

Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 3186, MSC 7848, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-435-0677, mannel@csr.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel, Visual System SBIR SEP.

Date: December 6, 2004.

Time: 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Jerome R. Wujek, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5194, MSC 7846, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-2507, wujekjer@csr.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel, ODCS Special Review Panel.

Date: December 15, 2004.

Time: 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: J. Terrell Hoffeld, PhD, DDS, Dental Officer, USPHS, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4116, MSC 7816, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1781, hoffeldt@csr.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: November 30, 2004.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04-26889 Filed 12-7-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Toxicology Program

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) Center for the evaluation of risks to Human Reproduction (CERHR) announces plans for future evaluation of styrene; requests public comments on

this chemical; and solicits the nominations of scientists qualified to serve on an expert panel.

SUMMARY: The CERHR plans to convene an expert panel to evaluate the scientific evidence regarding the potential reproductive and/or developmental toxicity associated with exposure to styrene. The expert panel will consist of approximately 8-12 scientists, selected for their scientific expertise in various aspects of reproductive and developmental toxicology and other relevant areas of science. The CERHR invites the submission of public comments on styrene and the nomination of scientists to serve on the expert panel for its evaluation (*see below*). This meeting is tentatively scheduled for 2005 although the exact date and location are not yet established. As plans are finalized, they will be announced in the **Federal Register** and posted on the CERHR Web site (<http://cerhr.niehs.nih.gov>). CERHR expert panel meetings are open to the public with time scheduled for oral public comment.

Evaluation of Styrene

Styrene (ethenylbenzene; CAS RN: 100-42-5) is a high production volume chemical used in the production of polystyrene resins and as a co-polymer with acrylonitrile and 1,3 butadiene. Styrene is found in items such as foam cups, dental fillings, matrices for ion exchange filters, construction materials, and boats. It is also used in protective coatings, reinforced glass fiber, agricultural products, and as a food additive. The public can be exposed to styrene through ingesting food or drink that has been in contact with styrene polymers or through inhalation of polluted air and cigarette smoke. CERHR selected styrene for expert panel evaluation because of: (1) Public concern about styrene exposure and (2) recently available exposure studies.

Request for Public Comment on Styrene

The CERHR invites input from the public and other interested parties on styrene including toxicology information from completed and ongoing studies, information on planned studies, and information about current production levels, human exposure, use patterns, and environmental occurrence. Information and comments should be forwarded to the CERHR at P.O. Box 12233, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, MD EC-32, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (mail), (919) 541-3455 (phone), (919) 316-4511 (fax), or shelby@niehs.nih.gov (e-mail). Information and comments received by

45 days from the publication date of this notice will be made available to the CERHR staff and the expert panel for consideration in the evaluation and posted on the CERHR Web site.

Request for the Nomination of Scientists for the Expert Panel

The CERHR invites nominations of qualified scientists to serve on the expert panel. Panelists are primarily drawn from the CERHR Expert Registry and/or the nomination of other scientists who meet the criteria for listing in that registry which include: Formal academic training and experience in a relevant scientific field, publications in peer-reviewed journals, membership in relevant professional societies, certification by an appropriate scientific board or other entities, and participation in similar committee activities. Expert panel members are required to sign a conflict of interest form in accordance with Federal Advisory Committee Act Guidelines (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2).

All panel members serve as individual experts in their specific areas of expertise and not as representatives of their employers or other organizations. Scientists on the expert panel will be selected to represent a wide range of expertise including, but not limited to, developmental toxicology, reproductive toxicology, epidemiology, general toxicology, pharmacokinetics, exposure assessment, and biostatistics. Nominations received by 45 days from the publication date of this notice will be considered for this panel and for inclusion in the CERHR Expert Registry. Nominations should include contact information and current curriculum vitae (if possible) and be forwarded to the CERHR at the address given above.

Background Information About the CERHR

The NTP established the CERHR in June 1998 (**Federal Register**, December 14, 1998: Volume 63, Number 239, page 68782). The CERHR is a publicly accessible resource for information about adverse reproductive and/or developmental health effects associated with exposure to environmental and/or occupational exposures. Expert panels conduct scientific evaluations of agents selected by the CERHR in public forums.

Information about CERHR and its process for nominating agents for review or scientists for its expert registry can be obtained from its Web site (<http://cerhr.niehs.nih.gov>) or by contacting Dr. Michael Shelby, CERHR Director (contact information provided above).

The CERHR selects chemicals for evaluation based upon several factors, including production volume, extent of human exposure, public concern, and extent of the database on reproductive or developmental toxicity studies.

CERHR follows a formal, multi-step process for review and evaluation of selected chemicals. The formal evaluation process was published in the **Federal Register** (July 16, 2001: Volume 66, Number 136, pages 37047–37048) and is available on the CERHR Web site under “About CERHR” or in printed copy from the CERHR.

Dated: November 29, 2004.

Samuel H. Wilson,

Deputy Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

[FR Doc. 04–26885 Filed 12–7–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[USCG–2001–9267]

Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program; Programmatic Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard announces the availability of the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) that evaluated the potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program (STEP). The purpose of STEP is to facilitate the development of effective ballast water treatment technologies to protect U.S. waters against the unintentional introduction of nonindigenous species via ballast water discharges. STEP will create more options for vessels seeking alternatives to ballast water exchange as they manage their ballast water.

ADDRESSES: Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents mentioned in this notice as being available in the docket, are part of docket USCG–2001–9267 and are available for inspection or copying at the Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, room PL–401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also find this

docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this program call Mr. Bivan Patnaik, Project Manager at (202) 267–1744 or e-mail: bpatnaik@comdt.uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Andrea M. Jenkins, Program Manager, Docket Operations, Department of Transportation, telephone 202–366–0271.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Section 102(2)(c)), as implemented by the Council on Environment Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508) and Coast Guard Policy for Considering Environmental Impacts (COMDTINST M16475.1D), the Coast Guard prepared a final PEA and FONSI for implementing STEP.

Response to Comments

The Coast Guard received one comment on the draft PEA. The commenter stated that the Coast Guard made inaccurate statements regarding the effectiveness of ozone as a ballast water treatment technology and the corrosion issues associated with the use of ozone.

Although the Coast Guard commends the ongoing efforts of developers of ozone technologies as an effective treatment for ballast water, we disagree with the commenter. Based on our review of peer-reviewed published literature and documents submitted by the commenter, it is premature to conclude that ozone will effectively remove all organisms or that corrosion is not an issue. Therefore, no changes were made to the final PEA. We look forward to the results of future research on the effectiveness of ozone technologies and we encourage the commenter to consider participation in STEP.

Programmatic Environmental Assessment

The final PEA identified and examined those reasonable alternatives needed to effectively implement STEP. The final PEA analyzed the no action alternative and two action alternatives that could fulfill the purpose and need of STEP. The final PEA is a program document meant to provide a broad environmental review of a Federal agency’s (Coast Guard) national program. In this case, the final PEA provided a broad, general view of the potential environmental impacts that could be anticipated by implementing

STEP. Specifically, the final PEA considered potential effects to the natural and human environments including: fish; marine mammals; invertebrates; microbes and plankton; submerged and emergent species; threatened and endangered species; essential fish habitats; and various socioeconomic resources. The final PEA could not foresee all possible specific operational sites or cumulative environmental impacts as a result of implementing any of the action alternatives. However, once specific operational sites and individual shipboard ballast water treatment technologies have been identified, these technologies will undergo a more specific environmental review (tiering). This environmental review of individual shipboard ballast water treatment technologies and specific operational sites will result in the issuance of either: (1) Categorical Exclusion; (2) Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) after an Environmental Assessment (EA); or (3) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Dated: November 18, 2004.

Joseph J. Angelo,

Director of Standards, Marine Safety, Security & Environmental Protection.

[FR Doc. 04–26863 Filed 12–7–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Advisory Committee; Notice of Renewal

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Colorado State Office, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of renewal for the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Advisory Committee.

SUMMARY: This notice is published in accordance with Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, Public Law 92–463. Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Interior has renewed the Bureau of Land Management’s Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Advisory Committee.

The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice and counsel to the Bureau of Land Management, through the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Manager, regarding the development and implementation of a management plan for public lands within the Monument area.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Melanie Wilson Gore, Intergovernmental Affairs (640), Bureau