

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7615-5]

Teleconference Meeting of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council: Conference Call To Continue Discussion of the Formation of a Water Security Working Group**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing a teleconference meeting to continue discussion on the formation of a Water Security Working Group of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC). The EPA is designated as the lead agency for the security of the nation's drinking water and wastewater sectors. To assist these sectors in becoming more secure against terrorist threats, the Agency is proposing to develop best security practices for drinking water and wastewater facilities. The National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) was established to provide practical and independent advice, consultation and recommendations to the Agency on the activities, functions and policies related to the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act. During the November 19-20, 2003, meeting, the NDWAC decided to forgo an official vote on the formation of the Water Security Working Group (WSWG) until there was an official charge before the members. It was decided that once members of NDWAC had the opportunity to review the charge for the proposed working group, a conference call would be held to continue discussion on the formation of the Water Security Working Group.

Subsequently, a draft charge for the Water Security Working Group was drawn up for NDWAC's consideration, as follows: To provide recommendations to the full NDWAC to: (1) Identify and prioritize a suite of best security practices for water utilities to improve security; (2) propose incentives to help facilitate a broad and receptive response amongst the water sector to implement these best practices; and (3) recommend mechanisms to recognize and measure the implementation of these best security practices. Upon completion of the charge, the WSWG will make recommendations to the full NDWAC.

EPA is hereby giving notice that a NDWAC teleconference meeting has been scheduled to review and discuss the draft charge, and to decide on the

formation of the Water Security Working Group.

DATES: The conference call is scheduled to take place at 11 a.m., Eastern Time, on February 10, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Council members teleconference into Room 2123 of the EPA East Building, which is physically located at 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Interested participants from the public should contact Marc Santora, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, Water Security Division (Mail Code 4601-M), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, 20460. Please contact Marc Santora at santora.marc@epa.gov or call (202) 564-1597 to register and receive pertinent details such as the telephone number and extension to participate in the conference call.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council encourages the public's participation. A limited number of additional phone lines may be available for members of the public that are outside of the Washington, DC, metropolitan commuting area and are unable to attend in person. Any additional teleconferencing lines that are available will be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis by the Designated Federal Officer. To ensure adequate time for public involvement, oral statements will be limited to five minutes, and it is preferred that only one person present the statement on behalf of a group or organization. Any person who wishes to file a written statement can do so before or after a Council meeting. Written statements received prior to the meeting will be distributed to all members of the Council before any final discussion or vote is completed. Any statements received after the meeting will become part of the permanent meeting file and will be forwarded to the Council members for their information. Any person needing special accommodations at this meeting, including wheelchair access, should contact the Designated Federal Officer, at the number or e-mail listed under the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section, at least five business days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Dated: January 23, 2004.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,*Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.*

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7615-6]

Draft Toxicological Review of Dichlorobenzenes and Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) Summary for 1,2-DCB, 1,3-DCB and 1,4-DCB**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.**ACTION:** Notice of external peer-review panel meeting.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing an external peer-review panel meeting to review the external review draft documents entitled, "Toxicological Review of Dichlorobenzenes and IRIS Summary for 1,2-DCB, 1,3-DCB and 1,4-DCB" (NCEA-S-1618). The document was prepared by EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) of the Office of Research and Development. EPA will use comments and recommendations from the expert panel meeting to finalize the draft document.

DATES: The peer-review panel workshop will begin on Thursday, February 12, 2004, at 8 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. The 30-day public comment period begins January 30, 2004, and ends March 1, 2004. Technical comments must be postmarked by March 1, 2004.

ADDRESSES: The external peer-review panel meeting will be held at the Andrew W. Briedenbach Environmental Research Center, U.S. EPA, 26 W. Martin Luther King Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45268. Under an Interagency Agreement with EPA and the Department of Energy, the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) is organizing, convening, and conducting the peer-review panel meeting. To attend the meeting, register by February 5 by calling Ms. Rachel Smith, ORISE, PO Box 117, MS 17, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-0117; at 865-241-6428 or by facsimile at 865-241-3168. She may also be reached via e-mail at smithr@ornl.gov. Interested parties may also register online at: <http://www.ornl.gov/dichlorobenzenerreview>. Space is limited, and reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

The document is available primarily on the NCEA web site at www.epa.gov/ncea under the What's New and Publications menus. A limited number of paper copies are available by contacting the IRIS Hotline at 202-566-1676; facsimile: 202-566-1749. If you are requesting a paper copy, please provide your name, mailing address, and the document title and number, "Draft Toxicological Review of Dichlorobenzenes and IRIS Summary for 1,2-DCB, 1,3-DCB, and 1,4-DCB" (NCEA-S-1618). Copies are not available from ORISE. Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, by facsimile, or by hand delivery/courier. Please follow the detailed instructions as provided in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding registration and logistics should be directed to Ms. Rachel Smith, ORISE, PO Box 117, MS 17, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-0117; telephone: 865-241-6428; facsimile at 865-241-3168. She may also be reached via e-mail at smithr@orau.gov.

If you have questions about the document, contact Chandrika Moudgal, National Center for Environmental Assessment, U.S. EPA, 26 W. Martin Luther King Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45268; phone: 513-569-7078; facsimile: 513-569-7475; email: moudgal.chandrika@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Information on the Document

The draft report is a reassessment of the chronic health effects of dichlorobenzenes which were first entered into the IRIS data base in 1989 (1,2-DCB), 1990 (1,3-DCB), and 1994 (1,4-DCB). The report provides the scientific basis for deriving or not deriving an oral reference dose (RfD) and inhalation reference concentration (RfC) for the noncancer health risk from exposure to each of the three DCB isomers. A cancer assessment for each is also included in the draft report.

IRIS is a data base that contains scientific Agency consensus positions on potential adverse human health effects that may result from chronic (or lifetime) exposure to specific chemical substances found in the environment. The data base (available on the internet at <http://www.epa.gov/iris>) contains qualitative and quantitative health effects information for more than 500 chemical substances that may be used to support the first two steps (hazard identification and dose-response evaluation) of the risk assessment process. When supported by available data, the data base provides RfDs and

RfCs for chronic health effects, and oral slope factors and inhalation unit risks for carcinogenic effects. Combined with specific exposure information, government and private entities use IRIS to help characterize public health risks of chemical substances in a site-specific situation and thereby support risk management decisions designed to protect public health.

Dichlorobenzenes (CAS Nos. 95-50-1, 541-73-1, and 106-46-7) are produced in an isomeric mixture from the reaction of liquid benzene with chlorine gas in the presence of a catalyst at moderate temperature and atmospheric pressure. Individual isomers of Dichlorobenzene are used primarily as reactants in chemical synthesis, as process solvents, and as formulation solvents. 1,2-Dichlorobenzene is used in the production of 3,4-dichloroaniline, a base material for herbicides; as a solvent for waxes, gums, resins, tars, rubbers, oils, and asphalts; as an insecticide for termites and locust borers; as a degreasing agent for metals, leather, paper, dry-cleaning, bricks, upholstery, and wool; as an ingredient in metal polishes; in motor oil additive formulations; and in paints. 1,3-Dichlorobenzene is used in the production of herbicides, insecticides, pharmaceuticals, and dyes. 1,4-Dichlorobenzene is used as an air freshener, as a moth repellent in moth balls or crystals, and in other pesticide applications. 1,4-Dichlorobenzene is also used in the manufacture of 2,5-dichloroaniline and pharmaceuticals, polyphenylene sulfide resins, and in the control of mildew.

II. How To Submit Technical Comments

EPA has established an official public docket for this action under Docket ID No. ORD-2004-0002. The official public docket consists of the document referenced in this notice and a list of charge questions that have been submitted to the external peer reviewers. Both documents are available on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/>. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the appropriate docket identification number.

Submit your comments, identified by docket ID number ORD-2004-0002, online at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket> (EPA's preferred method); by e-mail to ord.docket@epa.gov; by mail to EPA Docket Center, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (mail code 2822T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; or by hand delivery or courier to EPA Docket Center, EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. Comments on a disk or CD-ROM should be formatted in Wordperfect or ASCII file, avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing in EPA's electronic public docket as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, confidential business information (CBI), or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

Dated: January 23, 2004.

Peter W. Preuss,

Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7615-7]

Proposed Administrative Settlement Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is proposing to enter into a *de minimis* settlement pursuant to section 122(g)(4) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. 9622(g)(4). This proposed settlement is intended to resolve the liability under CERCLA of Materia Medica, Inc., formerly known as Polysciences, Inc. ("Settling Party") for response costs incurred and to be incurred at the Malvern TCE Superfund Site, East Whiteland and Charlestown Townships, Chester County, Pennsylvania, relating to the Malvern TCE Superfund Site ("Site").

DATES: Comments must be provided on or before March 1, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Suzanne Canning, Docket Clerk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029, and should refer to the Malvern TCE Superfund Site, East Whiteland Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joan A. Johnson (3RC41), 215/814-2619, U.S.