

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In May 1996, EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) presented two ecological risk assessment case studies to the FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) for comment on the methodologies used. While generally affirming and recognizing the utility of the current assessment process and methods, the SAP offered a number of suggestions for improving the OPP ecological risk assessment process. Foremost among the suggestions was that OPP move beyond the present single point deterministic process of risk assessment and develop the tools and methodologies necessary to do a probabilistic assessment that addresses the magnitude of the expected impact as well as the uncertainty and variation involved in the provided estimates.

As a result, the Environmental Fate and Effects Division (EFED) within the OPP has begun a series of efforts to identify, develop, and validate probabilistic assessment tools and methodologies which could be used for evaluating terrestrial and aquatic effects of pesticides. EFED has requested the cooperation of the American Crop Protection Association (ACPA) in this technical effort, and together EPA and ACPA have organized aquatic and terrestrial workgroups, each comprised of experts drawn from government agencies, academia, contract laboratories, environmental advocacy groups, and industry.

OPP is setting up an open docket which will include supporting material for this exploration of probabilistic ecological risk assessment methods. A final agenda for the meeting on June 23, and background papers regarding the topics to be discussed will be available for public review after June 13 at the following address: Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 1128, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, Telephone: (703) 305-5805.

Any person who wishes to file a written statement can do so before or after the meeting. These statements will become part of the permanent file and will be provided to the workgroup members for their information.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: May 20, 1997.

Joseph J. Merenda, Jr.,

Director, Environmental Fate and Effects Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

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FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD

Sunshine Act Notice

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m. (EDT), June 9, 1997.

PLACE: 4th Floor, Conference Room 4506, 1250 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Approval of the minutes of the May 12, 1997, Board member meeting.
2. Thrift Savings Plan activity report by the Executive Director.
3. Review of KPMG Peat Marwick audit reports:

- (a) "Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration Review of ADP Hardware Operations Management of the Thrift Savings Plan at the United States Department of Agriculture, National Finance Center"
- (b) "Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration Review of the Thrift Savings Plan Loan Operations at the United States Department of Agriculture, National Finance Center"
- (c) "Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration Review of the Thrift Savings Plan Forfeiture and Forfeiture Restoration Operations and Interfund Transfer Process at the United States Department of Agriculture, National Finance Center"

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Thomas J. Trabucco, Director, Office of External Affairs, (202) 942-1640.

Dated: May 28, 1997.

Roger W. Mehle,

Executive Director, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[30 DAY-12-97]

Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes a list of information collection requests under review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). To request a copy of these

requests, call the CDC Reports Clearance Office on (404) 639-7090. Send written comments to CDC, Desk Officer; Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235; Washington, DC 20503. Written comments should be received within 30 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

1. Technical Assistance to Enhance the Statistical and Analytic capacity of State and Local Public Health Professionals For Year 2000 Applications—(0920-0290)—Extension—Responsibility for identifying and providing data for monitoring the Year 2000 objectives is shared by agencies throughout the government, in State and local governments and in the private sector. Each of the 22 health priority areas outlined in the Year 2000 Objectives provides an assessment of the availability of data for establishing baseline measures and potential data sources for tracking progress. A key set of provisions of the Year 2000 Health Objectives Planning Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-582) provided for grants to states for the development of plans to implement the Year 2000 Health Objectives within each state, including the assessment of health within each of the states. The Act further mandated the development of uniform health status indicators for use by federal, state and local health agencies and model methods of collecting and reporting data. In order to enhance state capacity to use data, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS/CDC) has provided training in the use of data for public health purposes through the Applied Statistics Training Institute (ASTI). ASTI presents a series of short focused courses on data collection, analysis and utilization. These courses are offered to professionals in state and local health departments. The attendees gain knowledge of practical applications and techniques for evaluating the Year 2000 health objectives. Also, by sponsoring these courses, CDC can expect certain standards of data analysis on the local level. An upgrading of methodological skills for those persons at the local level primarily responsible for analysis is vitally important in understanding the health status of a population and in planning effective prevention programs. Each year ASTI mails a Bulletin of Courses to state and local public health agencies informing them, of the curriculum of courses available. An application for training form is included in the Bulletin of Courses for use by individuals interested in attending a course. This