

opportunity for public comment before making a final decision.

EPA will also apply this policy regardless of the statutory mechanism EPA uses to extend the existing stocks period; thus, if EPA granted a section 18 emergency exemption, or allowed a state to issue a registration pursuant to section 24(c), to permit additional use of the existing stocks of a pesticide that falls within one of the above criteria, EPA would apply this policy. For example, if a state issued a section 24(c) registration for a voluntarily cancelled pesticide, that would effectively extend use beyond the existing stocks disposition, and the pesticide product fell within one of the categories discussed above, EPA intends to publish a notice of receipt in the Federal Register to solicit public comment, during EPA's 90-day review of the section 24(c) registration.

EPA will not publish a notice before modifying the existing stocks provision for a pesticide that falls within one of the categories described above if EPA finds that an emergency exists. For purposes of this policy, an emergency is defined to exist only when EPA determines that the four following conditions occur: (1) Either the use of the pesticide is necessary to prevent an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, or the continued use of the pesticide would present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment; (2) there is not another feasible solution to prevent such a risk; (3) the time available to avert the risk is insufficient to permit the 30-day public comment period, and (4) the public interest requires modifying the provision in the manner described in EPA's proposal.

An example of an emergency situation would be where EPA determined that it was necessary to reduce the existing stocks period to prevent an unreasonable risk, and that the risk would occur during the period necessary for notice and comment. In such a case, EPA would publish a notice after the emergency modification, explaining its action and the rationale for it.

The statement of policy articulated here supplements, but does not replace EPA's 1991 existing stocks policy. Any decision to modify an existing stocks disposition would still be consistent with the general policies outlined in the 1991 notice. In some of the cases outlined in the policy, EPA regulations already require publication of a notice and solicitation of public comments, and the application of the policy announced today would result in minimal change to EPA practice. For

example, if EPA were to receive a section 18 request that would effectively modify an existing stocks provision, EPA's regulations require EPA to publish a notice of the receipt of an application for the exemption and to solicit public comment in many cases to which this notice would apply. But in such circumstances, EPA would typically extend the comment period from the 15 days required by 40 CFR 166.24(c) to the 30 days specified in this policy. Nor would EPA waive the comment period except in the emergency circumstances outlined above.

IV. Comments

The Agency is requesting comments and suggestions on the circumstances in which an opportunity for notice and comment would be provided. The Agency is also seeking comment on whether 30 days is an appropriate amount of time. Comments must bear a notation indicating the document control number [OPP-38512].

A record has been established for this action under docket number "OPP-38512" (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in Rm. 1132 of the Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

The official record for the action as well as the public version, as described above will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into printed, paper form as they are received and will place the paper copies in the official record which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing. The official rulemaking record is the paper record maintained at the address in ADDRESSES at the beginning of this document.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: April 10, 1996.

Daniel Barolo,

Director, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 96-9353 Filed 4-11-96; 2:57 pm]

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FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting; Notice of Agency Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 1996, the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation met in closed session to consider (1) reports of the Office of Inspector General, and (2) matters relating to the Corporation's supervisory activities.

In calling the meeting, the Board determined, on motion of Vice Chairman Andrew C. Hove, Jr., seconded by Director Joseph H. Neely (Appointive), concurred in by Director Jonathan L. Fiechter (Acting Director, Office of Thrift Supervision), Director Eugene A. Ludwig (Comptroller of the Currency), and Chairman Ricki Helfer, that Corporation business required its consideration of the matters on less than seven days' notice to the public; that no earlier notice of the meeting was practicable; that the public interest did not require consideration of the matters in a meeting open to public observation; and that the matters could be considered in a closed meeting by authority of subsections (c)(2), (c)(4), (c)(6), (c)(8) and (c)(9)(A)(ii) of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2), (c)(4), (c)(6), (c)(8) and (c)(9)(A)(ii)).

The meeting was held in the Board Room of the FDIC Building located at 550 17th Street, NW., Washington, D.C.

Dated: April 9, 1996.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Valerie J. Best,

Assistant Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-9508 Filed 4-12-96; 3:52 am]

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FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS).

ACTION: Notice.
