

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7520-4]

Meeting of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC)**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of Public Law 92-423, "The Federal Advisory Committee Act," notice is hereby given of the forthcoming conference call meeting of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (Council), established under the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 300f *et seq.*). The Council will discuss follow-up actions relating to a report presented at the May 2003 meeting by NDWAC's work group on Affordability. The Council will determine whether it will make specific recommendations to EPA relating to the Affordability report. This is a follow-up conference call to the conference call held on June 20, 2003.

DATES: The Council meeting will be held on July 10, 2003, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: Council members teleconference into Room 2123 of the EPA East Building, which is physically located at 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Members of the public that would like to attend the meeting, present an oral statement, submit a written statement in advance, or make arrangements to teleconference call into the meeting should contact Brenda Johnson, Designated Federal Officer, National Drinking Water Advisory Council, by July 3, 2003. Ms. Johnson can be reached at (202) 564-3791, by e-mail at johnson.brendap@epa.gov, or by regular mail at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (M/C 4601M), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council encourages the public's input and will allocate 30 minutes for this purpose. A limited number of additional phone lines may be available for members of the public that are outside of the Washington, DC, metropolitan commuting area and are unable to attend in person. Any additional teleconferencing lines that are available will be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis by the Designated Federal Officer. To ensure adequate time for public involvement, oral statements will

be limited to five minutes, and it is preferred that only one person present the statement on behalf of a group or organization. Any person who wishes to file a written statement can do so before or after a Council meeting. Written statements received prior to the meeting will be distributed to all members of the Council before any final discussion or vote is completed. Any statements received after the meeting will become part of the permanent meeting file and will be forwarded to the Council members for their information. Any person needing special accommodations at this meeting, including wheelchair access, should contact the Designated Federal Officer, at the number or e-mail listed under the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section, at least five business days before the meeting so that the appropriate arrangements can be made.

Nanci Gelb,*Acting Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.*

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BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[OEI-2003-0032; FRL-7520-2]

A Summary of General Assessment Factors for Evaluating the Quality of Scientific and Technical Information**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the availability of the final *A Summary of General Assessment Factors for Evaluating the Quality of Scientific and Technical Information* (EPA 100/B-03/001; herein after referred to as the "Assessment Factors Document").

DATES: EPA is making the document available July 1, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The "Assessment Factors Document" is available at the EPA web site at the following web pages: http://www.epa.gov/oei/qualityguidelines/af_home.htm, <http://www.epa.gov/osp/spc/2polprog.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Greg Schweer, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (7405M), telephone number: (202) 564-8469; fax number: (202) 564-4765 or Halûk Özkaynak, Office of Research and Development (8601-D), telephone number (202) 564-1531, fax number (202) 564-0061, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; e-

mail address:

assessment.factors@epa.gov.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****What is the EPA "Assessment Factors Document"?**

The "Assessment Factors Document" was prepared under the auspices of the EPA Science Policy Council (SPC) to describe the assessment factors and considerations generally used by the Agency to evaluate the quality and relevance of scientific and technical information. These general assessment factors are founded in the Agency guidelines, practices and procedures that make up the EPA information and quality systems, including existing program-specific quality assurance policies. As such, the general assessment factors do not constitute new quality-related considerations, nor does this document describe a new process for evaluating information. The "Assessment Factors Document" is intended to raise the awareness of the information-generating public about EPA's ongoing interest in ensuring and enhancing the quality of information available for Agency use. Further, the "Assessment Factors Document" complements the *Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the Environmental Protection Agency* (EPA/260/R-02-008). The Information Quality Guidelines are also available via internet at: <http://www.epa.gov/oei/qualityguidelines>.

Consistent with the Agency's approach to the development of the EPA Information Quality Guidelines, this document is the product of an open, collaborative process between EPA and the public. During the development of this document, EPA requested public input in a variety of ways. EPA distributed a draft document for public comment in September 2002 and hosted a public meeting in Washington, DC. In January 2003, EPA commissioned the National Academy of Sciences to host a workshop to discuss key aspects of this document from a scientific and technical perspective. EPA revised this document based on the input received through these public outreach opportunities.

How Can I Get Copies of the "Assessment Factors Document"?

You may access the EPA "Assessment Factors Document" and other information related to this notice electronically at the following web pages: http://www.epa.gov/oei/qualityguidelines/af_home.htm and