

003), <http://www.epa.gov/sab/ecm02003.pdf>.

2. *Background:* The EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) implements numerous requirements within section 112 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) to protect the public and the environment from hazardous air pollutants (HAPs). The CAA list 188 HAPs and there are thousands of other potentially toxic chemicals that find their way into the environment. There are concerns for the potential human health risks associated with exposures to the large number of chemicals and sources and the complexity of effects, exposure scenarios, and mitigation practices which need to be addressed.

The EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) has developed an air toxics research strategy (ATRS) and an air toxics multi-year plan (MYP) in consultation with the OAR to address the scope and magnitude of air toxics research. The ATRS provides a framework and strategic principles as the basis for ORD's research directions and priorities. The MYP implements the framework by developing specific yearly performance goals and performance measures of research that must be achieved in order to meet regulatory-based long term goals in air toxics research. The research strategy and multi-year plan will be posted on the ORD Web site at a later date. Information on the general research planning process may be obtained at the following Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/ord/htm/researchstrategies.htm>; <http://www.epa.gov/osp/myp.htm>.

3. *Tentative Charge to the Review Panel.* Specific and detailed charge questions are still under development, but the charge will encompass sufficiency of the regulatory and research context, comprehensiveness of key questions, strategic principles and research needs in addressing the important research to be undertaken, appropriateness of grouping air toxics, appropriateness of long-term goals for the MYP and measurability of annual performance goals and measures to accomplish priority needs of the air program. The charge will be available at a later date on the SAB Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/sab.gov>.

4. *SAB Request for Nominations:* The EPA SAB is requesting nominations of individuals who are recognized, national-level experts in one or more of the following disciplines necessary to contribute to the charge questions to be addressed by the Review Panel for the review of the ATRS/MYP:

- (a) Emissions estimation;
- (b) Air quality modeling;

- (c) Exposure modeling related to air pollution;
- (d) Health effects of air pollutants;
- (e) Air pollution epidemiology;
- (f) Risk assessment of air pollutants;
- (g) Uncertainty analysis and statistical probability;
- (h) Pharmacokinetics/metabolism of air pollutants; and
- (i) Risk management/risk reduction of air pollutants

5. *Process and Deadline for Submitting Nominations:* Any interested persons or organization may nominate qualified individuals to add expertise to the Panel in the above areas. Nominations should be submitted in electronic format through the Form for Nominating Individuals to Panels of the EPA Science Advisory Board provided on the SAB Web site. The form can be accessed through a link on the blue navigation bar on the SAB Web site, <http://www.epa.gov/sab>. To be considered, all nominations must include the information required on that form.

Anyone who is unable to submit nominations using this form, and any questions concerning any aspects of the nomination process may contact Dr. James Rowe as indicated above in this FR notice. Nominations should be submitted in time to arrive no later than May 21, 2003.

The EPA Science Advisory Board will acknowledge receipt of the nomination and inform nominators of the panel selected. From the nominees identified by respondents to this **Federal Register** notice (termed the "Widecast"), SAB Staff will develop a smaller subset (known as the "Short List") for more detailed consideration. Criteria used by the SAB Staff in developing this Short List are given at the end of the following paragraph. The Short List will be posted on the SAB Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/sab>, and will include, for each candidate, the nominee's name and biosketch. Public comments will be accepted for 21 calendar days on the Short List. During this comment period, the public will be requested to provide information, analysis or other documentation that the SAB Staff should consider in evaluating candidates for the Panel.

For the EPA SAB, a balanced review panel (*i.e.*, committee, subcommittee, or panel) is characterized by inclusion of candidates who possess the necessary domains of knowledge, the relevant scientific perspectives (which, among other factors, can be influenced by work history and affiliation), and the collective breadth of experience to adequately address the charge. Public responses to the Short List candidates

will be considered in the selection of the panel, along with information provided by candidates and information gathered by EPA SAB Staff independently on the background of each candidate (*e.g.*, financial disclosure information and computer searches to evaluate a nominee's prior involvement with the topic under review). Specific criteria to be used in evaluating an individual subcommittee member include: (a) Scientific and/or technical expertise, knowledge, and experience (primary factors); (b) absence of financial conflicts of interest; (c) scientific credibility and impartiality; (d) availability and willingness to serve; and (e) ability to work constructively and effectively in committees.

Short List candidates will also be required to fill-out the "Confidential Financial Disclosure Form for Special Government Employees Serving on Federal Advisory Committees at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency" (EPA Form 3110-48). This confidential form, which is submitted by EPA SAB Members and Consultants, allows Government officials to determine whether there is a statutory conflict between that person's public responsibilities (which includes membership on an EPA Federal advisory committee) and private interests and activities, or the appearance of a lack of impartiality, as defined by Federal regulation. The form may be viewed and downloaded from the following URL address: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/epaform3110-48.pdf>. Subcommittee members will likely be asked to attend at least one public face-to-face meeting and several public conference call meetings over the anticipated course of the advisory activity.

Dated: April 25, 2003.

Angela Nugent,
Acting Office Director, EPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office.

[FR Doc. 03-10660 Filed 4-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRN-7490-7]

Workshop on Asbestos Mechanisms of Toxicity

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public workshop.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a workshop to address the mechanisms of asbestos toxicity and to review the most

recent state of science on asbestos. The purpose of the workshop is to discuss the molecular induction of asbestos related disease, lung/pleural pathogenesis, and the extrapolation of a dose response relationship. Expert panelists will discuss the following topic areas: Molecular, chemical and biochemical mechanisms of asbestos fiber toxicity; mechanisms of fiber-inducing lung and pleural disease; and exposure and dose response relationships. A summary report will be prepared documenting the discussions of the workshop, and this report will be publicly available and will support 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 June 12–13, 2003. The workshop hours will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, and from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Friday, June 13. Observers will be encouraged to submit comments on panel discussions currently scheduled on Thursday and Friday.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Chicago, Illinois. To attend the workshop as an observer, contact the MNG Center of SRA International (MNG) either in writing, by electronic mail, or by telephone. MNG's contact information for this workshop is: MNG Center, Asbestos Workshop Registration, 2801 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 100, Arlington, Virginia 22201. Phone Number: (703) 292-5939. E-mail: asbestosworkshop@sra.com. Web link: http://www.epa.gov/swerrims/asbestos_ws/index.htm.

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 presentation material can be obtained prior to the meeting from the EPA, Web page http://www.epa.gov/swerrims/asbestos_ws/index.htm.

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. 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 is interested in reviewing the most up-to-date peer review literature on the mechanisms of asbestos toxicity. The experts will include scientists with extensive expertise in relevant fields, such as mechanistic toxicology, pulmonology toxicology, and risk assessment. The panelists will be asked to respond to several questions that address key issues, including interpretations of epidemiology and toxicology literature, mechanistic toxicity and general topics. The product of the workshop will be a report that summarizes the panelists' and observers' comments, conclusions, and recommendations on the proposed methodology.

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 Anna Treinies (202-566-1039) Office of Emergency and Remedial Response, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460-0002, Mail Code 5103T.

Dated: April 24, 2003.

Devereaux Barnes,

*Director, Office of Program Management,
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency
Response.*

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BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-2003-0082; FRL-7301-4]

Difenzoquat, Diquat Dibromide; Notice of Closure for 2002 Tolerance Reassessment Decisions (TREDs)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the closure of the tolerance reassessment decisions for the chemical active ingredients difenzoquat and diquat dibromide. No adverse comments were received during the 30-day comment periods for the "Tolerance Reassessment Progress and Risk Mitigation Decision TRED for Difenzoquat" or the "Report of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) Tolerance Reassessment and Risk Management Decision TRED for Diquat Dibromide." Therefore, the TREDs for

these chemicals fulfill the requirements of FQPA and are considered closed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *For difenzoquat:* Tawanda Spears, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (703) 308-8050; fax number: (703) 308-8005; e-mail address: spears.tawanda@epa.gov.

For diquat dibromide: Tyler Lane, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (703) 305-2737; fax number: (703) 308-8005; e-mail address: lane.tyler@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general, and may be of particular interest to those persons who are or may be required to conduct testing of chemical substances under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), or the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Since other entities may also 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 persons 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-2003-0082. The official public docket consists of the documents 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