an amount appropriated for FY 1998. As FY 1998 funds, they will be subject to all of the requirements of the Act, including section 2607(b)(2), which requires that a grantee must obligate 90 percent of its total block grant allocation for a fiscal year by the end of the fiscal year for which the funds are appropriated, that is, by September 30, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Fox, Director, Division of Energy Assistance, Office of Community Services, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW, Washington, DC 20447; telephone (202) 401–9351.

Dated: September 18, 1998.

Donald Sykes,

Director, Office of Community Services.

[FR Doc. 98–25881 Filed 9–25–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Food Safety Risk Assessment Clearinghouse; Postponement of Open Technical Workshop

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (JIFSAN) are announcing postponement of an open technical workshop on the formation of a Food Safety Risk Assessment Clearinghouse originally scheduled for October 5 and 6, 1998 (63 FR 40530, July 29, 1998). The workshop is being postponed due to scheduling conflicts as well as the need for further research to assure that the technical workshop will be effective at soliciting input into the clearinghouse framework document.

Date and Time: The technical workshop will be rescheduled for early 1999.

Registration: Notification of postponement and the new workshop date will be sent to all preregistered parties. To be automatically notified of the new workshop date, please contact Jacqueline M. Williams, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS–315), Food and Drug Administration, 200 C St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202–205–4224, FAX 202–205–4422, or monitor on-line at ''http://www.life.umd.edu/jifsan/chouse.html''.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Valerie M. Davis (FDA) or Roberta Morales, VA–MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 20742–3711, 301–935–6083, ext. 158, FAX 301–935–0149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The May 1997 Report to the President on the National Food Safety Initiative described the need to establish a clearinghouse that would collect and catalogue available data and methodology pertinent to microbial risk-assessment offered by the private sector, trade associations, Federal and State agencies, and international sources. The goals of the clearinghouse would be to consolidate research data and methodology from public and proprietary sources, assist in coordinating research activities, identify gaps in needed research, and assist in the development of microbial risk assessment models.

An open meeting was held on August 7, 1998, which provided an overview of risk assessment, introduced the concept of a risk assessment clearinghouse, and identified and solicited the needs of potential users. Input of potential users from Federal and local government, academia, private industry, and consumer groups in attendance at the meeting are still being evaluated but several general observations are evident: (1) There is widespread interest and support for the clearinghouse among all groups; (2) it is critical to involve interested parties at every stage in the development of the clearinghouse; (3) educational efforts to explain the role of risk assessment in food safety decisionmaking should continue; and (4) the risk assessment clearinghouse must provide access to information in areas of risk management and food safety that would be useful to a broad cross section of users.

Summaries from focus group discussions and raw data collected from the participants in the August 7, 1998, open meeting entitled ''Risk Assessment Clearinghouse: Users and Needs'' will be posted on the World Wide Web (WWW) at ''http://www.life.umd.edu/jifsan/chouse.html''. Those accessing the website will be able to submit further input directly on the website. In addition, the draft clearinghouse framework document, intended to be the focal point of the upcoming technical workshop, will be posted on the WWW at ''http://www.life.umd.edu/jifsan/chouse.html''. Comments are encouraged and input will be accepted directly on the website. The new date and location of this workshop will be announced on the previously mentioned WWW address.

Dated: September 21, 1998.

William K. Hubbard,

Associate Commissioner for Policy Coordination.

[FR Doc. 98–25794 Filed 9–25–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation Devices Panel of the Medical Devices Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

This notice announces a forthcoming meeting of a public advisory committee of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). At least one portion of the meeting will be closed to the public.

Name of Committee: Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation Devices Panel of the Medical Devices Advisory Committee.

General Function of the Committee: To provide advice and recommendations to the agency on FDA's regulatory issues.

Date and Time: The meeting will be held on October 8, 1998, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and October 9, 1998, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: Corporate Bldg., conference room 020B, 9200 Corporate Blvd., Rockville, MD.

Contact Person: Hany W. Demian, Center for Devices and Radiological Health (HFZ–410), Food and Drug Administration, 9200 Corporate Blvd., Rockville, MD 20850, 301–594–2036, or FDA Advisory Committee Information Line, 1–800–741–8138 (301–443–0572 in the Washington, DC area), code 12521. Please call the Information Line for up-to-date information on this meeting.

Agenda: On October 8, 1998, the committee will consider issues relating to the study and evaluation of spinal device assemblies. In the context of a preliminary background document entitled ''Guidance Document for the Preparation of IDE's for Spinal Assemblies,'' the committee will be asked to address scientific issues pertaining to the development of investigational device exemptions (IDE's) applications for spinal device assemblies. This will include inclusion/exclusion criteria, type of control(s), study endpoints, and length of followup. Single copies of the preliminary background document are available to the public by contacting the Division of Small Manufacturers