A primary consideration in implementation of the FQPA safety factor provision is assessing the degree of concern regarding the potential for pre- and postnatal effects. In many cases, concerns regarding pre- and postnatal toxicity can be addressed by calculating a Reference Dose (RfD) or Margin of Exposure (MOE) from the pre- or postnatal endpoints in the offspring and traditional uncertainty factors (i.e., use of a factor to account for estimating a No-Observed-Adverse-Effect-Level from a Lowest-Observed Adverse-Effect-Level, estimating chronic effects from a subchronic study, and an incomplete toxicology data base) are fully considered. In some instances, however, data may raise uncertainties or a high concern for infants or children which cannot be addressed in the derivation of an RfD or MOE. OPP intends to analyze the degree of concern and to assess the weight of all relevant evidence for each case. This involves examining the level of concern for sensitivity/susceptibility and assessing whether traditional uncertainty factors already incorporated into the risk assessment are adequate to protect the safety of infants and children, as well as the adequacy of the exposure assessment.

The guidance also explains how data deficiency uncertainty factors will be used to address the FQPA safety factor provision's expressed concern as to the ''completeness of the data with respect to ... toxicity to infants and children...'' The FQPA safety factor provision regarding the completeness of the toxicity database is similar to the traditional data deficiency uncertainty factors used by the Agency to address inadequate or incomplete data. Thus, when deriving RfDs and evaluating the protection provided by FQPA safety factors, OPP intends to consider current Agency practice regarding data deficiency uncertainty factors.

Another important consideration for the FQPA safety factor is the completeness of the exposure database. Whenever appropriate data are available, OPP estimates exposure using reliable empirical data on specific pesticides. In other cases, exposure estimates may be based on models and assumptions (which in themselves are based on other reliable empirical data). This document explains how, in the absence of case specific exposure data, OPP will evaluate the safety of the exposure estimate as to infants and children and correspondingly, the appropriate FQPA safety factor.

Finally, the decision to retain the default 10X FQPA safety factor or to assign a different FQPA safety factor is informed by the conclusions presented in the risk characterization, and is not determined as part of the RfD process. This guidance document describes the integrated approach used when making FQPA safety factor decisions. This is a ''weight-of-the-evidence'' approach in which all of the data, concerning both hazard and exposure, are considered together for the pesticide under evaluation. The FQPA safety factor determination includes an evaluation of the level of confidence in the hazard and exposure assessments and an explicit judgement of whether there are any residual uncertainties identified in the risk characterization. It is at this integration stage that OPP determines how the completeness of the toxicology and exposure databases and the potential for pre and postnatal toxicity were handled in the risk assessment.

IV. Policies Not Rules

The policy document discussed in this notice is intended to provide guidance to EPA personnel and decision-makers, and to the public. As a guidance document and not a rule, the policy in this guidance is not binding on either EPA or any outside parties. Although this guidance provides a starting point for EPA risk assessments, EPA will depart from its policy where the facts or circumstances warrant. In such cases, EPA will explain why a different course was taken. Similarly, outside parties remain free to assert that a policy is not appropriate for a specific pesticide or that the circumstances surrounding a specific risk assessment demonstrate that a policy should not be applied.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: February 20, 2002.

Stephen L. Johnson,

Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 02–4793 Filed 2–27–02; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–S

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP–00759; FRL–6822–3]

Pesticides; Consideration of the FQPA and Other Safety Factors in Cumulative Risk Assessment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: To assure that EPA's policies related to implementing the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA) are transparent and open to public participation, EPA is soliciting comments on the pesticide draft science policy document titled, ''Consideration of the FQPA Safety Factor and Other Uncertainty Factors in Cumulative Risk Assessment of Chemicals Sharing a Common Mechanism of Toxicity.'' This notice is one in a series concerning science policy documents related to the implementation of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), as amended by FQPA.

DATES: Comments for the draft science policy document, identified by docket control number OPP–00759, must be received on or before April 29, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit I. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP–00759 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Randy Perfetti, Health Effects Division (7509C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 305–5381; e-mail address: perfetti.randolph@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you manufacture or formulate pesticides. Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to:

Categories	NAICS codes	Examples of potentially affected entities
Pesticide producers	32532	Pesticide manufacturers Pesticide formulators

This listing is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes have been provided to assist you and

others in determining whether or not this action affects certain entities. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document or Other Related Documents?

1. *Electronically*. You may obtain electronic copies of this document, the draft science policy document, and certain other related documents that might be available from the Office of Pesticide Programs' Home Page at http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/. On the Office of Pesticide Programs' Home Page select ''FQPA'' and then look up the entry for this document under ''Science Policies.'' You can also go directly to the listings at the EPA Home Page at http://www.epa.gov/. On the Home Page select ''Laws and Regulations,'' ''Regulations and Proposed Rules,'' and then look up the entry for this document under ''**Federal Register**—Environmental Documents.'' You can go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/.

2. *Fax-on-demand*. You may request a faxed copy of the draft science policy document, as well as supporting information, by using a faxphone to call (202) 401–0527. Select item 6050 for the document titled ''Consideration of the FQPA Safety Factor and Other Uncertainty Factors in Cumulative Risk Assessment of Chemicals Sharing a Common Mechanism of Toxicity.'' You may also follow the automated menu.

3. *In person*. The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPP–00759. In addition, the documents referenced in the framework notice, which published in the **Federal Register** of October 29, 1998 (63 FR 58038) (FRL–6041–5), under docket control number OPP–00557, are considered as part of the official record for this action under docket control number OPP–00759 even though not placed in the official record. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, and any public comments received during an applicable comment period, and other information related to this action, including any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). This official record includes the documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. The public version of the official record does not include any information claimed as CBI. The public version of the official record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments submitted during an applicable comment period is available for inspection in the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305–5805.

C. How and to Whom Do I Submit Comments?

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP–00759 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

1. *By mail*. Submit your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania, Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier*. Deliver your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. The PIRIB is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305–5805.

3. *Electronically*. You may submit your comments electronically by e-mail to: opp-docket@epa.gov, or you can submit a computer disk as described above. Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. Avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Electronic submissions will be accepted in WordPerfect 6.1/8.0 or ASCII file format. All comments in electronic form must be identified by docket control number OPP–00759. Electronic comments may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

D. How Should I Handle CBI That I Want to Submit to the Agency?

Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. You may claim information that you submit to EPA in response to this document as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes any information claimed as CBI, a copy of 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?

EPA invites you to provide your views on the various draft science policy documents, new approaches we have not considered, the potential impacts of the various options (including possible unintended consequences), and any data or information that you would like the Agency to consider. 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 solid technical information and/or data to support your views.

4. If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate.

5. Indicate what you support, as well as what you disagree with.

6. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.

7. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this notice.

8. At the beginning of your comments (e.g., as part of the ''subject'' heading), be sure to properly identify the document you are commenting on. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP–00759 in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation.

II. Background Information

On August 3, 1996, FQPA was signed into law. The FQPA significantly amended the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the FFDCA. Among other changes, FQPA established a stringent health-based standard (''a reasonable certainty of no harm'') for pesticide residues in foods to assure protection from unacceptable pesticide exposure and strengthened health protections for

infants and children from pesticide risks.

Thereafter, the Agency established the Food Safety Advisory Committee (FSAC) as a subcommittee of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) to assist in soliciting input from stakeholders and to provide input to EPA on the broad policy choices facing the Agency and on strategic direction for the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP). The Agency has used the interim approaches developed through discussions with FSAC to make regulatory decisions that meet the new FFDCA standard, but that could be revisited if additional information became available or as the science evolved. In addition, the Agency seeks independent review and public participation, generally through presentation of the science policy issues to the FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel, a group of independent, outside experts who provide peer review and scientific advice to OPP.

During 1998 and 1999, EPA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) established a second subcommittee of NACEPT, the Tolerance Reassessment Advisory Committee (TRAC) to address FFDCA issues and implementation. TRAC comprised more than 50 representatives of affected user, producer, consumer, public health, environmental, States, and other interested groups. The TRAC met from May 27, 1998, through April 29, 1999.

In order to continue the constructive discussions about FFDCA, EPA and USDA have established, under the auspices of NACEPT, the committee to advise on reassessment and transition (CARAT). The CARAT provides a forum for a broad spectrum of stakeholders to consult with and advise the Agency and the Secretary of Agriculture on pest and pesticide management transition issues related to the tolerance reassessment process. The CARAT is intended to further the valuable work initiated by the FSAC and TRAC toward the use of sound science and greater transparency in regulatory decision-making, increased stakeholder participation, and reasonable transition strategies that reduce risks without jeopardizing American agriculture and farm communities.

As a result of the 1998 and 1999 TRAC process, EPA decided that the implementation process and related policies would benefit from providing notice and comment on major science policy issues. The TRAC identified nine science policy areas it believed were key to implementation of tolerance reassessment. EPA agreed to provide one or more documents for comment on each of the nine issues by announcing their availability in the **Federal Register**. In a notice published in the **Federal Register** of October 29, 1998 (63 FR 58038), EPA described its intended approach. Since then, EPA has been issuing a series of draft documents concerning the nine science policy issues. This notice announces the availability of a pesticide draft science policy document concerning the Agency's use of the FQPA safety factor in cumulative risk assessments.

III. Summary of Draft Document

The guidance document provides the current thinking of OPP on application of the provision in FFDCA section 408(b)(2)(C), regarding an additional safety factor for the protection of infants and children in the context of cumulative risk assessments. OPP, in an earlier science policy paper for individual chemicals, addressed how its risk assessments will consider the FQPA safety factor provision for individual chemicals (EPA, 1999, and EPA, 2002a). Additionally, OPP has prepared guidance on how to conduct a cumulative risk assessment for two or more pesticides sharing a common mechanism of toxicity (EPA, 2002b). Each of these papers provided some general information and guidance on the FQPA safety factor, but did not address in detail the application of the FQPA safety factor provision on cumulative risk assessment.

OPP has developed the current document to provide a more expansive discussion of the use of uncertainty and safety factors in the context of cumulative risk assessment and to restructure its presentation to follow more closely the framework and terminology presented in the FQPA safety factor guidance for individual chemicals (EPA, 2002a). This document also draws on definitions contained in the revised cumulative risk assessment guidance, which has been revised and issued (EPA, 2002b).

OPP believes that it is critical to the protection of infants and children that it not rely on and not apply a default value or presumption in making decisions under section 408 where reliable data are available that support use of a different safety factor in the assessment of risk. Use of the default value may result in an under-or over-statement of risk. OPP's reasoning applies with even more force in the context of cumulative risk assessments due to the additional complexities involved. Accordingly, for cumulative risk assessments, OPP also intends to make specific case-by-case determinations as to the size of the additional FQPA safety factor rather than rely on the 10X default value if reliable data permit. Further, this individualized determination may involve application of FQPA safety factors to both the individual chemical members as well as to the entire cumulative assessment group (referred to as the ''CAG'') of common mechanism chemicals. This guidance document focuses primarily on the considerations relevant to determining a safety factor ''different'' than the default 10X that protects the safety of infants and children.

V. Policies Not Rules

The draft science policy document discussed in this notice is intended to provide guidance to EPA personnel and decision-makers, and to the public. As a guidance document and not a rule, the policy in this guidance is not binding on either EPA or any outside parties. Although this guidance provides a starting point for EPA risk assessments, EPA will depart from its policy where the facts or circumstances warrant. In such cases, EPA will explain why a different course was taken. Similarly, outside parties remain free to assert that a policy is not appropriate for a specific pesticide or that the circumstances surrounding a specific risk assessment demonstrate that a policy should be abandoned.

EPA has stated in this notice that it will make available revised guidance after consideration of public comment. Public comment is not being solicited for the purpose of converting any policy document into a binding rule. EPA will not be codifying this policy in the Code of Federal Regulations. EPA is soliciting public comment so that it can make fully informed decisions regarding the content of each guidance document.

The ''revised'' guidance will not be unalterable. Once a ''revised'' guidance document is issued, EPA will continue to treat it as guidance, not a rule. Accordingly, on a case-by-case basis EPA will decide whether it is appropriate to depart from the guidance or to modify the overall approach in the guidance. In the course of inviting comment on each guidance document, EPA would welcome comments that specifically address how a guidance document can be structured so that it provides meaningful guidance without imposing binding requirements.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: February 20, 2002.

Stephen L. Johnson,

Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 02–4794 Filed 2–27–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–S

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[DA 02–405]

Consumer/Disability Telecommunications Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces the date, time, and agenda for the next meeting of the Consumer/Disability Telecommunications Advisory Committee (hereinafter ''the Committee''), whose purpose is to make recommendations to the Commission regarding consumer and disability issues within the jurisdiction of the Commission and to facilitate the participation of consumers (including people with disabilities and underserved populations) in proceedings before the Commission.

DATES: The meeting of the Committee will take place on March 15, 2002, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Committee will meet at the Federal Communications Commission, Room TW–C305, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Marshall, Designated Federal Officer, Consumer/Disability Telecommunications Advisory Committee, Consumer Information Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554. Telephone 202–418–2809 (voice) or 202–418–0179 (TTY); e-mail: *cdtac@fcc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By Public Notice dated and released February 21, 2002, the Federal Communications Commission announced the next meeting of its Consumer/Disability Telecommunications Advisory Committee. The establishment of the Committee had been announced by Public Notice dated November 30, 2000, 15 FCC Rcd 23798, as published in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 76265, December 6, 2000).

At the March 15, 2002 meeting, the Committee will consider and make recommendations concerning various proposed rules currently before the Commission of particular interest to consumers. The Committee's agenda will include, but is not limited to, proposals relating to the Commission's consumer complaint process, hearing aid compatible wireless telephones, and the Lifeline and Link-up universal service support programs.

Availability of Copies and Electronic Accessibility

A copy of the February 20, 2002 Public Notice is available in alternate formats (Braille, cassette tape, large print or diskette) upon request. It is also posted on the Commission's Web site at *www.fcc.gov/cib/cdtac.* The Committee meeting will be broadcast on the Internet in Real Audio/Real Video format with captioning at *www.fcc.gov/cib/cdtac.* The meeting will be sign language interpreted and realtime transcription and assistive listening devices will also be available. The meeting site is fully accessible to people with disabilities. Copies of meeting agendas and handout material will also be provided in accessible formats. Meeting minutes will be available for public inspection at the FCC headquarters building and will be posted on the Commission's Web site at *www.fcc.gov/cib/cdtac.*

Committee meetings will be open to the public and interested persons may attend the meetings and communicate their views. Members of the public will have an opportunity to address the Committee on issues of interest to them and the Committee. Written comments for the Committee may also be sent to the Committee's Designated Federal Officer, Scott Marshall. Notices of future meetings of the Committee will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Margaret Egler,

Deputy Bureau Chief, Consumer Information Bureau.

[FR Doc. 02–4695 Filed 2–27–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

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

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board).

ACTION: Notice of information collection to be submitted to OMB for review and approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the Board, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) (the ''agencies'') may not conduct or sponsor, and the respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Board hereby gives notice that it plans to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on behalf of the agencies a request for review of the information collections described below.

On December 5, 2001, the agencies, under the auspices of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC), requested public comment for 60 days on the extension, without revision, of the currently approved information collections: Report of Assets and Liabilities of U.S. Branches and Agencies of Foreign Banks (FFIEC 002) and Report of Assets and Liabilities of Non-U.S. Branches that are Managed or Controlled by a U.S. Branch or Agency of a Foreign Bank (FFIEC 002s). The comment period expired February 4, 2002. No comments were received.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 1, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments to the agency listed below. All comments, which should refer to the OMB control number, will be shared among the agencies.

Written comments should be addressed to Jennifer J. Johnson, Secretary, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th and C Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20551, submitted by electronic mail to *regs.comments@federalreserve.gov*, or delivered to the Board's mailroom between 8:45 a.m. and 5:15 p.m., and to the security control room outside of those hours. Both the mailroom 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 a.m. and 5 p.m., except as provided in section 261.12 of the Board's Rules Regarding Availability of Information, 12 CFR 261.12(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 FFIEC 002 and FFIEC 002s reporting forms may be obtained at the FFIEC's Web site (*www.ffiec.gov*). Additional information or a copy of the