

the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public version of the official record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public version of the official record without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

*E. What Should I Consider as I Prepare My Comments for EPA?*

You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

1. Explain your views as clearly as possible.
2. Describe any assumptions that you used.
3. Provide copies of any technical information and/or data you used that support your views.
4. If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate that you provide.
5. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
6. Offer alternative ways to improve the proposed rule or collection activity.
7. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this document.
8. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, be sure to identify the docket control number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation.

## II. What Action is the Agency Taking?

Under section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) (7 U.S.C. 136p), at the discretion of the Administrator, a Federal or State agency may be exempted from any provision of FIFRA if the Administrator determines that emergency conditions exist which require the exemption. The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce has requested the Administrator to issue a specific exemption for the use of thiamethoxam on cotton to control cotton aphids. Information in accordance with 40 CFR part 166 was submitted as part of this request.

As part of this request, the Applicant asserts that cotton aphid has developed resistance to most currently labeled and recommended insecticides in Mississippi. It is claimed that laboratory assays, field experiments, and field experience indicate that insecticides currently recommended for cotton aphid control are variable in

effectiveness to the extent that agricultural consultants and cotton producers consider them to be unreliable. Studies suggest aphids may be initially controlled with registered alternatives such as dicrotophos, endosulfan, methomyl and imidacloprid, but that populations resurge rapidly following application. Aphids are naturally controlled by the fungal disease *Neozygites fresenii* once aphid populations have reached high infestation levels, but it is often difficult to predict when disease epizootics will occur. Recently, participation in the Boll Weevil Eradication Program has resulted in greater risk of yield threatening outbreaks of cotton aphids. Because of the intensive use of malathion for eradication of the boll weevil, the early years of eradication effort are considered to be years of increased risk of secondary pest outbreak; survey data collected in Mississippi in 1998 support this claim. The Applicant estimates that in the event of a severe aphid outbreak yield losses as high as 50 lbs per acre could be sustained using currently available products. It is claimed that yield losses using thiamethoxam under similar conditions would be around 10 lbs. per acre. These yield losses would result in a projected difference in net returns to the producer of \$25 per acre, in the event of heavy, sustained aphid infestations.

The Applicant proposes to make no more than two applications of the product Centric, containing 25% of the active ingredient thiamethoxam, to a maximum of 1,000,000 acres of cotton in Mississippi, between June 15 and September 15, 2000; a maximum of 94,000 lbs. a.i. (375,000 lbs. of product) would be used under this exemption.

This notice does not constitute a decision by EPA on the application itself. The regulations governing section 18 of FIFRA require publication of a notice of receipt of an application for a specific exemption proposing "use of a new chemical (i.e., an active ingredient) which has not been registered by the EPA", and also "a first food use of a chemical." The notice provides an opportunity for public comment on the application.

The Agency, will review and consider all comments received during the comment period in determining whether to issue the emergency exemption requested by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: May 10, 2000.

**James Jones,**

*Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

[FR Doc. 00-12650 Filed 5-18-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-F**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6702-8]

### South Bay Asbestos Superfund Site; Proposed Notice of Administrative Settlement

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice; request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. 9600 *et seq.*, notice is hereby given that a proposed prospective purchaser agreement associated with the South Bay Asbestos Superfund Site was executed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") on May 5, 2000. The proposed prospective purchaser agreement would resolve certain potential claims of the United States under sections 106 and 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9606 and 9607, and section 7003 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 6973, against WCSJ LLC (the "Purchaser"). The subject property is the Highway 237 Disposal Site (formerly known as the Marshland Landfill). The purchaser intends to develop 45 acres for commercial use, to be known as the Legacy Terrace Development, and 23 acres will be preserved and maintained as open space. The proposed settlement would require the purchaser to pay EPA a one-time payment of \$250,000.

For thirty (30) calendar days following the date of publication of this notice, EPA will receive written comments relating to the proposed settlement. If requested prior to the expiration of this public comment period, EPA will provide an opportunity for a public meeting in the effected area. EPA's response to any comments received will be available for public inspection at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before June 19, 2000.

**Availability:** The proposed prospective purchaser agreement and additional background documentation relating to the settlement are available for public inspection at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. A copy of the proposed settlement may be obtained from Kara Christenson, Assistant Regional Counsel (ORC-2), Office of Regional Counsel, U.S. EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. Comments should reference "WCSJ LLC, South Bay Asbestos Area Superfund Site," and "Docket No. 2000-07" and should be addressed to Kara Christenson at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kara Christenson, Assistant Regional Counsel (ORC-2), Office of Regional Counsel, U.S. EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105; E-mail: christenson.kara@epa.gov; phone: (415) 744-1330.

**Keith Takata,**

*Director, Superfund Division, Region IX.*

[FR Doc. 00-12645 Filed 5-18-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-M**

## FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

#### Background

On June 15, 1984, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) delegated to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board) its approval authority under the Paperwork Reduction Act, as per 5 CFR 1320.16, to approve of and assign OMB control numbers to collection of information requests and requirements conducted or sponsored by the Board under conditions set forth in 5 CFR 1320 Appendix A.1. Board-approved collections of information are incorporated into the official OMB inventory of currently approved collections of information. Copies of the OMB 83-Is and supporting statements and approved collection of information instruments are placed into OMB's public docket files. The Federal Reserve may not conduct or sponsor, and the respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection that has been extended, revised, or implemented on or after October 1, 1995, unless it

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

### Request for Comment on Information Collection Proposals

The following information collections, which are being handled under this delegated authority, have received initial Board approval and are hereby published for comment. At the end of the comment period, the proposed information collections, along with an analysis of comments and recommendations received, will be submitted to the Board for final approval under OMB delegated authority. Comments are invited on the following:

- Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the Federal Reserve's functions; including whether the information has practical utility;
- The accuracy of the Federal Reserve's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Ways to minimize the burden of information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before July 18, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments, which should refer to the OMB control number or agency form number, should be addressed to Jennifer J. Johnson, Secretary, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th and C Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20551, or mailed electronically to [regs.comments@federalreserve.gov](mailto:regs.comments@federalreserve.gov). Comments addressed to Ms. Johnson also may be delivered to the Board's mail room between 8:45 a.m. and 5:15 p.m., and to the security control room outside of those hours. Both the mail room and the security control room are accessible from the courtyard entrance on 20th Street between Constitution Avenue and C Street, NW. Comments received may be inspected in room M-P-500 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., except as provided in section 261.14 of the Board's Rules Regarding Availability of Information, 12 CFR 261.14(a).

A copy of the comments may also be submitted to the OMB desk officer for the Board: Alexander T. Hunt, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 3208, Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A copy of the proposed form and instructions, the Paperwork Reduction Act Submission (OMB 83-I), supporting statement, and other documents that will be placed into OMB's public docket files once approved may be requested from the agency clearance officer, whose name appears below. Mary M. West, Chief, Financial Reports Section (202-452-3829), Division of Research and Statistics, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551. Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) users may contact Diane Jenkins, (202-452-3544), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551.

### Proposal To Approve Under OMB Delegated Authority the Extension for Three Years, With Revision, of the Following Reports

- Report title:** Monthly Survey of Industrial Electricity Use.  
**Agency form number:** FR 2009.  
**OMB control number:** 7100-0057.  
**Frequency:** Monthly.  
**Reporters:** FR 2009a/c: Electric utility companies; FR 2009b: Cogenerators.  
**Annual reporting hours:** FR 2009a/c: 2,196 hours; FR 2009c: 1,188 hours.  
**Estimated average hours per response:** FR 2009a/c: 1 hour; FR 2009b: 30 minutes.  
**Number of respondents:** FR 2009a/c: 183; FR 2009b: 198. Small businesses are affected.

**General description of report:** This information collection is voluntary (12 U.S.C. 225a, 263, 353 *et seq.*, and 461) and individual respondent data are given confidential treatment (5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4)).

**Abstract:** The survey collects information on the volume of electric power delivered during the month to classes of industrial customers. Currently, there are two versions of the survey: the FR 2009a, collects information from electric utilities, the FR 2009b collects information from manufacturing and mining facilities that generate electric power for their own use.

**Current Actions:** During the next two years the industrial output index will be revised to reflect the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). The published series will be categorized under the NAICS codes instead of the current Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes. To facilitate this transition process, the Federal Reserve will ask utilities to reclassify their customers using the new codes. The FR 2009c has been created in the NAICS format for use by respondents that have made the