

TABLE 1—DESIGNATED EPA POINT OF CONTACTS FOR THE CERTIFICATION PLANS—Continued

EPA region	Certification plan	EPA point of contact	POC phone	Email
Region 6	ADA LDAF NMDA ODAFF TXDA	Eric Nystrom	(214) 665–6752	<i>nystrom.eric@epa.gov</i>
Region 7	KDA MODA PBPN SSN	Shawn Hackett	(913) 551–7774	<i>hackett.shawn@epa.gov</i>
Region 8	CRST–WEEC MTDA TAT/NRD UDAF	Kevin Martin	(303) 312–6085	<i>martin.kevin@epa.gov</i>
Region 9	Guam-EPA	Katy Wilcoxen	(415) 947–4205	<i>wilcoxen.katy@epa.gov</i>
Region 10	ISDA	Bethany Plewe	(208) 378–5753	<i>plewe.bethany@epa.gov</i>

II. What is the Agency's authority for taking this action?

Section 11 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. 136 *et seq.*, requires certifying authorities to have an EPA-approved certification plan to certify applicators of RUPs. The Certification of Pesticide Applicators (CPA) regulation at 40 CFR part 171 was amended in 2017 (Ref. 1). As a result, federal, state, territory, and tribal certifying authorities with existing certification plans were required to revise their existing certification plans to conform with the updated federal standards for the certification of applicators of RUPs and submit their revisions to EPA by March 2020 for EPA review and approval. The CPA regulation specifies that the existing certification plans remain in place until the revised plans are approved by EPA on or before the regulatory deadline established in 40 CFR 171.5. The Agency has since issued a final rule extending the original deadline for certification plans to comply with the updated federal standards under the 2017 CPA rule to November 4, 2023 (Ref. 2).

III. What action is the Agency taking?

This action gives notice that the following 26 certifying authorities' certification plans submitted to the Agency meet or exceed the standards of 40 CFR part 171: ADA, CRST–WEEC, CUDPR, FDACS, Guam–EPA, IDA, ISDA, KDA, LDAF, MDAR, ME BPC, MODA, MTDA, NMDA, ODA, ODAFF, PBPN, PDA, SSN, TAT/NRD, TNDA, TXDA, UDAF, VDACS, WDATCP, and WE. EPA hereby gives notice that the 26 amended certification plans for certifying applicators of RUPs listed in this document are now approved or conditionally approved plans; the certifying authorities may certify RUP

applicators and continue with implementation of the certification plans as outlined in the approved plans.

With this announcement, EPA has approved or conditionally approved 67 out of the 68 federal, state, territory, and tribal certification plans submitted to the Agency prior to the November 2023 regulatory deadline. The 26 plans listed in this batched notice represents the fifth notification announcing the approval of the federal, state, territory, and tribal certification plans that have gone through the review and approval process. EPA also provides information regarding the reviews and approvals of these certification plans, and where copies of these approved plans are available, on its website at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/certification-standards-pesticide-applicators>.

One remaining plan, which is a Tribal-EPA memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation (SBT), will not be finalized by the November 4, 2023 deadline. After the November 2023, deadline, the existing MOA will no longer be valid. By default, the Tribe's jurisdiction will be covered by the EPA Plan for the Federal Certification of Applicators of Restricted Use Pesticides within Indian Country (EPA Plan) (Ref. 3) until the MOA is approved. Alternatively, if the Tribe responds in writing that it wants to opt out of the EPA Plan in the interim, they may do so. The Tribe, in any case, may continue to work with EPA to finalize their MOA. EPA will notify the Tribe that they may not continue to issue new or renew certifications under its existing MOA until the modified plan is approved. EPA will work with the Tribe on transitioning to the EPA Plan pending the approval of their MOA, including establishing a transition phase

for existing applicators to get certified under the EPA Plan.

III. References

The following is a list of documents that are related to the issuance of this Notice. For assistance in locating these other documents, please consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

1. EPA. Pesticides; Certification of Pesticide Applicators; Final Rule. **Federal Register**. 82 FR 952, January 4, 2017 (FRL–9956–70).
2. EPA. Pesticides; Certification of Pesticide Applicators; Further Extension to Expiration Date of Certification Plans; Final Rule. **Federal Register**. 87 FR 50953, August 19, 2022 (FRL–9134.1–04–OCSPP).
3. EPA. Notice of Approval Status; EPA Plan for the Federal Certification of Applicators Within Indian Country. **Federal Register**. 88 FR 68604, October 4, 2023 (FRL–7661–04–OCSPP).

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136–136y.

Dated: November 3, 2023.

Mary Elissa Reaves,

*Director, Pesticide Re-Evaluation Division,
Office of Pesticide Programs.*

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OA–2023–0030, FRL–11537–01–OA]

Notice of Meeting of the EPA Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee (CHPAC)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that the next

meeting of the Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee (CHPAC) will be held virtually and in-person on December 13 and 14, 2023 at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Headquarters located at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460. The CHPAC advises the EPA on science, regulations and other issues relating to children's environmental health.

DATES: Meeting dates are December 13, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and December 14, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (EST).

ADDRESSES:

Virtual Public Meeting: You must register online to receive the webcast meeting link and audio teleconference information. Please follow the registration instructions that will be announced on the CHPAC website at: <https://www.epa.gov/children/chpac> by December 1, 2023.

Written Comments: Submit written comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OA-2023-0030, through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments should be submitted on or before December 7, 2023. Anyone submitting written comments after this date should contact Amelia Nguyen, listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Do not electronically submit any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI; broadly defined as proprietary information, considered confidential to the submitter, the release of which would cause substantial business injury to the owner) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Additional information on commenting or visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

Special Accommodations: For information on access or services for individuals with disabilities, and to request accommodation for a disability, please contact Amelia Nguyen, listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amelia Nguyen, Office of Children's Health Protection, U.S. EPA, MC 1107T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460, (202) 564-4268, or nguyen.amelia@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meetings of the CHPAC are open to the

public. An agenda will be posted to <https://www.epa.gov/children/chpac>.

Amelia Nguyen,

Biologist, Office of Children's Health Protection.

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EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

Adoption of Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Under the National Environmental Policy Act

AGENCY: Export-Import Bank of the United States

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) has identified a categorical exclusion (CE) established by the Department of Energy (DOE) that covers categories of actions that EXIM proposes to take. This notice identifies the DOE CE and EXIM's categories of proposed actions for which it intends to use DOE's CE and describes the consultation between the agencies.

DATES: The CE identified below is available for EXIM to use for its proposed actions effective November 9, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Condren (VP Policy Analysis), Scott.Condren@exim.gov, (202)565-3777; Tiffin Caverly (VP Engineering & Environment), Tiffin.Caverly@exim.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

NEPA and CEs

The National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347, (NEPA) requires Federal agencies to interpret and administer Federal policies, regulations, and laws in accordance with NEPA's policies and to consider environmental values in their decision making.

Federal agencies are required to provide a detailed statement on proposals for major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.¹ NEPA also created the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) as the body responsible for implementing NEPA.

Categorical exclusions (CEs) can be used when there is a determination the proposed type of action would not have a significant effect on the human environment; this option eliminates the need for an environmental assessment

(EA) or more detailed environmental impact statement (EIS).²

CEQ considers CEs "an important mechanism to promote efficiency in the NEPA process" and recognizes an agency's ability to "identify and substantiate categories of actions that normally do not have a significant effect on the human environment."³

Section 109 of NEPA, enacted as part of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023, allows a Federal agency to "adopt" or use another agency's CEs for a category of proposed agency actions.⁴ To use another agency's CEs under section 109, an agency must identify the relevant CEs listed in another agency's ("establishing agency") NEPA procedures that cover its category of proposed actions or related actions; consult with the establishing agency to ensure that the proposed adoption of the CE to a category of actions is appropriate; identify to the public the CE that the agency plans to use for its proposed actions; and document adoption of the CE. EXIM has prepared this notice to meet these statutory requirements.

Program Background

As the official export credit agency of the United States, "the mission of the Export-Import Bank of the United States is to support the creation of American jobs by facilitating the export of U.S. goods and services." The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) steps in when the private sector does not provide financing for American businesses. The Bank's actions have historically helped support these firms in competing with foreign businesses overseas. The Make More in America (MMIA) initiative applies EXIM's authorities for medium and long-term (MLT) loans, loan guarantees, and insurance to export-oriented domestic projects. In doing so, MMIA allows EXIM to support American business during the whole export lifecycle. The purpose of such loans remains unchanged: to support U.S. employment. As EXIM usually lends to projects outside the United States, NEPA has not often been applicable because environmental effects are located entirely outside the jurisdiction of the United States. In the new MMIA initiative which focuses on domestic lending, borrowing and adopting CEs from another agency will speed up the processing time of deals and conserve staff resources. Faster processing times in this initiative will greatly facilitate

² 40 CFR 1501.4.

³ 88 FR 49924.

⁴ 42 U.S.C. 4336c.

¹ 40 CFR 1500.1.