

[FRL 5553-6]

**Community-Based Environmental Protection Committee of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology; Public Meeting****AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, EPA gives notice of a two-day meeting of the Community-Based Environmental Protection Committee of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT). NACEPT provides advice and recommendations to the Administrator of EPA on a broad range of environmental policy issues, and the Community-Based Environmental Protection Committee was formed to identify opportunities for harmonizing environmental policy, economic activity, and ecosystem management.

The meeting is being held to discuss recommendations the Committee plans to submit to EPA. Scheduling constraints preclude oral comments from the public during the meeting. Written comments can be submitted by mail, and will be transmitted to Committee members for consideration. **DATES:** The public meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 10, and Wednesday, September 11, 1996, at the Mayflower Park Hotel, 405 Olive Way, Seattle, Washington. On Tuesday, September 10, the Committee will meet from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on Wednesday, September 11, the Committee will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to: Mark Joyce or Deborah Ross, Office of Cooperative Environmental Management, U.S. EPA (1601F), 401 M Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20460.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mark Joyce or Deborah Ross, Designated Federal Officials, Direct line (202) 260-6889 or (202) 260-9752, Secretary's line (202) 260-9744.

Dated: August 7, 1996.

Mark Joyce and Deborah Ross,  
Designated Federal Officials.

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[OPP-00447; FRL-5392-2]

**Worker Protection Standard; Notice of Public Meeting****AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is holding a series of public meetings to solicit information from workers, growers, and others regarding regulations designed to protect agricultural workers and pesticide handlers. The first meeting was held in Winter Haven, Florida on February 22, 1996. The meetings are a part of EPA's commitment to monitor and evaluate the impact and performance of the Worker Protection regulations. The public meetings are designed to provide an opportunity for those directly affected by the regulations to relay their experiences after the regulations' first full year of implementation. By reaching out to those on the frontlines and for whom these regulations are intended to provide public health protection, EPA will better understand how the program is working and where meaningful improvements should be made. The meetings are open to the public.

**DATES:** The next scheduled meeting will be held on August 21, 1996. Registration begins at 5 p.m., and the public meeting begins at 7 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Tipton County Fair Grounds, 1200 South Main St., Tipton, Indiana.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** By mail: Jeanne Heying (7506C), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Telephone number: (703) 305-7164, Fax: (703) 308-2962, e-mail: heying.jeanne@epamail.epa.gov. To verify the schedule for the meeting contact: Don Baumgartner, (312) 886-7835.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Background**

In 1992, EPA issued final regulations governing the protection of employees on farms, forests and nurseries, and greenhouses from occupational exposures to agricultural pesticides. The WPS covers both workers in areas treated with pesticides, and employees who handle (mix, load, apply, etc.) pesticides. More specifically, the provisions of the Standard are intended to:

*Inform employees about the hazards of pesticides:*

-By requiring provisions for basic safety training, posting and distribution of information about the pesticides.

*Eliminate exposure to pesticides:*

-By prohibiting against the application of pesticides in a way that would cause exposure to people.

-By requiring time-limited restrictions for workers to return to areas following the application of pesticides.

-By requiring provisions for workers and handlers to wear proper protective clothing/equipment.

*Mitigate exposures that occur:*

-By requiring arrangements for the supply of soap, water, and towels in the case of pesticide exposure.

-By requiring provisions for emergency assistance.

**II. Information Sought by EPA**

EPA believes that agricultural workers, handlers, and growers are best able to provide unique insights on the effects of the WPS requirements. Their input will be supplemented by data generated from other sources during the course of EPA's longer-term evaluation effort. As a follow-up to the public meetings, EPA will develop a summary of information gained. These tools will be used to develop strategies for improving the administration of the WPS. The Agency is specifically interested in hearing public comment, or receiving written comment, on the following topics.

1. Assistance from regulatory partners and others involved with the WPS.
2. Usefulness of available assistance.
3. Understanding the WPS requirements.
4. Success in implementing the requirements.
5. Difficulties in implementing the requirements.
6. Suggestions to improve implementation.

**III. Registration to Make Comments**

Persons who wish to speak at the public meeting are encouraged to register at the meeting location. The Agency encourages parties to submit data to substantiate comments whenever possible. All comments, as well as information gathered at the public meetings will be available for public inspection from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except legal holidays) at the Public Response and Program Resource Branch, Field Operations Division, Room 1132, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Information submitted as part of any comment may be claimed as confidential by marking any or all of that information as Confidential Business Information (CBI). Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with the procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record.

Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by the Agency without prior notice to the