

implementation of the Clean Air Act of 1990. The Committee advises on economic, environmental, technical, scientific, and enforcement policy issues.

OPEN MEETING NOTICE: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. App. 2 Section 10(a)(2), notice is hereby given that the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee will hold its next open meeting on Thursday, April 10, 1997 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Fairview Park Marriott Hotel, 3111 Fairview Park Dr., Falls Church, Virginia. Seating will be available on a first come, first served basis. The Permits/NSR/Toxics Integration Subcommittee, the Economic Incentives and Regulatory Innovations Subcommittee, the Linking Transportation and Air Quality Concerns Subcommittee and the Climate Change Subcommittee will conduct meetings on Wednesday, April 9, 1997, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Subcommittee meeting times may change at the discretion of the co-chairs.

INSPECTION OF COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS: The committee agenda and any documents prepared for the meeting will be publicly available at the meeting. Thereafter, these documents, together with the CAAAC meeting minutes, will be available by contacting Committee DFO Paul Rasmussen at (202) 260-6877.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Concerning this meeting of the CAAAC, please contact Paul Rasmussen, Office of Air and Radiation, US EPA (202) 260-6877, fax (202) 260-4185, or by mail at US EPA, Office of Air and Radiation (Mail Code 6102), Washington, DC 20460. If you would like to receive an agenda for the CAAAC meeting, please leave your fax number on Mr. Rasmussen's voice mail and it will be forwarded to you.

Dated: February 14, 1997.

Mary D. Nichols,

Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation.

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BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

[FRL-5693-9]

Peer-Review Workshop for Draft Dose-Response Modeling Chapter for the Reassessment of Dioxin

AGENCY: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of Peer-Review Workshop for Draft Dose-Response Modeling Chapter of EPA's Health Assessment Document for Dioxin.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has scheduled a peer-review workshop to be held on March 5, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to review a revised draft of Chapter 8. Dose-Response Modeling, which is part of the Health Assessment Document for 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD) and Related Compounds. The health assessment document is one component of the Agency's reassessment of dioxin.

This revised chapter on dose-response was one of two chapters referred back to the EPA for substantial revision after the Science Advisory Board (SAB) review in May 1995. The public is invited to attend the workshop, but seating will be limited and advance reservations are suggested. Because time is limited for review of the draft chapter prior to the peer-review workshop, written comments must be provided to the Agency for 60 days subsequent to this notice. All comments submitted within that time will be considered when the chapter is revised for SAB review. At the workshop, a panel of scientific experts from outside the Agency will review the draft dose-response modeling chapter which, at this stage, is a work in progress and does not represent Agency policy. Since the chapter evaluates only part of the evidence supporting dioxin's overall toxic potential, no general conclusions regarding the potential health effects or classification of these compounds will be presented. This broader determination will be based on the full weight-of-evidence and will be part of the risk characterization component of the reassessment.

DATES: The peer-review workshop to review the draft dose-response modeling chapter will be held March 5, 1997. Comments on the draft chapter must be submitted in writing and be postmarked by April 25, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at The Channel Inn Hotel, 650 Water Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20024. Members of the public wishing to register to attend the meeting may phone Ms. Linda Tuxen at 202-260-5949 between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. During the meeting some time will be designated for questions and comments from the floor to encourage interactions among authors, peer-panel members, and the other meeting attendees.

Members of the public may also submit written comments and other materials relevant to the topic to: Ms. Linda Tuxen, National Center for Environmental Assessment (8601), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401

M Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20460, Attention: Dioxin Reassessment.

The draft chapter will be available on or about February 24, 1997. To obtain a copy of the draft dose-response modeling chapter, interested parties should contact the ORD Publications Center, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 26 W. Martin Luther King Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45268; telephone (513) 569-7562; fax (513) 569-7566. Please provide your name, mailing address, and the chapter title and EPA number as follows: Chapter 8. Dose-Response Modeling, EPA/600/P-92/001C8.

The draft chapter also will be provided for inspection at the ORD Public Information Shelf, EPA Headquarters Library, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20460, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for Federal holidays, and at all of the EPA Regional and Laboratory libraries.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To register for the workshop: Ms. Linda Tuxen, National Center for Environmental Assessment (8601), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20460; phone: 202-260-5949; fax: 202-401-2492; e-mail: tuxen.linda@epamail.epa.gov.

For copies of the document: ORD Publications Center, CERI-FRN, Office of Research and Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 26 W. Martin Luther King Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45268; telephone (513) 569-7562; fax (513) 569-7566.

For questions on the overall reassessment of dioxin: Dr. William Farland, National Center for Environmental Assessment (8601), Office of Research and Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20460; telephone (202) 260-7315; fax (202) 401-2492; e-mail: farland.william@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

History of the Scientific Reassessment of Dioxin

As part of the SAB's May 1995 review of the draft Health Assessment Document for 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD) and Related Compounds, Chapter 8. Dose-Response Relationships, was identified as one that may need substantial revision and further review. The SAB commented that the chapter should be revised to better integrate human and laboratory animal data, consider alternatives to the linear non-threshold model, and clarify important

points. The purpose of this peer-review workshop is to review the comments provided independently by the reviewers and to receive further comment based on their discussion.

The EPA has undertaken this task in response to emerging scientific knowledge of the biological, human health, and environmental effects of dioxin. Significant advances have occurred in the scientific understanding of mechanisms of dioxin toxicity, of the carcinogenic and other adverse health effects of dioxin in people, of the pathways to human exposure, and of the toxic effects of dioxin to the environment.

In 1985 and 1988, the Agency prepared assessments of the human health risks from environmental exposures to dioxin. These assessments were reviewed by the Agency's SAB. At the time of the 1988 risk assessment, there was general agreement within the scientific community that there could be a substantial improvement over the existing response approach, but there was no consensus as to a more biologically defensible methodology. The Agency was asked to explore the development of such a method. The current reassessment activities are in part in response to this request.

The EPA is making each phase of the current reassessment of dioxin an open and participatory effort. It previously has convened two public meetings (on November 15, 1991, and April 28, 1992) to inform the public of the Agency's plans and activities, to hear and receive public comments and reviews of the proposed plans for the reassessment, and receive any current, scientifically relevant information.

The Agency convened two peer-review workshops to review draft documents related to EPA's scientific reassessment of the health effects of dioxin. The first workshop was held September 10 and 11, 1992, to review a draft exposure assessment titled, *Estimating Exposures to Dioxin-Like Compounds*. The second workshop was held September 22–25, 1992, to review eight chapters of a draft health assessment document. The epidemiology chapter was also reviewed in another workshop on September 8–9, 1993. It should be noted that outside scientists have been heavily involved in the writing and peer review of these draft documents. Drafts of the health and exposure documents were made available for public review and comment in the fall of 1994, both with a formal public comment period and at a number of public meetings that were held around the country. The SAB reviewed the documents in May 1995.

The purpose of the March 1997 peer-review workshop is to review the draft of a revised and expanded dose-response modeling chapter. The revised chapter evaluates the scientific quality and strength of the dose-response modeling in the evaluation of toxic health effects, both cancer and noncancer, from exposure to dioxin, with an emphasis on the specific congener, 2,3,7,8-TCDD. A critical analysis of all available data has been performed. It is hoped that the peer-review workshop will provide a thoughtful and critical review of the dose-response portion of the dioxin reassessment.

Dated: February 20, 1997.

William H. Farland,

Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. 97-4618 Filed 2-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

[OPP-00470; FRL-5591-6]

Plant Pesticides Resistance Management; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: EPA will hold a public meeting on March 21, 1997, to solicit public comment on resistance management plans for plant pesticides, including the necessity for such plans, critical elements of resistance management plans and requirements for successful implementation.

DATES: The meeting will be held on March 21, 1997, from 8:30 am until 5 pm. Written comments from interested parties not able to attend the meeting must be received on or before March 21, 1997. Persons who wish to speak at the public meeting are encouraged to register in advance by submitting a brief written request and abstract to EPA on or before March 14, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The meeting is open to the public and will be held in the EPA Auditorium at EPA Headquarters, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Interested parties who cannot attend the public meeting but who wish to comment may do so by submitting written comments. Comments should be identified by the docket control number OPP-00470, and be submitted to: Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by sending

electronic mail (e-mail) to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number OPP-00470. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail. Electronic comments may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found in Unit IV of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Willie H. Nelson, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (7501W), Office of Pesticide Programs, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location, telephone number and e-mail address: 5th Floor CS, 2800 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202, Telephone No: 703-308-8682, e-mail: nelson.willie@epamail.epa.gov. **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

I. Background

Resistance management has been a consideration for the registration of plant pesticides for some time. This is because plant pesticides tend to produce the pesticidal active ingredient throughout a growing season, increasing the selection pressure upon both the target pests and any other susceptible insects feeding on the transformed crop.

Resistance management has become an issue particularly in relation to plant-pesticides based on the insecticidal proteins from the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt). EPA recognizes the value of Bt as a safer pesticide and has determined that it is necessary to conserve this resource as appropriate by requiring resistance management plans. The Agency has reviewed initial strategies from registrants for managing resistance to Bt delta endotoxins produced in potato, corn, and cotton. EPA has worked with stakeholders (industry, public sector research and extension, growers, user groups, and government agencies) to address resistance management for primarily Bt-based plant pesticides.

In March of 1995, EPA held a Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) meeting as part of the review for the first registered plant pesticides. This meeting primarily addressed issues related to the *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) *tenebrionis* CryIII delta endotoxin in potato, although some issues related to Bt corn and Bt cotton were also discussed. The