

also made available at that time. The guidance document provided standard operating procedures for two cytotoxicity test methods and instructions for using these assays to estimate starting doses for in vivo testing.

Federal agency responses to the ICCVAM test method recommendations were announced on March 10, 2004 (**Federal Register** Vol. 69, No. 47, pages 11448–11449). Federal agencies agreed to encourage, to the extent applicable, the use of in vitro tests for determining starting doses for acute systemic toxicity testing. Furthermore, EPA specifically encouraged those participating in the HPV Challenge Program to consider using the recommended in vitro tests as a supplemental component in conducting any new in vivo acute oral toxicity studies for the program (<http://www.epa.gov/chemrtk/toxprow.htm>).

A NICEATM–ECVAM validation study was initiated in 2002 to evaluate the usefulness of the two neutral red uptake cytotoxicity assays currently available for predicting starting doses for in vivo acute oral toxicity tests. During the pre-validation phases of the study, the test method protocols were further standardized and revised to improve their intra- and inter-laboratory reproducibility. NICEATM recommends using the revised test method protocols rather than the standard operating procedures outlined in the guidance document (ICCVAM, 2001b.) The guidance document should be consulted for the procedure for calculating starting doses using in vitro cytotoxicity data.

Background Information on ICCVAM and NICEATM

ICCVAM is an interagency committee composed of representatives from fifteen Federal regulatory and research agencies that use, generate, or disseminate toxicological information. ICCVAM promotes the development, validation, regulatory acceptance, and national and international harmonization of toxicological test methods that more accurately assess the safety or hazards of chemicals and products, and test methods that refine, reduce and replace animal use. The ICCVAM Authorization Act of 2000 (available at <http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/about/PL106545.htm>) established ICCVAM as a permanent interagency committee of the NIEHS under the NICEATM. NICEATM administers the ICCVAM and provides scientific support for ICCVAM and ICCVAM-related activities. NICEATM and ICCVAM work collaboratively to evaluate new and improved test methods applicable to the

needs of Federal agencies. Additional information about ICCVAM and NICEATM can be found at the following Web site: <http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/>.

References

EPA. 2002. Health Effects Test Guidelines, OPPTS 870.1100, Acute Oral Toxicity, EPA 712–C–02–190. Available at: http://www.epa.gov/opptsfrs/OPPTS_Harmonized/870_Health_Effects_Test_Guidelines/Series/870-1100.pdf.

ICCVAM (Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods). 2001a. Report of the international workshop on in vitro methods for assessing acute systemic toxicity. NIH Publication 01–4499. Research Triangle Park, NC: National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences. Available at: <http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/>.

ICCVAM. 2001b. Guidance document on using in vitro data to estimate in vivo starting doses for acute toxicity. NIH Publication 01–4500. Research Triangle Park, NC: National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences. Available at: <http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/>.

Dated: October 6, 2004.

Samuel H. Wilson,

Deputy Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

[FR Doc. 04–23335 Filed 10–18–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[CGD17–04–002]

Cook Inlet Regional Citizen's Advisory Committee; Charter Renewal

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of recertification.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has recertified the Cook Inlet Regional Citizen's Advisory Council for the period covering September 1, 2004 through August 31, 2005. Under the Oil Terminal and Oil Tanker Environmental Oversight Act of 1990, the Coast Guard may certify on an annual basis an alternative voluntary advisory group in lieu of a regional citizens' advisory council for Cook Inlet, Alaska. This advisory group monitors the activities of terminal facilities and crude oil tankers under the Cook Inlet Program established by the statute.

DATES: The Cook Inlet Regional Citizen's Advisory Council is certified through August 31, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may request a copy of the recertification letter by writing to Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District (mor), P.O. Box 25517, Juneau, AK 99802–5517.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lieutenant Andrew Vanskike, Seventeenth Coast Guard District (mor), 907–463–2818.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background And Purpose

On September 1, 2004, the Coast Guard recertified the Cook Inlet Regional Citizen's Advisory Council (CIRCAC) through August 31, 2005. Under the Oil Terminal and Oil Tanker Environmental Oversight Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2732), the Coast Guard may certify, on an annual basis, an alternative voluntary advisory group in lieu of a regional citizens' advisory council for Cook Inlet, Alaska. This advisory group monitors the activities of terminal facilities and crude oil tankers under the Cook Inlet Program established by Congress, 33 U.S.C. 2732 (b).

On September 16, 2002, the Coast Guard published a notice of policy on revised recertification procedures for alternative voluntary advisory groups in lieu of councils at Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet, AK (67 FR 58440, 58441). This revised policy indicated that applicants seeking recertification in 2003 and 2004 need only submit a streamlined application and public comments would not be solicited prior to recertification.

Dated: September 24, 2004.

James C. Olson,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 04–23370 Filed 10–18–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–15–M

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Notice of Adjustment of Countywide Per Capita Impact Indicator

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: FEMA gives notice that the countywide per capita impact indicator under the Public Assistance program for disasters declared on or after October 1, 2004 will be increased.

DATES: Effective October 1, 2004 and applies to major disasters declared on or after October 1, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James A. Walke, Recovery Division, Federal Emergency Management