). EPA is now making the draft aquatic life criteria document for atrazine available for

public review for an additional sixty days. As indicated in the December 10, 1998 FR notice, the Agency believes it is important to provide the public with an opportunity to submit scientific information on draft criteria. EPA is soliciting views from the public on issues of science pertaining to the information used to derive the draft criteria. EPA will review and consider significant scientific information submitted by the public that might not have otherwise been identified during development of these criteria.

Where Can I Find More Information on EPA's Revised Process for Developing New or Revised Criteria?

The Agency published detailed information about its revised process for developing and revising criteria in the **Federal Register** on December 10, 1998 (63 FR 68354) and in the EPA document entitled, *National Recommended Water Quality—Correction* (EPA 822-Z-99-001, April 1999). The purpose of the revised process is to provide expanded opportunities for public input, and to make the criteria development process more efficient.

Dated: November 7, 2001.

Geoffrey H. Grubbs,

Director, Office of Science and Technology.

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**FEDERAL EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

**Agency Information Collection
Activities: Submission for OMB
Review; Comment Request**

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency has submitted the following proposed information collection to the Office of Management and Budget for review and clearance in accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507).

Title: Review of Local Mitigation Planning Initiatives and practices.

Type of Information Collection: New.

Abstract: The data collected from the survey will support the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration and the Office of the Inspector General in conducting a national review of local mitigation planning. The goal of the survey is to determine the extent to which communities are formulating, adopting and adhering to local mitigation plans, and to review the overall quality of