

Dated: January 14, 1997.
 Daniel M. Barolo,
Director, Office of Pesticide Programs.
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[FRL-568-9]

Open Meeting of the Industrial Non-Hazardous Waste Stakeholders Focus Group

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of open meeting of the Industrial Non-Hazardous Waste Stakeholders Focus Group.

SUMMARY: As required by section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), EPA is giving notice of the third meeting of the Industrial Non-Hazardous Waste Policy Dialogue Committee, also known as the Industrial Non-Hazardous Waste Stakeholders Focus Group. The purpose of this committee is to advise EPA and ASTSWMO (the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials) in developing voluntary guidance for the management of industrial nonhazardous waste in land-based disposal units. The Focus Group will facilitate the exchange of information and ideas among the interested parties relating to the development of such guidance. The purpose of the third meeting will be to continue discussion of issues related to development of such guidance. The agenda will include a discussion of tailoring management practices to risk, land application, closure and post-closure considerations, corrective action, run-on/run-off controls, operating considerations, and air emission controls. There will be an opportunity for limited public comment at the end of each day of the meeting. The termination date for this committee has been extended until September 31, 1997, in order to allow the committee to complete its work fully.

DATES: The committee will meet on February 19 and 20, 1997, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on February 19, and from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on February 20.

ADDRESSES: The location of the meeting is the Sheraton Washington Hotel, 2660 Woodley Road at Connecticut Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20008. The phone number is (202) 328-2000. The seating capacity of the room is approximately 60 people, and seating will be on a first-come basis. Supporting materials are available for viewing at Docket # F-96-INHA-FFFFF in the RCRA Information Center (RIC), located at Crystal Gateway

One, 1235 Jefferson Davis Highway, First Floor, Arlington, VA. The RIC is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays. To review docket materials, the public must make an appointment by calling (703) 603-9230. The public may copy a maximum of 100 pages from any regulatory docket at no charge. Additional copies cost \$.15/page. For general information, contact the RCRA Hotline at 1-800-424-9346 or TDD 1-800-553-7672 (hearing impaired). In the Washington metropolitan area, call 703-412-9610 or TDD 703-412-3323.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Persons needing further information on the committee should contact Paul Cassidy, Municipal and Industrial Solid Waste Division, Office of Solid Waste, at (703) 308-7281.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

EPA and ASTSWMO have formed a State/EPA Steering Committee to jointly develop voluntary facility guidance for the management of industrial nonhazardous waste in land-based disposal units. The purpose of the guidance is to recommend management practices that are environmentally sound, that are protective of public health, and that recognize opportunities for pollution prevention and waste minimization. The guidance will address such topics as appropriate groundwater monitoring and corrective action requirements, liner designs, daily operating requirements, and closure and post-closure practices.

The State/EPA Steering Committee has convened this Stakeholders Focus Group to obtain recommendations from individuals who are members of a broad spectrum of public interest groups and affected industries. All recommendations from Focus Group participants will be forwarded to the State/EPA Steering Committee for consideration, as the Stakeholders' Focus Group will not strive for consensus. The State/EPA Steering Committee will also provide an opportunity for public comment on the draft guidance document.

"Industrial nonhazardous waste" under the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) means waste that is neither municipal solid waste under RCRA Subtitle D nor a hazardous waste under RCRA Subtitle C. Industrial nonhazardous waste consists primarily of manufacturing process wastes, including wastewaters and non-wastewater sludges and solids.

EPA estimates there are 7.6 billion tons of industrial nonhazardous waste

generated annually in the U.S. and disposed on-site by approximately 12,000 industrial facilities in surface impoundments, landfills, land application units, or waste piles. Most of this waste is managed in surface impoundments, which are designed to hold wastewaters. These wastes, which include inert materials as well as materials which may be declared hazardous at some future date, present a broad range of risk.

Under RCRA Subtitle D, the states are responsible for regulating the management of industrial nonhazardous waste. State requirements vary widely, and may include standards for design and operation, location, monitoring, and record keeping. This guidance is intended to complement existing state programs.

EPA's role in the management of industrial nonhazardous waste is very limited. Under RCRA Subtitle D, EPA issued minimal criteria prohibiting "open dumps" (40 CFR 257) in 1979. The states, not EPA, are responsible for implementing the "open dumping criteria," and EPA has no back-up enforcement role.

Copies of the minutes of all Stakeholder Focus Group meetings will be made available through the docket at the RCRA Information Center, including minutes of the first two Focus Group meeting, which were held on April 11-12, 1996, and September 11-12, 1996.

Participants

The Stakeholders Focus Group consists of approximately 25 members, who represent public interest groups, affected industries, states, and Federal officials. Following is a list of representatives from the interested parties:

Public interest groups—Michael Gregory, Sierra Club; John Harney, Citizens Round Table/Pennsylvanians United to Rescue the Environment; Richard Lowerre, Henry, Lowerre, Johnson, Hess & Frederick and David Wells, University of South Alabama Medical Center. Industry sectors—Tim Saylor, International Paper; Chuck Feerick, Exxon Company USA; Walter Carey, New Milford Farms/Nestle USA; Robert Giraud, Dupont Company; Paul Bork, Dow Chemical Company; Bruce Steiner, American Iron and Steel Institute; James Meiers, Indianapolis Power and Light Company; Andrew Miles, The Dexter Corporation; Scott Murto, General Motors Corporation; Lisa Williams, The Aluminum Association; Jonathan Greenberg, Browning-Ferris Industries; and Ed Skernolis, WMX Technologies, Inc.

States—James Warner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency; Anne Dobbs, Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission; Gene Mitchell, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; and Bill Pounds, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources.

Federal officials—Paul Cassidy, Deborah Dalton, Robert Dellinger, Richard Kinch, and John Sager of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Dated: January 22, 1997.

Elizabeth A. Cotsworth,

Director, Office of Solid Waste.

[FR Doc. 97-2193 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]

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[FRL-5681-8]

National Drinking Water Advisory Council; Small Systems Working Group; Notice of Open Meeting

Under Section 10(a)(2) of Public Law 92-423, "The Federal Advisory Committee Act," notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Small Systems Working Group of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council established under the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. S300f *et seq.*), will be held on February 10 and 11, 1997, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Loews L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza SW., Washington, DC 20024. The meeting is open to the public, but due to past experience, seating will be limited.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss options for how EPA might implement the capacity development and state affordability information provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996. The meeting is open to the public to observe. The working group members are meeting to gather information and analyze relevant issues and facts. Statements will be taken from the public at this meeting as time allows.

For more information, please contact, Peter E. Shanaghan, Designated Federal Officer, Small Systems Working Group, U.S. EPA, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (4606), 401 M Street SW., Washington, DC 20460. The telephone number is (202) 260-5813 and the e-mail address is shanaghan.peter@epamail.epa.gov.

Dated: January 22, 1997.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

[FR Doc. 97-2190 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]

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[FRL-5681-2]

Request for Information and Public Hearing to Evaluate Uses of Stream Segments in Alabama

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of request for information and holding of public hearing.

SUMMARY: EPA is soliciting any information from interested parties and holding a public hearing to assist the Agency in evaluating existing and potential beneficial uses of certain waters in the State of Alabama. This information will be used by EPA in assessing the attainability of such uses and assist the Agency in determining what federal use designations, if any, would be appropriate for these waters. EPA is holding a public hearing for the purposes of receiving information from interested parties. In addition, The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) will be holding a public hearing in March or April 1997 for the purposes of evaluating upgraded use designations on some of these same waters.

DATES: All written information and data received on or before March 12, 1997 will be considered by EPA. A public hearing will be held on February 26, 1997, at 1:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be directed to Morris Flexner, Life Scientist, EPA Region 4, Atlanta Federal Center, Water Management Division, 100 Alabama Street, S.W., Atlanta, GA 30303-3104, (404) 562-9272. A public hearing will be held at the Alabama Center for Commerce, 401 Adams Avenue, Montgomery, AL 38130.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Morris Flexner or Fritz Wagener, Water Quality Standards Coordinator, EPA Region 4, Atlanta Federal Center, Water Management Division, 100 Alabama Street, S.W., Atlanta, GA 30303-3104, (404) 562-9272 or (404) 562-9267.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

1. Statutory/Regulatory History

Section 303(c) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) directs States, with oversight by EPA, to adopt water quality standards to protect public health and welfare, enhance the quality of water and serve the purposes of the CWA. Under Section 303, States have the primary responsibility to establish water quality standards, defined under the Act as designated uses of a water segment and the water quality criteria necessary to

support those uses. Additionally, Indian Tribes authorized to administer the water quality standards program under 40 CFR § 131.8 also establish water quality standards for waters within their jurisdictions. This statutory framework allows States and Tribes to work with local communities to establish appropriate designated uses, and adopt criteria to protect those designated uses. The Act specifies the minimum beneficial uses to be considered by States and Tribes in establishing water quality standards as public water supplies, propagation of fish and wildlife, recreation, agricultural uses, industrial uses and navigation.

Section 303 includes a requirement that States and Tribes review their standards at least once each three year period using a process that includes public participation, and a process for EPA review of State and Tribal standards. Under Section 303(c), EPA is required to either approve new or revised State/Tribal standards that meet the requirements of the Act, or disapprove standards that fail to meet those requirements. Where EPA disapproves a new or revised State/Tribal standard, section 303(c)(4)(A) of the Act states that the Agency is to promptly propose substitute federal standards and promulgate federal standards within 90 days thereafter. In addition, the Agency is authorized to promulgate a federal standard whenever the Agency determines that a new or revised standard is necessary to meet the requirements of CWA Section 303(c)(4)(B).

The implementing regulations for water quality standards regulations are found at 40 CFR Part 131. Under 40 CFR § 131.10(j), States and Tribes are required to conduct a use attainability analysis whenever the State/Tribe designates or has designated uses that do not include the uses specified in Section 101(a)(2) of the CWA, or when the State/Tribe wishes to remove a designated use that is specified in Section 101(a)(2) of the Act, or adopt subcategories of uses that require less stringent criteria. Uses are considered by EPA to be attainable, at a minimum, if the uses can be achieved (1) when effluent limitations under Section 301(b)(1) (A) and (B) and Section 306 are imposed on point source dischargers, and (2) when cost effective and reasonable best management practices are imposed on nonpoint source dischargers.

A use attainability analysis (UAA) is defined in 40 CFR § 131.3(g) as a "structured scientific assessment of the factors affecting the attainment of a use which may include physical, chemical,