

The information that will be transferred to SAIC, Abt Associates, Westat, and their subcontractors consists primarily of information previously collected by EPA to support the development of effluent limitations guidelines and standards under the CWA. (EPA does not intend to transfer this information to Stratus Consulting.) In particular, information, including CBI, collected for the development of effluent limitations guidelines and standards for the following industries may be transferred: airport deicing; centralized waste treatment; coal mining and remining; industrial laundries; industrial waste combustors; iron and steel; landfills; machinery products and manufacturing; oil and gas; organic chemicals; pesticide manufacturing; pesticides formulating, packaging, and repackaging; pharmaceutical manufacturing; petroleum refining; pulp, paper, and paperboard manufacturing; steam and electric; and transportation equipment cleaning.

In addition, EPA will transfer to all four contractors (*i.e.*, SAIC, Abt Associates, Westat, and Stratus Consulting) and their subcontractors information collected under Section 308 of the CWA to support development of regulations for intake of water under Section 316(b) of the CWA. This information was and will be collected from plants that generate electricity by means of steam and thus have large cooling water needs. Facilities in the traditional steam electric utility category are classified under Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes 4911 and 493, while nonutility power producers include Paper and Allied Products (SIC Major Group 26), Chemical and Allied Products (SIC Major Group 28), Petroleum and Coal Products (SIC Major Group 29), and Primary Metals (SIC Major Group 33).

EPA also intends to transfer to SAIC, Abt Associates, Westat, Stratus Consulting, and their subcontractors all information listed in this notice, of the type described above (including CBI) that may be collected in the future under the authority of section 308 of the CWA, as is necessary to enable SAIC, Abt Associates, Westat, Stratus Consulting, and their subcontractors to carry out the work required by their contracts to support EPA's development of effluent limitations guidelines and standards and intake water regulations for the industries listed above.

Dated: November 8, 1999.

Geoffrey H. Grubbs,

*Director, Office of Science and Technology,
Office of Water.*

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-00630; FRL-6392-2]

FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel; Open Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: There will be a 2-day meeting of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) to review a set of scientific issues being considered by the Agency pertaining to characterization and non-target organism data requirements for protein plant-pesticides and cumulative risk assessment methodology of pesticide substances that have a common mechanism of toxicity. The meeting is open to the public. Seating at the meeting will be on a first-come basis. Individuals requiring special accommodations at this meeting, including wheelchair access, should contact either Paul Lewis or Laura Morris at the address listed under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" at least 5 business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 8 and Thursday, December 9, 1999, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Sheraton Crystal City Hotel, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. The telephone number for the Sheraton hotel is: (703) 486-1111.

Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit I.C. of the "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION." To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP-00630 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Paul Lewis or Laura Morris, Designated Federal Officials, FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel (7101C), Office of Science Coordination and Policy, Office of Prevention, Pesticides

and Toxic Substance, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460; Office location: Rm. 117T, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA; telephone: (703) 305-5369; e-mail: lewis.paul@epa.gov or morris.laura@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the persons listed under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT."

B. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of This Document or Other Related Documents?

1. *Electronically.* You may obtain electronic copies of this document, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. To access this document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations" and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register-Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

2. *In person.* The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPP-00630. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received during an applicable comment period, and other information related to this action, including any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). This official record includes the documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. The public version of the official record does not include any information claimed as CBI. The public version of the official record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments submitted during an applicable comment period, is available for inspection in the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

C. How and to Whom Do I Submit Comments?

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP-00630 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

1. *By mail.* Submit your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. The PIRIB is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

3. *Electronically.* You may submit your comments electronically by e-mail to: "opp-docket@epa.gov," or mail your computer disk to the address identified above. Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. Avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Electronic submissions will be accepted in WordPerfect 6.1/8.0 or ASCII file format. All comments in electronic form must be identified by docket control number OPP-00630. Electronic comments may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

II. Purpose of the Meeting

This FIFRA SAP meeting includes two sessions. The first session concerns characterization and non-target organism data requirements for protein plant-pesticides. This session will entail a discussion of proposed Agency data requirements for protein plant-pesticides, including both characterization and non-target organisms. Characterization includes the identity of the pesticidal substance and the genetic material necessary for its production along with expression levels, tissue specificity, and plant biology. Non-target organism discussions will include the appropriate non-target organisms for testing, test substances, and conduct of such studies.

The second session will be a review of issues pertaining to cumulative risk assessment of pesticide substances that

have a common mechanism of toxicity. EPA is currently preparing guidance for assessing cumulative risk in support of the FQPA. At the September 21-24, 1999 meeting of the FIFRA SAP, EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) presented the chapters of the guidance that describe the approaches it plans to use to cumulate hazard of pesticide substances that cause a common toxic effect by a common mechanism. The FIFRA SAP made recommendations for improving the guidance. OPP has revised the guidance accordingly and has completed the chapters that pertain to assessing exposure to two or more pesticides that share a common mechanism of toxicity. At the December, 1999, meeting of the FIFRA SAP, OPP will present the following: (1) a summary of the issues presented at the September meeting; (2) how EPA has addressed the recommendations made by the FIFRA SAP; (3) an overview of cumulative exposure assessment and risk characterization section; and (4) a case study that illustrates how OPP plans to use the guidance.

III. Availability of Review Materials

A meeting agenda is currently available and copies of EPA background documents for the meeting will be available no later than November 9, 1999. The meeting agenda and EPA primary background documents will be available on the FIFRA SAP web site -- <http://www.epa.gov/scipoly/sap/> or may be obtained by contacting the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460; Office location: Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA; telephone number: (703) 305-5805.

IV. Written Comments and Oral Presentations at the Meeting

Members of the public wishing to submit comments should contact the persons listed under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" to confirm that the meeting date and the agenda have not been modified or changed. Interested persons are permitted to file written statements before the meeting. To the extent that time permits, and upon advanced written request to the persons listed under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT", interested persons may be permitted by the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Panel to present oral statements at the meeting. The request should identify the name of the individual making the presentation, the organization (if any) the individual

will represent, and any requirements for audiovisual equipment (e.g., overhead projector, 35 mm projector, chalkboard, etc). There is no limit on the length of written comments for consideration by the Panel, but oral statements before the Panel are limited to approximately 5 minutes. The Agency also urges the public to submit written comments in lieu of oral presentations. Persons wishing to make oral and/or written statements should notify the persons listed under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" and submit 40 copies of the summary information. The Agency encourages that written statements be submitted before the meeting to provide Panel Members the time necessary to consider and review the comments.

V. Panel Report

Copies of the Panel's report of their recommendations will be available approximately 45 working days after the meeting, and will be posted on the FIFRA SAP web site or may be obtained by contacting the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch at the address or telephone number listed in Unit III. of this document.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: November 8, 1999.

Michael Firestone,

Acting Director, Office of Science Coordination and Policy.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6475-1]

Peer Review of Agency Draft Mercury Research Strategy

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This document announces a workshop organized by Eastern Research Group, Inc., a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) contractor, to obtain scientific peer review of an EPA Office of Research and Development (ORD) draft Research Strategy entitled: Mercury Research Strategy.

DATES: The peer review workshop will begin at 9 a.m. and end no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 8, 1999, and begin at 8:30 a.m. and end no later than 4 p.m. on Thursday, December 9,