Procedures for Submission

Similar to the process described in the January 9, 2002, **Federal Register**, submissions will be handled in a three-step process:

1. Submission Inventory: First, you should simply provide a list within 60 days of this notice briefly identifying all the information (studies, reports, articles, etc.) you wish to submit. The list should specify by name and CASRN (Chemical Abstract Service Registry Number) the chemical substance(s) to which the information pertains, state the type of assessment that is being addressed (e.g., carcinogenicity), and a brief description of information to be submitted for consideration. Where possible, documents should be listed in scientific citation format, that is, author(s), title, journal, and date. Your cover letter should state that the correspondence is an IRIS submission. Describe in general terms the purpose of the submission and include names, addresses, and telephone numbers of person(s) to contact for additional information. Mail two copies of the submission inventory to the IRIS Submission Desk, c/o ASRC, 6301 Ivy Lane, Suite 300, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Alternatively, you may submit the submission inventory and cover letter electronically to IRIS.desk@epa.gov. Electronic information must be submitted in WordPerfect format or as an ASCII file. Information also will be accepted on 3.5'' floppy disks. All information in electronic form must be identified as an IRIS submission.

2. EPA Replies to Submission Inventory: In the second step, EPA will compare the submission inventory to existing files and identify the information that should be submitted. This step will help prevent an influx of duplicative information. You will receive notification of whether full submission of the information is requested.

3. Full Submission of Selected Material: In the third step, you should submit the information indicated by EPA within 30 days of EPA's reply. Prompt response to EPA will ensure that your material can be considered in the assessment in a timely fashion. Submissions should include a cover letter addressing all of the points in Item 1 above. In addition, when you submit results of new health effects studies concerning existing substances on IRIS, you should include a specific explanation of how and why the study results could change the information in IRIS.

Please send two copies, at least one of which should be unbound, to the IRIS Submission Desk, as described in Item 1. The IRIS Submission Desk will acknowledge receipt of your information.

Confidential Business Information (CBI) should not be submitted to the IRIS Submission Desk. CBI material must be submitted to the appropriate EPA office via established procedures (see 40 CFR part 2, subpart B). If you believe that a CBI submission contains information with implications for IRIS, please note that in the cover letter accompanying the submission to the appropriate office.

You may also request to augment your submission with a scientific briefing to EPA staff. Such requests should be made directly to Amy Mills, IRIS Program Director (*see* **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Dated: January 30, 2003.

George W. Alapas,

Acting Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. 03–2768 Filed 2–4–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–7445–7]

Peer Consultation Workshop on a Proposed Asbestos Cancer Risk Assessment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a peer consultation workshop on a proposed asbestos cancer risk assessment methodology. The purpose of the workshop is to discuss the scientific merit of the proposed methodology developed for EPA by Dr. Wayne Berman and Dr. Kenny Crump. The proposed methodology distinguishes carcinogenic potency by asbestos fiber size and asbestos fiber type and advocates use of a new exposure index to characterize carcinogenic risk. Expert panelists will discuss many relevant technical issues at the workshop, and observers also will be invited to comment. A contractor will prepare a summary report documenting the discussions of the peer consultation workshop, and this report will be publicly available and become part of EPA's administrative record for IRIS. This meeting is being sponsored by EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response and by EPA's Office of Research and Development.

DATES: The workshop will be held on February 25–27, 2003. The workshop hours will be from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25; from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26; and from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Thursday, February 27. Observer comment periods are currently scheduled on Tuesday and Wednesday.

ADDRESSES: The peer consultation workshop will be held at the Westin St. Francis Hotel, 335 Powell Street, San Francisco, California. To attend the workshop as an observer, contact Eastern Research Group (ERG) either in writing, by electronic mail, or by telephone. ERG's contact information for this workshop is: Eastern Research Group, Conference Registration, 110 Hartwell Avenue, Lexington, MA 02421–3136; phone, 781–674–7374; fax: 781–674–2906; *meetings@erg.com*.

There is no charge for attending this workshop as an observer, but observers are encouraged to register early as the number of seats will be limited. Each registrant will receive a confirmation notice, a preliminary agenda, and a logistical fact sheet that contains directions to the meeting location. Copies of the proposed asbestos cancer risk assessment methodology can be obtained prior to the meeting from the EPA, OERR web page (*www.epa.gov.superfund*).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information, contact the RCRA/CERCLA Call Center at 800–424–9346 or TDD 800–553–7672 (hearing impaired). In the Washington, DC metropolitan area, call 703–412–9810 or TDD 703–412–3323. For more detailed technical information on this conference call Richard Troast (703–603–9019) Office of Emergency and Remedial Response, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, D.C. 20460–0002, Mail Code 5204G.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA's current assessment of asbestos toxicity is based primarily on an asbestos assessment completed in 1986, and EPA's assessment has not changed substantially since that time. The 1986 assessment considers all mineral forms of asbestos and all asbestos fiber sizes (*i.e.*, all fibers longer than 5 micrometers) to be of equal carcinogenic potency. However, since 1986, there have been substantial improvements in asbestos measurement techniques and in the understanding of how asbestos exposure contributes to disease. To incorporate the knowledge gained over the last 17 years into the agency's toxicity assessment for asbestos, EPA oversaw the development of a revised

methodology for conducting risk assessments of asbestos. The proposed risk assessment methodology distinguishes between fiber sizes and fiber types in estimating potential health risks related to asbestos exposure. EPA is convening this peer consultation workshop to seek input from a panel of experts on the scientific merit of the proposed methodology. The experts will include scientists with extensive expertise in relevant fields, such as biostatistics, fiber identification, inhalation toxicology, and carcinogenic mechanisms. The panelists will be asked to respond to several charge questions that address key issues in the proposed methodology, including interpretations of epidemiology and toxicology literature, the proposed exposure index, and general topics. The product of the peer consultation workshop will be a report that summarizes the panelists' and observers' comments, conclusions, and recommendations on the proposed methodology.

David Lopez,

Director, Region 3/8 Support Center, OERR.

[FR Doc. 03–2767 Filed 2–4–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP–2003–0012; FRL–7288–1]

Organophosphate Pesticide; Availability of Dicrotophos Interim Risk Management Decision Document

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of the interim risk management decision document for the organophosphate pesticide dicrotophos. This decision document has been developed as part of the public participation process that EPA and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are now using for involving the public in the reassessment of pesticide tolerances under the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), and the reregistration of individual organophosphate pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Parsons, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460–0001; telephone number: (703) 305–5776; e-mail address: *parsons.laura@epa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general, nevertheless, a wide range of stakeholders will be interested in obtaining the interim risk management decision document for dicrotophos, including environmental, human health, and agricultural advocates; the chemical industry; pesticide users; and members of the public interested in the use of pesticides on food. Since other entities also may be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. 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 Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?

1. *Docket*. EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket identification (ID) number OPP–2003–0012. The official public docket consists of the document specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received, and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. This docket facility is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The docket telephone number is (703) 305–5805.

2. *Electronic access*. You may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the ''**Federal Register**'' listings at *http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/*. An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, EPA Dockets. You may use EPA Dockets at *http://www.epa.gov/edocket/* to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B.1. Once in the system, select ''search,'' then key in the appropriate docket ID number.

For questions on the IRED in this document, contact the Chemical Review Manager listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

II. What Action is the Agency Taking?

EPA has assessed the risks of dicrotophos and reached an Interim Reregistration Eligibility Decision (IRED) for this organophosphate pesticide. Provided that risk mitigation measures are adopted, dicrotophos fits into its own risk cup — its individual, aggregate risks are within acceptable levels. A restricted use chemical used mainly to control insects on cotton, dicrotophos residues in food and drinking water do not pose risk concerns. There are no residential uses and therefore dicrotophos fits into its own risk cup. To reduce worker and ecological risks, dicrotophos may no longer be applied by aerial equipment, closed mixing/loading systems and closed cabs are required, and total seasonal maximum application is limited to 0.83 lb active ingredient and only 0.5 lb of this can be applied prior to August 1 of any year. Additionally, to ensure that dicrotophos use does not increase dramatically in the future, a production cap is required to limit production to an average of the annual amount produced in 1999, 2000 and 2001. These mitigation measures are expected to reduce, but not eliminate worker and ecological risks. These risks are offset by the benefit of dicrotophos to control certain insects in cotton.

The interim risk management decision document for dicrotophos was made through the organophosphate pesticide pilot public participation process, which increases transparency and maximizes stakeholder involvement in EPA's development of risk assessments and risk management decisions. The pilot public participation process was developed as part of the EPA-USDA Tolerance Reassessment Advisory Committee (TRAC), which was established in April 1998, as a subcommittee under the auspices of EPA's National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology. A goal of the pilot public participation process is to find a more effective way for the public to participate at critical junctures in the Agency's development of organophosphate pesticide risk assessments and risk management decisions. EPA and USDA began implementing this pilot process in August 1998, to increase transparency