

found on the SAB's Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/ec0210.pdf>. The Panel will hold a two-day meeting to review the CrEAM.

Tentative Charge to the Panel: EPA is seeking comment on the scientific validity of the conceptual framework and methodology used to identify ecologically significant ecosystems and on the scientific defensibility of the results generated from CrEAM queries. Specifically, EPA seeks advice from the panel on: (1) The appropriateness of the term "ecological significance" as defined in the CrEAM; (2) the scientific validity of the use of the selected data sets and indicators to generate ratings of ecological significance; (3) the scientific validity of nesting and compositing of multiple indicator data sets to rate ecosystems; (4) relevant data sets consistently collected across the 6-state Region that should have been used but were not; and (5) the scientific and technical sufficiency of CrEAM queries for use in strategic planning and priority setting.

Request for Nominations: The SAB Staff Office is requesting nominations to add expertise to the Ecological Processes and Effects Committee to form an SAB panel to review the CrEAM. To supplement expertise on the Ecological Processes and Effects Committee, the SAB Staff Office is seeking individuals who have expertise in ecology and the use of geographic information system technology to evaluate data and conduct landscape scale analyses.

Process and Deadline for Submitting Nominations: Any interested person or organization may nominate individuals qualified in the areas of expertise described above to serve on the Subcommittee. 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, <http://www.epa.gov/sab>. The form can be accessed through a link on the blue navigational 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 the DFO, as indicated above in this notice. Nominations should be submitted in time to arrive no later than May 12, 2004. Any questions concerning either this process or any other aspects of this notice should be directed to the DFO.

The SAB 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 on the Short List will be accepted for 21 calendar days. During this comment period, the public will be requested to provide information, analysis or other documentation on nominees that the SAB Staff should consider in evaluating candidates for the Panel.

For the 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 SAB Staff independently of 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 evaluation of 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 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: [\[www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/epaform3110-48.pdf\]\(http://www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/epaform3110-48.pdf\).](http://</p></div><div data-bbox=)

In addition to reviewing background material, Panel members will be asked to attend one public face-to-face meeting over the anticipated course of the advisory activity.

Dated: April 15, 2004.

Vanessa T. Vu,

Director, EPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office.

[FR Doc. 04-9047 Filed 4-20-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7650-7]

Science Advisory Board Staff Office; Request for Nominations for the Science Advisory Board Formaldehyde Review Panel

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office announces the formation of a new SAB review panel known as the Formaldehyde Review Panel (FRP), and is soliciting nominations for members of the Panel.

DATES: Nominations should be submitted by May 12, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any member of the public requiring further information regarding this Request for Nominations, or a paper nomination form, may contact Dr. Suhair Shallal, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), by telephone/voice mail at (202) 343-9977, via e-mail at shallal.suhair@epa.gov, or at the following address: Suhair Shallal, PhD., Science Advisory Board Staff Office, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Mail Code 1400F), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460. General information about the SAB can be found in the SAB Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The EPA SAB Staff Office is announcing the formation of a new review panel and soliciting nominations for members of the panel. This panel is being formed to help provide advice to the Agency, as part of the SAB's mission, established by 42 U.S.C. 4365, to provide independent scientific and technical advice, consultation, and recommendations to the EPA Administrator on the technical bases for EPA policies and regulations. The work of this panel is expected to continue until the review is complete. The SAB

is a chartered Federal Advisory Committee that reports directly to the Administrator. The FRP will provide advice through the chartered SAB. The FRP will comply with the openness provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and all appropriate SAB procedural policies, including the SAB process for panel formation described in the Overview of the Panel Formation Process at the Environmental Protection Agency, Science Advisory Board (EPA-SAB-EC-COM-02-010), <http://www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/ecm02010.pdf>.

EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) had requested that the SAB conduct a peer review of the set of three toxicological reviews including: formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, and vinyl acetate. All three of these documents were to be reviewed simultaneously. Accordingly, the SAB Staff Office announced in a **Federal Register** notice dated March 4, 2003 (68 FR10241) the formation of a SAB Review Panel (Formaldehyde, Acetaldehyde, and Vinyl Acetate Toxicological Reviews panel) and sought public nomination of experts to serve on the panel. At this time, NCEA has requested that the SAB conduct a peer review of the Formaldehyde Toxicological Review document first. The Acetaldehyde and Vinyl Acetate Toxicological Reviews will be peer reviewed at a later date. Formaldehyde is listed as a hazardous air pollutant (HAPs) on the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and is associated with significant ambient exposures. The SAB is being asked to conduct this review because of its previous review of the draft formaldehyde risk assessment update (EPA-SAB-EHC-92-021), the precedent setting nature of the assessment using mode of action and biologically based models, and the high priority with respect to programmatic relevance of this document.

The overall charge to the FRP is to review the Formaldehyde Toxicological Review for consistency in application of the Agency's proposed revised cancer guidelines and principles of mode-of-action modeling, with special emphasis on: (a) Weight-of-the-evidence issues to identify key events; (b) the use of pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic data; (c) motivation for dose surrogate and effect measures; (d) model structures for interspecies dosimetric adjustment; (e) model structures or dose-response analysis; (f) data-derived uncertainty factors for interspecies and intrahuman variability; and (g) leveraging of data on critical health effects and model structure sharing between routes and across chemically-

related compounds to help inform alignment of the estimates.

SAB Request for Nominations: The SAB Staff Office is requesting nominations of recognized experts with one or more of the following expertise: (a) Inhalation dosimetry modeling (*e.g.*, computational fluid dynamics (CFD) modeling), (b) physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modeling, (c) biologically-based dose-response (BBDR) modeling for cancer, (d) epidemiology including exposure reconstruction, (e) biochemistry, (f) inhalation toxicology and respiratory physiology, (g) gastrointestinal tract toxicology and physiology, (h) pathology, (i) carcinogenesis including leukemia, (j) respiratory biology and immunology, (k) toxicology (including, genetic, reproductive, developmental), (l) quantitative risk assessment, and (m) biostatistics and mathematical modeling.

Process and Deadline for Submitting Nominations: Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals to serve as panel members in the areas described above. Nominations should be submitted in electronic format through the Form for Nominating Individuals to Panels of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Science Advisory Board provided on the SAB Web site. The form can be accessed through a link on the blue navigational bar of the SAB Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>. To be considered, all nominations should include the information requested on that form. Anyone who is unable to access nominations on the SAB Web site can obtain a paper copy of the form by contacting the DFO, as indicated above. The nominating form requests the following: (1) Contact information about the person making the nomination; (2) contact information about the nominee; (3) the disciplinary and specific areas of expertise of the nominee; (4) the nominee's resume; and (5) a general biosketch of the nominee indicating education, expertise, past research, recent service on other advisory committees or with professional associations, and recent grant and/or contract support. Nominations should be submitted in time to arrive no later than May 12, 2004. From the nominees identified by respondents to this notice and through other sources (termed the "Widecast"), the SAB Staff Office will develop a smaller subset (known as the "Short List") for more detailed consideration. Criteria used by the SAB Staff Office in developing this Short List are given at the end of the following paragraph. The SAB Staff Office will contact individuals who are considered

for inclusion in the Short List to determine whether they are willing to serve on the Panel. 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 their biosketch. The Short List also will be available from the DFO listed above. Public comments will be accepted for 14 calendar days on the Short List. During this comment period, the public will be requested to provide information, analysis or other documentation on nominees that the SAB Staff Office should consider in evaluating candidates for the Panel. For the SAB, a balanced 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 members, along with information provided by candidates and information gathered by SAB Staff Office 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 individual nominees 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 panels. Those Short List candidates ultimately chosen to serve on the Panel will be appointed as Special Government Employees (SGEs). Therefore, all Short List candidates will 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 allows Government officials to determine whether there is a statutory conflict between that person's public responsibilities as an SGE 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 SAB Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/epaform3110-48.pdf>.

Dated: April 15, 2004.

Vanessa T. Vu,

Director, EPA Science Advisory Board Staff
Office.

[FR Doc. 04-9045 Filed 4-20-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPT-2002-0001; FRL-7356-9]

National Pollution Prevention and Toxics Advisory Committee; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2 (Public Law 92-463), EPA gives notice of a 1 day meeting of the National Pollution Prevention and Toxics Advisory Committee (NPPTAC). The purpose of the NPPTAC is to provide advice and recommendations to EPA regarding the overall policy and operations of the programs of the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT).

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 13, 2004, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m..

Registration to attend the meeting, identified by docket ID number OPPT-2002-0001, must be received on or before May 7, 2004. Registration will also be accepted at the meeting.

Requests to provide oral comments at the meeting, identified as NPPTAC May 2004 meeting, must be received in writing on or before April 27, 2004.

Written comments, identified as NPPTAC May 2004 meeting, may be submitted at any time. Written comments received on or before April 27, 2004, will be forwarded to the NPPTAC members prior to or at the meeting.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hilton—Silver Spring, 8727 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

For address information concerning registration, the submission of written comments, and requests to present oral comments, refer to Unit I. of the

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information contact: Colby Lintner, Regulatory Coordinator, Environmental Assistance Division (7408M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone

number: (202) 554-1404; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

For technical information contact: Mary Hanley (7401M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 564-9891; e-mail address: npptac.oppt@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 have an interest in or may be required to manage pollution prevention and toxic chemical programs, individuals, groups concerned with environmental justice, children's health, or animal welfare, as they relate to OPPT's programs under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and the Pollution Prevention Act (PPA). Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be interested in the activities of the NPPTAC. 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 OPPT-2002-0001. 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 EPA Docket Center, Rm. B102—Reading Room, EPA West, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. EPA's Docket Center Reading Room telephone number is (202) 566-1744 and the telephone number for the OPPT Docket, which is located in EPA Docket Center, is (202) 566-0280.

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.

C. How and to Whom Do I Submit Comments?

You may submit comments electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, identify the docket ID number OPPT-2002-0001, NPPTAC May 2004 meeting in the subject line on the first page of your comment.

1. *By mail:* OPPT Document Control Office, Environmental Protection Agency, 7407M, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001.

2. *Electronically:* At <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/>, search for OPPT-2002-0001, and follow the directions to submit comments.

3. *Hand delivery/courier:* OPPT Document Control Office in EPA East Bldg., Rm. M6428, 1201 Constitution Ave., Washington, DC.

II. Background

The proposed agenda for the NPPTAC meeting includes: The High Production Volume Challenge Program; Pollution Prevention, Risk Assessment; Risk Management; Risk Communication, and coordination with Tribes and other stakeholders. The meeting is open to the public.

III. How Can I Participate in this Meeting?

You may participate in this meeting by following the instructions in this unit. Please note that registration will assist in planning adequate seating; however, members of the public can register the day of the meeting. Therefore, all seating will be available on a first come, first serve basis.

1. *To register to attend the meeting.* Pre-registration for the May 2004 NPPTAC meeting and requests for special accommodations may be made by visiting the NPPTAC web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/oppt/npptac/>