

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy****Notice of Open Meeting****AGENCY:** Department of Energy.**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the State Energy Advisory Board (STEAB). Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463; 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: November 21, 2002 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and November 22, 2002 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

ADDRESSES: The Madison Hotel, Fifteenth and M Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William J. Raup, Office of Planning, Budget, and Outreach, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Washington, DC 20585, Telephone 202/586-2214.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: To make recommendations to the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy regarding goals and objectives and programmatic and administrative policies, and to otherwise carry out the Board's responsibilities as designated in the State Energy Efficiency Programs Improvement Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-440).

Tentative Agenda:

- STEAB Committee updates
 - STEAB Annual Report Kickoff
 - EERE State Success Stories
 - Discussion Sessions with the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, USDOE Staff
- Legislation
- Update on Current Energy
 - Public Comment Period

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact William J. Raup at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests to make oral presentations must be received five days prior to the meeting; reasonable provision will be made to include the statements in the agenda. The Chair of the Board is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting will be available for public review and

copying within 30 days at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC, on October 21, 2002.

Rachel Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-27331 Filed 10-25-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**[FRL-7400-6]****Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program; Petition for Objection to State Operating Permit for the Borden Chemical, Inc. Formaldehyde Plant Geismar, Ascension Parish, LA**

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of final order on petition to object to state operating permit.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the EPA Administrator has denied the petition to object to a state operating permit issued by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) for Borden Chemical, Inc.'s formaldehyde plant in Geismar, Louisiana. Pursuant to section 505(b)(2) of the Clean Air Act (Act), the petitioner may seek judicial review of this petition response in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Any petition must be filed within 60 days of the date this notice appears in the **Federal Register**, pursuant to section 307(d) of the Act.

ADDRESSES: You may review copies of the final order, the petition, and other supporting information at the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733. If you wish to examine these documents, you should make an appointment at least 24 hours before visiting day. The final order is also available electronically at the following address: <http://www.epa.gov/region07/programs/artd/air/title5/petitiondb/petitiondb2001.htm>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bonnie Braganza, Air Permitting Section, Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733, telephone (214) 665-7340 or e-mail at braganza.bonnie@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Clean Air Act (Act) affords EPA a 45-day period to review, and object to as appropriate, operating permits proposed by state permitting authorities. Section 505(b)(2) of the Act authorizes any person to petition the EPA Administrator within 60 days after the expiration of this review period to object to State operating permits if EPA has not done so. Petitions must be based only on objections to the permit that were raised with reasonable specificity during the public comment period provided by the State, unless the petitioner demonstrates that it was impracticable to raise these issues during the comment period or the grounds for the issues arose after this period.

The Louisiana Environmental Action Network submitted a petition to the Administrator on January 2, 2001, requesting that EPA object to the modified title V operating permit issued for Borden Chemical, Inc.'s formaldehyde plant in Geismar, Louisiana. The petition objects to issuance of the proposed permit on the following grounds: (1) The emission reductions relied upon to avoid designation as a major modification are not real, actual, or allowable under Federal law and regulations; (2) nonattainment new source review applies because the emission reductions were not surplus under Louisiana regulations; (3) Borden should not be rewarded for violating the Clean Air Act, and the modified permit is contrary to EPA policy and the intent of the Act; and (4) a new facility in the Baton Rouge nonattainment area will not provide sufficient reductions to achieve the ozone standard.

On September 30, 2002, the Administrator issued an order denying the petition. The order explains the reasons for the Administrator's decision.

Dated: October 19, 2002.

Gregg A. Cooke,

Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 02-27339 Filed 10-25-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**[CO-001-0071; FRL-7400-8]****Adequacy Status of the Lamar and Steamboat Springs, CO PM₁₀ Maintenance Plans for Transportation Conformity Purposes**

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of adequacy.

SUMMARY: In this document, EPA is notifying the public that we have found that the motor vehicle emissions budgets in the Lamar and Steamboat Springs, Colorado particulate matter of 10 micrograms in size or smaller (PM₁₀) maintenance plans submitted on July 31, 2002, are adequate for conformity purposes. On March 2, 1999, the DC Circuit Court ruled that budgets in submitted State Implementation Plans (SIPs) cannot be used for conformity determinations until EPA has affirmatively found them adequate. As a result of our finding, the City of Lamar, the City of Steamboat Springs, the Colorado Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Transportation are required to use the motor vehicle emissions budgets from these submitted maintenance plans for future conformity determinations.

DATES: This finding is effective November 12, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kerri Fiedler, Air & Radiation Program (8P-AR), United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8, 999 18th Street, Suite 300, Denver, Colorado 80202-2466, (303) 312-6493. The letter documenting our finding is available at EPA's conformity Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/transp/conform/adequacy.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Throughout this document wherever "we", "us", or "our" are used we mean EPA.

This action is simply an announcement of a finding that we have already made. We sent a letter to the Colorado Air Pollution Control Division on September 25, 2002 stating that the motor vehicle emissions budgets in the submitted Lamar and Steamboat Springs PM₁₀ maintenance plans are adequate. This finding has also been announced on our conformity Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/oms/transp/conform/adequacy.htm>.

Transportation conformity is required by section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act. Our conformity rule requires that transportation plans, programs, and projects conform to SIPs and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they do. Conformity to a SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the national ambient air quality standards.

The criteria by which we determine whether a SIP's motor vehicle emission budgets are adequate for conformity purposes are outlined in 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4). Please note that an

adequacy review is separate from our completeness review, and it also should not be used to prejudice our ultimate approval of the SIP. Even if we find a budget adequate, the SIP could later be disapproved, and vice versa.

We've described our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP budgets in a memo entitled, "Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999 Conformity Court Decision," dated May 14, 1999. We followed this guidance in making our adequacy determination.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: October 21, 2002.

Robert E. Roberts,

Regional Administrator, Region VIII.

[FR Doc. 02-27345 Filed 10-25-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7400-9]

Request for Nominations to the Good Neighbor Environmental Board

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of request for nominations.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites nominations of qualified candidates to be considered for appointments to fill vacancies on the Good Neighbor Environmental Board. Suggested deadline for receiving nominations is Friday, November 22, 2002. Selection of candidates for appointments will be made by EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman. Appointments are scheduled to be announced during January 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit nomination materials to: Elaine Koerner, Designated Federal Officer, Good Neighbor Environmental Board, Office of Cooperative Environmental Management, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1601E), 655 15th St., NW., Washington, DC. 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elaine Koerner, Designated Federal Officer, Good Neighbor Environmental Board, Office of Cooperative Environmental Management, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1601E), 655 15th St NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone 202-233-0069; fax 202-233-0070; email koerner.elaine@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Good Neighbor Environmental Board meets

three times each calendar year at different locations along the U.S.-Mexico border. It was created by the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative Act of 1992. An Executive Order delegates implementing authority to the Administrator of EPA. The Board is responsible for providing advice to the U.S. President and Congress on environmental and infrastructure issues and needs within the States contiguous to Mexico in order to improve the quality of life of persons residing on the U.S. side of the border. The statute calls for the Board to have representatives from U.S. Government agencies; the governments of the States of Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas; and private organizations with expertise on environmental and infrastructure problems along the southwest border. Board members typically contribute 10-15 hours per month to the Board's work. The Board membership position is voluntary; travel expenses are covered.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate nominees:

- Residence in one of the four U.S. border states.
- Professional knowledge of, and experience with, environmental infrastructure activities and policy along the U.S.-Mexico border.
- Senior level-experience that fills a gap in Board representation, or brings a new and relevant dimension to its deliberations.
- Representation of a sector or group that is involved in border region environmental infrastructure.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a consensus-building process with a wide range of representatives from diverse constituencies.
- Willingness to serve a two-year term as an actively-contributing member, with possible re-appointment to a second term.

Nominees' qualifications will be assessed under the mandates of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which requires Committees to maintain diversity across a broad range of constituencies, sectors, and groups.

Nominations for membership must include a resume describing the professional and educational qualifications of the nominee as well as community-based experience. Contact details should include full name and title, business mailing address, telephone, fax, and e-mail address. A supporting letter of endorsement is encouraged but not required.