

order to have the collective breadth of experience needed to address the Agency's charge for this meeting, the Agency anticipates selecting approximately 12 *ad hoc* scientists.

If a prospective candidate for service on FIFRA SAP is considered for participation in a particular session, the candidate is subject to the provisions of 5 CFR part 2634, Executive Branch Financial Disclosure, as supplemented by EPA in 5 CFR part 6401. As such, the FIFRA SAP candidate is required to submit a Confidential Financial Disclosure Form for Special Government Employees Serving on Federal Advisory Committees at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA Form 3110-485-02) which shall fully disclose, among other financial interests, the candidate's employment, stocks and bonds, and where applicable, sources of research support. The EPA will evaluate the candidate's financial disclosure form to assess that there are no financial conflicts of interest, no appearance of lack of impartiality, and no prior involvement with the development of the documents under consideration (including previous scientific peer review) before the candidate is considered further for service on FIFRA SAP.

Those who are selected from the pool of prospective candidates will be asked to attend the public meetings and to participate in the discussion of key issues and assumptions at these meetings. In addition, they will be asked to review and to help finalize the meeting minutes. The list of FIFRA SAP members participating at this meeting will be posted on the FIFRA SAP website or may be obtained by contacting PIRIB at the address or telephone number listed under **ADDRESSES**.

II. Background

A. Purpose of the FIFRA SAP

Amendments to FIFRA enacted November 28, 1975 (7 U.S.C. 136w(d)), include a requirement under section 25(d) of FIFRA that notices of intent to cancel or reclassify pesticide regulations pursuant to section 6(b)(2) of FIFRA, as well as proposed and final forms of rulemaking pursuant to section 25(a) of FIFRA, be submitted to a SAP prior to being made public or issued to a registrant. In accordance with section 25(d) of FIFRA, the FIFRA SAP is to have an opportunity to comment on the health and environmental impact of such actions. The FIFRA SAP also shall make comments, evaluations, and recommendations for operating guidelines to improve the effectiveness

and quality of analyses made by Agency scientists. Members are scientists who have sufficient professional qualifications, including training and experience, to be capable of providing expert comments as to the impact on health and the environment of regulatory actions under sections 6(b) and 25(a) of FIFRA. The Deputy Administrator appoints seven individuals to serve on the FIFRA SAP for staggered terms of 4 years, based on recommendations from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation.

Section 104 of FQPA (Public Law 104-170) established the FQPA Science Review Board (SRB). These scientists shall be available to the FIFRA SAP on an *ad hoc* basis to assist in reviews conducted by the FIFRA SAP.

B. Public Meeting

The FIFRA SAP will meet to consider and review an analysis of a natural refuge of non-cotton hosts for Monsanto Bollgard II® cotton. Specifically, the Agency is seeking input from the Scientific Advisory Panel on whether a natural refuge of non-cotton hosts is an effective refuge to delay the potential for tobacco budworm resistance to the proteins (Cry1Ac and Cry2Ab2) expressed in Bollgard II® cotton. Monsanto Company has submitted an application for the extension of the FIFRA section 3 registration of the plant-incorporated protectants (PIP) *Bacillus thuringiensis* Cry2Ab2 protein and the genetic material necessary for its production PV-GHBK11 in event MON 15985 cotton and *Bacillus thuringiensis* Cry1Ac protein and the genetic material necessary for its production PV-GHBK04 in event MON 15985 cotton. This product is intended to provide protection against tobacco budworm, cotton bollworm, pink bollworm, loopers, armyworms, and other lepidopteran pests. The data submitted include the productivity of tobacco budworm on each alternative host, timing and synchrony of production on each alternative host, the spatial and temporal scale of alternative hosts, and modeling efforts to simulate the likelihood of resistance under different regional scenarios.

C. FIFRA SAP Documents and Meeting Minutes

EPA's position paper, charge/questions to FIFRA SAP, FIFRA SAP composition (i.e., members and consultants for this meeting), and the meeting agenda will be available by mid May 2006. In addition, the Agency may provide additional background documents as the materials become

available. You may obtain electronic copies of these documents, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the regulations.gov website and the FIFRA SAP homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/scipoly/sap>.

The FIFRA SAP will prepare meeting minutes summarizing its recommendations to the Agency in approximately (90) days after the meeting. The meeting minutes will be posted on the FIFRA SAP website or may be obtained by contacting the PIRIB at the address or telephone number listed under **ADDRESSES**.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: March 24, 2006.

Clifford Gabriel,

Director, Office of Science Coordination and Policy.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-8051-4]

National Drinking Water Advisory Council's Working Group on Public Education Requirements of the Lead and Copper Rule Meeting Announcement

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the fourth public meeting of the Working Group of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) on the Public Education Requirements of the Lead and Copper Rule (WGPE). The purpose of this meeting is to provide an opportunity for the WGPE members to continue discussions on the public education requirements of the Lead and Copper Rule.

DATES: The fourth meeting of the WGPE will be held in Washington, DC, on April 19, 2006, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and April 20, 2006, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The WGPE meeting will take place at RESOLVE, Inc., 1255 23rd St., NW., Suite 275, Washington, DC 20037.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Interested participants from the public should contact Elizabeth McDermott, Designated Federal Officer, National

Drinking Water Advisory Council Working Group on Public Education, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, Drinking Water Protection Division (Mail Code 4606M), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460. Please contact Elizabeth McDermott at mcdermott.elizabeth@epa.gov or call 202-564-1603 to receive additional details.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The charge for the Working Group on the Public Education Requirements of the Lead and Copper Rule (WGPE) is to (1) Review the current public education requirements on lead in drinking water to find and define the need for improvements and make recommendations to the full NDWAC accordingly; (2) develop language for communicating the risk of lead in drinking water and a suggested response to the public; and (3) define the delivery means to the public. The NDWAC established a target date of May 2006 to complete these tasks. The WGPE is comprised of 16 members from drinking water industries, stakeholder organizations, State and local officials, public health officials, environmental organizations, and risk communication experts.

Public Comment: An opportunity for public comment will be provided during the WGPE meeting. Oral statements will be limited to five minutes; it is preferred that only one person present the statement on behalf of a group or organization. Written comments may be provided at the meeting or may be sent by mail to Elizabeth McDermott, Designated Federal Officer for the WGPE, at the mail or e-mail address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

Special Accommodations: For information on access or services for individuals with disabilities, please contact Elizabeth McDermott at 202-564-1603 or mcdermott.elizabeth@epa.gov. To request accommodation of a disability, please contact Elizabeth McDermott, preferably at least 10 days prior to the meeting, to give EPA as much time as possible to process your request.

Dated: March 24, 2006.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-8052-5; Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2006-0223]

Considerations for Developing Alternative Health Risk Assessment Approaches for Addressing Multiple Chemicals, Exposures and Effects; External Review Draft

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public comment period.

SUMMARY: EPA is announcing a 45-day public comment period for the draft document titled, "Considerations for Developing Alternative Health Risk Assessment Approaches for Addressing Multiple Chemicals, Exposures and Effects" (EPA/600/R-06/013A). The draft document was prepared by the National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) within EPA's Office of Research and Development.

EPA is releasing this draft document solely for the purpose of pre-dissemination peer review under applicable information quality guidelines. This document has not been formally disseminated by EPA. It does not represent and should not be construed to represent any Agency policy or determination. EPA will consider any public comments submitted in accordance with this notice when revising the document.

DATES: The 45-day public comment period begins March 31, 2006, and ends May 15, 2006. Technical comments should be in writing and must be received by EPA by May 15, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The draft document, "Considerations for Developing Alternative Health Risk Assessment Approaches for Addressing Multiple Chemicals, Exposures and Effects," is available primarily via the Internet on the NCEA home page under the Recent Additions and the Data and Publications menus at <http://www.epa.gov/ncea>.

A limited number of paper copies are available from Ms. Donna Tucker, Technical Information Manager, NCEA-Cincinnati; telephone: 513-569-7257; facsimile: 513-569-7916; e-mail: tucker.donna@epa.gov. If you are requesting a paper copy, please provide your name, your mailing address, and the document title, "Considerations for Developing Alternative Health Risk Assessment Approaches for Addressing Multiple Chemicals, Exposures and Effects," and its EPA publication number, EPA/600/R-06/013A.

Comments may be submitted electronically via <http://>

www.regulations.gov, by mail, by facsimile, or by hand delivery/courier. Please follow the detailed instructions provided in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the public comment period, contact the Office of Environmental Information Docket; telephone: 202-566-1752; facsimile: 202-566-1753; or e-mail: ORD.Docket@epa.gov.

For technical information, contact Linda K. Teuschler, NCEA-Cincinnati; telephone: 513-569-7573; facsimile: 513-487-2539; or e-mail: teuschler.linda@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Information About the Document

In EPA's 2003 "Framework for Cumulative Risk Assessment," cumulative risk assessment is defined as the evaluation of risks from exposures to multiple chemicals and other stressors, and having a population focus rather than a source-to-receptor focus. Several reports and environmental justice concerns published over the past 11 years have highlighted the importance of estimating cumulative risks. EPA has published several guidance documents dealing with specific aspects of cumulative risk, such as chemical mixture risk assessment, planning and scoping, stakeholder involvement, and the toxicity from a mixture of pesticides sharing a common mode of action. This draft document is one contribution to EPA's efforts to address issues related to cumulative health risk assessment.

Existing EPA guidance addresses some of the combination aspects of cumulative risk, but none addresses all of the multiples included in this report, such as consideration of the composite impact of multiple health effects. Among the distinctive new approaches are those for grouping chemicals based on exposure characteristics and toxic endpoints, multi-route combination of relative potency factors, integration of categorical regression modeling of multiple effects with additivity approaches, and the emphasis on the iteration and collaboration between exposure assessment and dose-response assessment to ensure compatible and relevant information. Major findings and conclusions in this document are as follows:

- This draft report provides a set of approaches that deal with certain complications in cumulative risk assessment, specifically those caused by multiple chemicals, exposures and effects, including toxicological interactions and environmental