

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding information, registration, and logistics for the workshop should be directed to the SAIC conference coordinator listed in **ADDRESSES** above.

Additional questions regarding the workshop should be directed to Ms. Beth Hassett-Sipple, U.S. EPA, OAQPS, telephone: 919-541-4605; facsimile: 919-541-0237; e-mail: hassett-sipple.beth@epa.gov or Dr. Lori White, U.S. EPA, NCEA, telephone: 919-541-3146; facsimile: 919-541-1818; e-mail: white.lori@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Information About the Workshop**

The Agency's last review of the particulate matter (PM) national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) was completed in September 2006 with the promulgation of revisions to some aspects of the PM standards to provide requisite protection of public health and welfare (71 FR 61144). Initiating the next review of these standards at this time is consistent with the Clean Air Act's requirement that the Agency periodically review the latest scientific information and the standards. It is also consistent with the Agency's new NAAQS review process.¹ This workshop will provide an opportunity for external experts as well as EPA staff to highlight significant new and emerging PM research, and to make individual recommendations to the Agency regarding the design and scope of the review for the primary (health-based) PM standards² to ensure that it addresses key policy-relevant issues and considers the new science relevant to informing our understanding of these issues.

We intend that workshop discussions will build upon three prior publications or events:³

1. *Provisional Assessment of Recent Studies on Health Effects of Particulate Matter Exposure*. This assessment, which was completed by EPA's NCEA in July 2006, evaluated studies published too late for inclusion in the final PM criteria document in the last review.

2. *National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter: Final*

¹ For more information on the NAAQS review process, please see <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/>.

² A similar workshop to discuss planning for the review of the secondary (welfare-based) PM NAAQS will be held on July 16, 2007 in Research Triangle Park. Please see announcement elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**.

³ Please see <http://www.epa.gov/air/particlepollution/actions.html> to obtain a copy of the provisional science assessment, the notice of final rulemaking, and other related documents.

Rule (71 FR 61144, October 17, 2006). The preamble to the final rule included detailed discussions of policy-relevant issues central to the last review.

3. Materials from the December 2006 workshop entitled, "Interpretation of Epidemiologic Studies of Multi-pollutant Exposure and Health Effects." The workshop dealt with important issues relevant to this review, such as the interpretation and understanding of criteria air pollutant health effects analyses in population-level epidemiologic studies, with a focus on multi-pollutant exposures (71 FR 67566, November 22, 2006).

Workshop participants are encouraged to review each of these documents and/or supporting materials thoroughly before the meeting begins, as they provide important insights into new scientific advances and key policy-relevant questions.

Based in large part on the input received during this workshop, EPA intends to develop a draft integrated PM NAAQS review plan that will outline the schedule, process, and approaches for evaluating the relevant scientific information and addressing the key policy-relevant issues to be considered in this review. The Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) will be asked to conduct a consultation with the Agency on the draft integrated plan later this year, and the public will have the opportunity to comment on it as well. The final integrated plan will be used to frame each of the major elements of the PM review under the new NAAQS process: an integrated science assessment document, a risk/exposure assessment report, and a policy assessment to be published as an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR).

Dated: June 14, 2007.

P.W. Preuss,

Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-8329-1]

Oxides of Nitrogen and Sulfur (NO_x/SO_x) Secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) Workshop

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of workshop.

SUMMARY: The EPA is announcing that a workshop entitled "Oxides of Nitrogen

and Sulfur (NO_x/SO_x) Secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) Workshop" is being organized by EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA), Office of Research and Development and EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS), Office of Air and Radiation. The workshop will be held on July 17, 18 and 19, 2007 in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. The workshop will be open to attendance by interested public observers on a first-come, first-served basis up to the limits of available space.

DATES: The workshop entitled "Oxides of Nitrogen and Sulfur (NO_x/SO_x) Secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) Workshop" will be held on July 17, 18, and 19, 2007.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at the Carolina Inn in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. An EPA contractor, SAIC, is providing logistical support for the workshop. For further information on the workshop, contact Ms. Kristen Wheeler, SAIC Conference Coordinator, 11251 Roger Bacon Drive, Reston, VA 20190, telephone: 703-318-4535; facsimile: 703-318-4755; e-mail: wheelerkr@saic.com.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding information, registration, and logistics for the workshops should be directed to the SAIC Conference Coordinator listed in **ADDRESSES** above.

Additional questions regarding the secondary NO_x/SO_x NAAQS workshop should be directed to Dr. Tara Greaver, U.S. EPA, NCEA, telephone: 919-541-2435; facsimile: 919-541-1818; e-mail: greaver.tara@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Summary of Information About the Workshops**

The U.S. Clean Air Act requires that EPA carry out periodic reviews of the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for major "criteria" air pollutants and to revise the NAAQS for a given pollutant, as appropriate. The Agency is in the process of reviewing the secondary (welfare-based) NAAQS for Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x) and Sulfur Oxides (SO_x). EPA has recognized the merit of integrating the science assessment for these two pollutants, particularly for ecological and welfare effects, based on the important interrelationships for NO_x and SO_x in both their atmospheric chemistry and their effects on the environment. Therefore, EPA is conducting a joint

assessment of the secondary NAAQS for NO_x and SO_x.

As part of the NAAQS reviews, the National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) within EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) will assess newly available scientific information in Integrated Science Assessment (ISA) documents (formerly known as Air Quality Criteria Documents) that will be supported by more detailed and comprehensive annexes. The assessments in these documents are intended to provide the scientific bases for the reviews of the NAAQS. EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) will prepare risk and exposure assessment analyses, as appropriate, drawing upon the scientific evidence summarized in the ISA. Subsequently, the EPA expects to prepare a policy assessment, to be published as an advance notice of proposed rulemaking, that will discuss, in part, the findings of the science and risk/exposure assessments related to the adequacy of the standards and describe a range of options for revising or retaining the NAAQS.

EPA is holding this workshop to inform the Agency's assessment of the scientific evidence for the review of the secondary NAAQS for NO_x and SO_x. The workshop will address various issues involved in the preparation of the draft material for the ISA and annexes. This workshop is planned to help ensure that the ISA provides an up-to-date, state-of-the-art scientific basis for the review of the NAAQS. Workshop discussions will be focused on identifying and integrating scientific evidence that is relevant for future risk and exposure analyses to include in the ISA.

This workshop is being held in conjunction with a workshop entitled "Workshop to Discuss Policy-Relevant Science to Inform EPA's Integrated Plan for the Review of the Secondary Particulate Matter (PM) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)" (see accompanying Notice of Workshop).

Dated: June 14, 2007.

Peter W. Preuss,

Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-8329-2]

Workshop To Discuss Policy-Relevant Science To Inform EPA's Integrated Plan for the Review of the Secondary Particulate Matter (PM) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of workshop.

SUMMARY: The EPA is announcing that a workshop entitled "Workshop to Discuss Policy-Relevant Science to Inform EPA's Integrated Plan for the Review of the Secondary Particulate Matter (PM) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)" is being organized by EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA), Office of Research and Development and EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS), Office of Air and Radiation. The workshop will be held on July 16, 2007 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina and will be open to attendance by interested public observers on a first-come, first-served basis up to the limits of available space.

DATES: The workshop entitled "Workshop to Discuss Policy-Relevant Science to Inform EPA's Integrated Plan for the Review of the Secondary Particulate Matter (PM) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)" will be held on July 16, 2007.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at the Carolina Inn in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. An EPA contractor, SAIC, is providing logistical support for the workshop. For further information on the workshop, contact Ms. Kristen Wheeler, SAIC Conference Coordinator, 11251 Roger Bacon Drive, Reston, VA 20190, telephone: 703-318-4535; facsimile: 703-318-4755; e-mail: wheelerkr@saic.com.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding information, registration, and logistics for the workshops should be directed to the SAIC Conference Coordinator listed in **ADDRESSES** above.

Additional questions regarding the secondary PM NAAQS workshop should be directed to Dr. Paul Wagner, U.S. EPA, NCEA, telephone: 919-541-2255; facsimile: 919-541-0237; e-mail: wagner.paulf@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Summary of Information About the Workshops

The U.S. Clean Air Act requires that EPA carry out periodic reviews of the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for major "criteria" air pollutants and to revise the NAAQS for a given pollutant, as appropriate. The Agency's last review of the PM NAAQS was completed in September 2006 with the promulgation of revisions to some aspects of the PM standards to provide requisite protection of public health and welfare (71 FR 61144, October 17, 2006). Initiating the next review of these standards at this time is consistent with the Clean Air Act's requirement that the Agency periodically review the latest scientific information and the standards. It is also consistent with the Agency's new NAAQS review process. For more information on the NAAQS review process, please see <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/>.

The workshop will provide an opportunity for external experts as well as EPA staff to highlight significant new and emerging research, and to make individual recommendations to the Agency regarding the design and scope of the review for the secondary (welfare-based) PM standards to ensure it addresses key policy-relevant issues and considers the new science relevant to informing our understanding of these issues. A similar workshop to discuss planning for the review of the primary (health-based) PM NAAQS will be held on July 11, 12, and 13, 2007 in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Please see the announcement elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**.

Based in large part on the input received during the primary and secondary PM workshops, EPA intends to develop a draft integrated PM NAAQS review plan that will outline the schedule, process, and approaches for evaluating the relevant scientific information and addressing the key policy-relevant issues to be considered in this review. The Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) will be asked to conduct a consultation with the Agency on the draft integrated plan later this year, and the public will have the opportunity to comment on the draft integrated plan as well. The final integrated plan will be used to frame each of the major elements of the PM review under the new NAAQS process: An integrated science assessment document, a risk/exposure assessment report, and a policy assessment to be published as an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR).