process by clarifying significant issues affecting a NO_X compliance plan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jenny Jachim, EPA Region 4, (404) 562–9126.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: If no adverse comments are timely received, no further activity is contemplated in relation to these draft permit modifications and the permit modifications issued as a direct final action in the notice of permit modifications published elsewhere in today's **Federal Register** will automatically become final on the date specified in that notice. If adverse comments are timely received on any permit modification, that permit modification in the notice of permit modifications will be withdrawn and public comment received on that permit modification based on this notice of draft permit modifications will be addressed in a subsequent notice of permit modifications. Because the Agency will not institute a second comment period on this notice of draft permit modifications, any parties interested in commenting should do so during this comment period.

For further information and a detailed description of the permit modifications, see the information provided in the notice of permit modifications elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**.

Dated: June 30, 1999.

Larry F. Kertcher,

Acting Director, Acid Rain Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs, Office of Air and Radiation.

[FR Doc. 99–19901 Filed 8–2–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6412–3]

Acid Rain Program: Permit Modifications

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of permit modifications.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing, as a direct final action, Phase I Acid Rain permit modifications that include nitrogen oxides (NO_X) compliance plans in accordance with the Acid Rain Program regulations (40 CFR parts 72 and 76). Because the Agency does not anticipate receiving adverse comments, the permit modifications are being issued as a direct final action.

DATES: The permit modifications issued in this direct final action will be final on September 13, 1999 unless adverse comments are received by September 2, 1999. If adverse comments are timely received on any permit modification in this direct final action, that permit modification will be withdrawn through a notice in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: *Administrative Records.* The administrative record for the permits, except information protected as confidential, may be viewed during normal operating hours at the following location: EPA Region 4, 61 Forsyth St., SW, Atlanta, GA, 30303.

Comments. Send comments, requests for public hearings, and requests to receive notice of future actions to EPA Region 4, Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, Attn: Jenny Jachim (address above). Submit comments in duplicate and identify the permit to which the comments apply, the commenter's name, address, and telephone number, and the commenter's interest in the matter and affiliation, if any, to the owners and operators of all units in the plan. All timely comments will be considered, except those pertaining to standard provisions under 40 CFR 72.9 or issues not relevant to the permit.

Hearings. To request a public hearing, state the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. EPA may schedule a hearing if EPA finds that it will contribute to the decision-making process by clarifying significant issues affecting a NO_X compliance plan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jenny Jachim, EPA Region 4, (404) 562–9126.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title IV of the Clean Air Act directs EPA to establish a program to reduce the adverse effects of acidic deposition by promulgating rules and issuing permits to emission sources subject to the program. In today's action, EPA is issuing permit modifications that include approval of early election plans for NO_X. The units that are included in the early election plans will be required to meet an actual annual average emissions rate for NO_X of either 0.45 lbs/MMBtu for tangentially-fired boilers or 0.50 lbs/mmBtu for dry bottom wall-fired boilers beginning on January 1, 1997 through December 31, 2007, after which they will be required to meet the applicable Phase II Group 1 emissions limitation for NO_X.

The designated representative submitted complete NO_X early election plans under 40 CFR 76.8(c) to EPA prior to January 1, 1997 as required under 40 CFR 76.8(b). However, through an administrative oversight, EPA failed to review the plans and modify the Phase I permits. Since the units covered by the plans have been in compliance with all applicable requirements under 40 CFR 76.8, including compliance with the Phase I Group 1 limits below beginning in 1997, EPA approves the plans with effective dates beginning retroactively on January 1, 1997.

The following is a list of units included in the permit modifications and the limits that they are required to meet:

H.L. Spurlock unit 2 in Kentucky: 0.45 lbs/mmBtu. The designated representative is Robert E. Hughes, Jr.

W.C. Dale units 3 and 4 in Kentucky: 0.50 lbs/mmBtu. The designated representative is Robert E. Hughes, Jr.

Dated: June 30, 1999.

Larry F. Kertcher,

Acting Director, Acid Rain Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs, Office of Air and Radiation.

[FR Doc. 99–19902 Filed 8–2–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6411–6; Docket No. A–99–24]

Petition To Delist Ethylene Glycol Butyl Ether From the List of Hazardous Air Pollutants

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of receipt of a complete petition.

SUMMARY: This document announces the receipt of a complete petition from the Chemical Manufacturers Association's (CMA's) Ethylene Glycol Ethers Panel requesting EPA to remove the chemical ethylene glycol butyl ether (EGBE) (CAS No. 111–76–2) from the list of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) contained in section 112(b)(1) of the 1990 Clean Air Act (Act). We have determined that the CMA's original petition dated August 29, 1997 and the supplemental materials provided by CMA through December 21, 1998 will support an assessment of the human health impacts associated with people living in the vicinity of facilities emitting EGBE. In addition, the data submitted by CMA will support an assessment of the environmental impacts associated with emissions of EGBE to the ambient air and deposited onto soil or water. Consequently, we have concluded that CMA's petition is complete as of December 21, 1998, the date of the last supplement, and is ready for public comment and the technical review phase of our delisting evaluation process.

This document invites the public to comment on the petition and to provide additional data, beyond that filed in the petition, on sources, emissions, exposure, health effects and environmental impacts associated with EGBE that may be relevant to our technical review.

DATES: Comments and additional data will be accepted if received on or before September 2, 1999.

ADDRESSES: *Documents.* A copy of the complete petition is contained in a docket available at the Air and Radiation Docket and Information Office, 401 M Street SW, Room M–1500 (6102), Waterside Mall, Washington DC 20460. The docket number for this action is A–99–24. The docket is an organized file of all the information received and considered in making the decision on the completeness of CMA's petition. The main purpose of the docket is to allow you to readily identify and locate documents that record the process we followed in making our decision. You may inspect the petition and copy it for offsite review between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday. In addition, CMA will make copies of the petition available upon request. To request a copy from CMA, you may call Dr. Susan A. Lewis at (202) 879–5042 during normal business hours. A reasonable fee may be charged for copying.

Comments and Data Submissions. Comments and additional data should be submitted (in duplicate if possible) to: The Docket Clerk, Air and Radiation Docket and Information Office, 401 M Street SW, Room M–1500 (Mail Code 6102), Waterside Mall, Washington DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ted Palma, Emission Standards Division (MD–13), Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711, telephone (919) 541–5470, electronic mail address: palma.ted@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

A. What Is the List of Hazardous Air Pollutants?

Hazardous air pollutants include a wide variety of organic and inorganic substances released from large and small industrial operations, fossil fuel combustion, gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles, and many other sources. The HAPs have been associated with a wide variety of adverse health effects, including cancer, neurological effects, reproductive effects, and developmental effects. The health effects associated with the various HAPs may differ depending upon the toxicity of the individual HAP and the particular circumstances of exposure, such as the amount of chemical present, the length of time a person is exposed, and the stage in life of the person when the exposure occurs. The list of HAPs, which includes the pollutant category ''glycol ethers,'' of which EGBE is a member of this category, can be found in section 112(b)(1) of the Act. The HAPs list provides the basis for research, regulation, and other related EPA activities under section 112 of the Act.

B. What Is a HAP Delist Petition?

A HAP delist petition is a formal request to the EPA from an individual or group to remove a specific HAP from the HAPs list. The removal of a HAP from the list eliminates it from consideration in EPA's program to promulgate national, technology-based emissions control standards. This technology-based standards program is commonly referred to as the maximum achievable control technology (MACT) program.

Petitions to add or delete chemicals from the HAPs list are allowed under section 112(b)(3)(A) of the Act. The Act specifies that any person may petition the Administrator to modify, by addition or deletion, the list of HAPs, and the EPA Administrator is required to either grant or deny a petition to delist a specific HAP within 18 months of the receipt of a complete petition.

To delete a substance from the HAPs list, section 112(b)(3)(C) requires that the petitioner must provide adequate data on the health and environmental effects of the substance to determine that emissions, ambient concentrations, and bio-accumulation or deposition of the substance may not reasonably be anticipated to cause any adverse effects to human health or adverse environmental effects.

C. How Does EPA Review a Petition To Delist a HAP?

The petition review process proceeds in two phases: a completeness determination and a technical review. During the completeness determination, we conduct a broad review of the petition to determine whether or not all the necessary subject areas are addressed and whether reasonable information and analyses are presented for each of these subject areas. Once the petition is determined to be complete, we place a notice of receipt of a complete petition in the **Federal Register**. That **Federal Register** notice announces a public comment period on the petition and starts the technical review phase of our decision-making process. The technical review involves a more thorough scientific review of the petition to determine whether the data, analyses, interpretations, and conclusions in the petition are appropriate and technically sound. The technical review will also determine whether or not the petition satisfies the necessary requirements of section 112(b)(3)(C) and adequately supports a decision to delist the HAP. All comments and data submitted during the public comment period are considered during the technical review.

D. How Is the Decision To Delist a HAP Made?

The decision to either grant or deny a petition is made after a comprehensive technical review of both the petition and the information received from the public to determine whether the petition satisfies the requirements of section 112(b)(3)(C) of the Act. If the Administrator decides to grant a petition, a notice of proposed rulemaking is published in the **Federal Register**. That notice proposes a modification of the HAPs list and presents the reasoning for doing so. However, if the Administrator decides to deny a petition, a notice setting forth an explanation of the reasons for denial will be published instead. A notice of denial constitutes final Agency action of nationwide scope and applicability and is subject to judicial review as provided in section 307(b) of the Act.

II. Completeness Determination and Request for Public Comment

On August 29, 1997, we received a petition from the CMA's Ethylene Glycol Ethers Panel to remove EGBE (CAS No. 111–76–2) from the HAPs list. After our initial review of the petition, we determined that additional information was needed to determine ecological risks as well as on the derivation of the safe human exposure level for EGBE. The petitioner submitted several additional documents in September and December of 1998 to address the information gaps. After reviewing all of the supplemental information, we have now determined that the essential subject areas have been addressed and that the petition is complete and ready for technical review. The CMA's last supplement which occurred December 21, 1998 marked the start of the 18-months decision period. Today's document initiates our comprehensive technical review of the petition and invites public

comment on the substance of the petition as described above.

III. Description of the Petition

The complete petition provided by CMA contains the following information:

A. Background information on EGBE, including chemical and physical properties data, synonyms, atmospheric residence time, solubility, information on atmospheric transformations as well as production and usage information.

B. A hazard identification and dose-response assessment to determine whether exposure to EGBE is capable of causing adverse health effects in humans. Further, CMA provided supplemental materials addressing the results of the National Toxicology Program mouse and rat cancer bioassays of EGBE.

C. An inventory of the releases of EGBE to the atmosphere. The inventory was developed by examining Federal, State, and local data sources. In addition, the inventory development included direct contact with industrial and trade associations and review of other chemical databases.

D. ''Tiered'' air dispersion modeling that provides estimates of the ambient concentration of EGBE for comparison with inhalation health criteria. Tiered modeling involves the use of successive modeling techniques to move from conservative ''worst case'' estimates of the ambient concentrations of a substance emitted from a source toward more ''realistic'' site-specific estimates of the ambient concentrations.

E. An evaluation of the ambient measured concentrations of EGBE and estimates of typical urban ambient levels.

F. An evaluation of the environmental fate and transport of EGBE to surface waters.

G. A risk characterization study presenting an assessment of potential air inhalation exposures and surface water ingestion exposures to humans. Further, the petition included an assessment of the quality of the study data and uncertainty associated with the analysis.

H. An ecological risk assessment to determine if adverse environmental effects may occur as a result of predicted ambient air quality levels and deposition to soil and water resulting from air releases of EGBE.

The petition describes EGBE as the largest volume glycol ether used in the U.S. It estimates that the 1995 total U.S. consumption of EGBE was between 285 and 310 million pounds. The vast majority of EGBE is produced at five plants located in Michigan, Texas, and Louisiana. Approximately 90 percent of the EGBE consumed in the U.S. was used as a solvent in paints, coatings, industrial and household cleaners, adhesives, and inks. The remaining 10 percent was used as a chemical intermediate. As described in the petition, releases of EGBE to the environment are primarily to the atmosphere.

In support of the delisting effort, the petitioner conducted a comprehensive emission inventory examining potential air emissions sources of EGBE as well as glycol ethers. Evaluating a cross-section of the industry, the petition collected data and conducted its ''tiered-type'' air quality assessment on over 3,400 facilities with inventoried air emissions of EGBE.

The hazard identification and dose-response assessment in the petition presents a summary of recent health criteria studies performed by a steering group comprised of CMA and EPA scientists. The petition suggests that an inhalation reference concentration and ingestion reference dose ranging from 3 to 73 milligrams per cubic meter and 3 to 23 milligrams per kilogram per day, respectively, are appropriate health criteria for the risk and exposure assessment.

The risk assessment compares model predicted air quality data with proposed health criteria information to conclude that air releases of EGBE are not anticipated to cause adverse effects to human health. An ecological risk assessment, to determine adverse environmental effects to nonhuman receptors, further concludes that air releases of EGBE are not likely to cause nor contribute to adverse environmental effects.

Dated: July 26, 1999.

Robert Brenner,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation.

[FR Doc. 99–19905 Filed 8–2–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6412–1]

Public Water System Supervision Program Revision for the State of Tennessee

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of tentative approval.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the State of Tennessee is revising its approved Public Water System Supervision Program. Tennessee has adopted drinking water regulations requiring consumer confidence reports from all community water systems. EPA has determined that these revisions are no less stringent than the corresponding federal regulations. Therefore, EPA intends on approving this State program revision.

All interested parties may request a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be submitted by September 2, 1999 to the Regional Administrator at the address shown below. Frivolous or insubstantial requests for a hearing may be denied by the Regional Administrator. However, if a substantial request for a public hearing is made by September 2, 1999, a public hearing will be held. If no timely and appropriate request for a hearing is received and the Regional Administrator does not elect to hold a hearing on his own motion, this determination shall become final and effective on September 2, 1999. Any request for a public hearing shall include the following information: (1) The name, address, and telephone number of the individual organization, or other entity requesting a hearing; (2) A brief statement of the requesting person's interest in the Regional Administrator's determination and a brief statement of the information that the requesting person intends to submit at such hearing; (3) The signature of the individual making the request, or, if the request is made on behalf of an organization or other entity, the signature of a responsible official of the organization or other entity.

ADDRESSES: All documents relating to this determination are available for inspection between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the following offices:

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Supply, 401 Church Street, 6th Floor, L&C Tower, Nashville, Tennessee 37219–5404 or at the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Drinking Water Section, 61 Forsyth Street Southwest, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan O'Lone, EPA Region 4, Drinking Water Section at the Atlanta address given above or at telephone (404) 562–9434.

Authority: (Section 1420 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (1996), and 40 CFR part 142 of the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations).

A. Stanley Meiburg,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 4.

[FR Doc. 99–19907 Filed 8–2–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P