proposed Consent Order and the comments received, and will decide whether it should withdraw from the proposed Consent Order or make final the proposed Order.

Pursuant to a Share Purchase Agreement dated June 1, 1999, Octel has agreed to acquire 100 percent of the share capital of Oboadler for approximately $100 million. Oboadler controls three operating companies that, collectively, are engaged in the business of manufacturing and selling lead antiknock compounds: Alcor Chemie AG, Alcor Chemie Vertriebs AG, and Novoktan GmbH. The proposed Complaint alleges that the acquisition of Oboadler, if consummated, would violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 18, and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 45, in the world market for lead antiknock compounds.

Lead antiknock compounds are gasoline additives that contain tetraethyl lead. The product is used to increase the octane rating of gasoline, and thereby eliminate engine knock during the combustion cycle and improve fuel efficiency. Worldwide use of lead antiknocks has declined substantially since the early 1970's, and a continuing decline in demand is forecast. Driven by public health concerns, nations around the world are requiring refiners to adopt alternative methods of increasing the octane level of gasoline. Currently in the United States, lead antiknock compounds are added to aviation fuel for piston engine aircraft, and to certain motor gasoline for racing cars.

The proposed Complaint alleges that the world market for the manufacture and sale of lead antiknock compounds is highly concentrated. Octel and Oboadler are two of only three firms in the world that manufacture lead antiknock compounds. In the United States, lead antiknock compounds manufactured by Octel are distributed by two firms: Octel America Inc. (a subsidiary of Octel) and Ethyl Corporation (''Ethyl'').[1] In the United States, lead antiknock compounds manufactured by Oboadler are distributed by Allchem Industries, Inc. (''Allchem'').

The proposed Complaint further alleges that entry into the market would not be timely, likely and sufficient to deter or counteract the adverse competitive effects of the acquisition on competition. Entry is unlikely to occur because of the length of time and expense necessary to construct production facilities, environmental regulations, and ongoing decline in worldwide demand for lead antiknock compounds, and the cost of environmental remediation at the manufacturing site when, due to decline in demand, production is no longer commercially practicable.

According to the proposed Complaint, the effect of the proposed acquisition may be substantially to lessen competition by, among other things, eliminating direct actual competition between Octel and Oboadler in the relevant market, increasing the likelihood of coordinated interaction between the remaining competitors in the relevant market, and increasing the likelihood that consumers of lead antiknock compounds will be forced to pay higher prices.

The proposed Consent Order is designed to protect U.S. consumers of lead antiknock compounds from the exercise of market power resulting from Octel's proposed acquisition. The foundation for the Consent Order is a long-term supply agreement that Octel has entered into with Allchem, Oboadler's U.S. distributor.[2] The Supply Agreement provides that Octel shall provide Allchem with unlimited quantities of lead antiknock compounds for resale to customers in the United States. Further, Allchem shall have the sole right to determine the customers in the U.S. to whom the product will be resold, as well as the terms and conditions of such resale.

The proposed Consent Order requires Octel to supply product to Allchem for fifteen years in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Supply Agreement, and subject to the termination provision thereof.[3] (Paragraph II) In addition, Octel is prohibited from modifying certain key terms of the Supply Agreement except with the prior approval of the Commission.[4] (Paragraph III)

The wholesale price to be charged to Allchem for lead antiknock compounds is the product of negotiations between Octel and Allchem. If the wholesale price is too high (relative to the price at which Allchem, absent the acquisition, could have obtained product from Oboadler), then prices to U.S. consumers may likewise be supra-competitive. The proposed remedy relies upon Allchem's incentive to negotiate the lowest possible price. The Supply Agreement negotiated by the parties, should it take effect, will afford Allchem a reduction in the wholesale price of lead antiknock compounds (relative to Allchem's existing agreement with Oboadler).

The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the proposed Order, and it is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and proposed Order or to modify their terms in any way.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,

Secretary.

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[1] *See The Associated Octel Company Limited and Great Lakes Chemical Corporation*, FTC Docket No. C–3815 (1998) (Commission order requiring, *inter alia*, that Octel supply Ethyl with whatever volumes of lead antiknock compounds Ethyl requires for resale to U.S. customers).

[2] Agreement for the Supply of Tetra Ethyl Lead Additive dated July 19, 1999, as amended by the Supplemental Agreement for the Supply of Tetra Ethyl Lead Additive dated July 30, 1999 (hereinafter collectively referred to as the ''Supply Agreement''). The Supply Agreement goes into effect when Octel acquires Oboadler.

[3] At any time after year ten, Octel can terminate the Supply Agreement provided that Octel has ceased to manufacture lead antiknocks and has exited from the worldwide lead antiknocks business.

[4] The purpose of this provision is to prevent Octel and Allchem from modifying the Supply Agreement in a manner that is beneficial to each of them but harmful to U.S. consumers. To take an extreme example, the Commission would likely disapprove a proposed modification in which Allchem received a cash payment in return for surrendering its right to purchase and resell lead antiknocks.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Meeting of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Genetic Testing

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

Pursuant to Public Law 92–463, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Genetic Testing (SACGT), U.S. Public Health Service. The meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Regency Ballroom, 1750 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20852, starting on October 25, 1999 at approximately 9:00 a.m. and will recess at approximately 5:30 p.m. The meeting will reconvene on October 26, 1999 at approximately 8:00 a.m. and will adjourn at approximately 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be open to the public. Attendance by the public will be limited by the space available. The committee will continue deliberations begun at its first meeting in June on questions related to the oversight of genetic testing, and it will finalize plans for gathering public perspectives on those questions. A limited period of time will be provided for public comment, and individuals

interested in participating in the public comment period should contact Ms. Sarah Carr, SACGT Executive Secretary, as shown below.

Under authority of 42 U.S.C. 217a, Section 222 of the Public Health Service Act, as amended, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) established the SACGT to advise and make recommendations to the Secretary through the Assistant Secretary for Health on all aspects of the development and use of genetic tests. The SACGT is directed to: (1) Recommended policies and procedures for the safe and effective incorporation of genetic technologies into health care; (2) assess the effectiveness of existing and future measures for oversight of genetic tests; (3) and identify research needs related to the Committee's purview.

Further information about the SACGT is available at the following web site: http://www.nih.gov/od/orda/sacgtdocs.htm. A draft meeting agenda will be posted to the site prior to the meeting. Individuals who wish to provide public comments should notify Ms. Carr, by telephone at 301–496–9838 or E-mail at *sc112c@nih.gov* as soon as possible and provide a copy of their remarks to Ms. Carr by October 15, 1999. Those who plan to attend the meeting and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify Ms. Carr at 301–496–9838. The SACGT office is located at 6000 Executive Boulevard, Suite 302, Bethesda, Maryland 20892.

Dated: September 13, 1999.

Sarah Carr,

Executive Secretary, SACGT.

[FR Doc. 99–24376 Filed 9–17–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

[INFO–99–38]

Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call the ATSDR Reports Clearance Officer on (404) 639–7090.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques for other forms of information technology. Send comments to Nancy Cheal, Ph.D., ATSDR Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS–D24, Atlanta, GA 30333. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Exposure to Volatile Organic Compounds and Childhood Leukemia Incidence at MCB Camp Lejeune, North Carolina—Extension—Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). There is limited evidence that in utero exposure to volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as trichloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene (PCE) in drinking water may be strongly associated with childhood leukemia (CL). In 1982, VOC contamination was identified in certain groundwater supply wells which supplied drinking water to housing units at U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, North Carolina. In a previous health study of approximately 6,000 infants exposed in utero to this contaminated water and 6,000 unexposed births, it was shown that gestational PCE exposure was related to lower birth weights for certain subgroups. The purpose of the proposed nested case-control study is to investigate the potential relationship between exposure to VOCs in drinking water and incidence of CL at Camp Lejeune. A secondary objective of the proposed study is to investigate the potential relationship between VOCs in drinking water and birth defects in this population.

During this phase of the proposed study, an attempt will be made to locate as many of the children born to base residents between 1968 and 1985 as well as offspring from pregnancies that occurred during this time period but were not delivered at Camp Lejeune. A brief screening questionnaire will be interviewer-administered to identify potential cancer and birth defect cases. Some of the data to be collected by the questionnaire includes: confirmation of the name(s) of children and date(s) of birth; dates and location of residence on base during the pregnancy and/or at the time of delivery; current vital status of each child; the determination of diagnosis with cancer or birth defects before age 20. As a result of delays in obtaining data necessary to trace potential respondents, a renewal for this project has been requested.

It is necessary to identify each respondent in order to assess place of residence at Camp Lejeune as a measure of possible VOC exposure as well as to determine possible case status, i.e. reported diagnosis of childhood cancer or birth defect. This information will be used during the next study phase to identify potential cases and controls for the proposed nested case-control study.

With help from the U. S. Navy and U. S. Marine Corps sources, we will obtain current address information and attempt to contact respondents directly. For respondents with unknown current addresses, tracing efforts will include advertising in the general media as well as in publications directed toward Marine Corps and Navy personnel. Once the respondent is located, the questionnaire will be administered by trained interviewers over the telephone.

Respondents will be one of the following: (1) a parent who gave birth or was pregnant while residing at MCB Camp Lejeune between 1968 and 1985; (2) a parent who was pregnant while residing at MCB Camp Lejeune between 1968 and 1985 but gave birth elsewhere; or (3) an offspring of said parents. The number of births that occurred at MCB Camp Lejeune during this period is approximately 12,000. It has been estimated that approximately one-third of women who seek prenatal care while residing at Camp Lejeune are relocated before delivery. Therefore, attempts will be made to contact and interview up to an additional 4,000 respondents. Of the 16,000 total possible respondents, a conservative estimate of the number that will be located and subsequently interviewed is 13,000 (about 80%).

The hourly burden has been modified since the first submittal. This was a result of pretesting of the data collection instrument. It was found that the average completion time per survey was closer to 15 minutes as opposed to the original estimate of 9 minutes.