

Dated: November 18, 1997.

Gary V. Gulezian,

Director, Great Lakes National Program Office.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-400120; FRL-5758-8]

Toxics Data Reporting Committee of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, EPA gives notice of a 2-day meeting of the Toxics Data Reporting Committee of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology. This will be the second meeting of the Toxics Data Reporting (TDR) Committee, whose mission is to provide advice to EPA regarding the Agency's Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program.

DATES: The public meeting will take place on December 9-10, 1997, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Written and electronic comments in response to this notice should be received by December 5, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at: L'Enfant Plaza, 480 L'Enfant Plaza SW., Washington, DC 20024, (202) 484-1000.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to: oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov. Follow the instructions under Unit II. of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

All comments which contain information claimed as CBI must be clearly marked as such. Three sanitized copies of any comments containing information claimed as CBI must also be submitted and will be placed in the public record for this action. Persons submitting information on any portion of which they believe is entitled to treatment as CBI by EPA must assert a business confidentiality claim in accordance with 40 CFR 2.203(b) for each such portion. This claim must be made at the time that the information is submitted to EPA. If a submitter does not assert a confidentiality claim at the time of submission, EPA will consider this as a waiver of any confidentiality claim and the information may be made

available to the public by EPA without further notice to the submitter.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cassandra Vail, telephone: (202) 260-0675, fax number: (202) 401-8142, e-mail: vail.cassandra@epamail.epa.gov, or Michelle Price, telephone: (202) 260-3372, fax number: (202) 410-8142, e-mail: price.michelle@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

At the 2-day meeting, the TDR Committee will continue the discussions begun at the September 29-30 meeting regarding the Agency's interpretation of the EPCRA definition of "release." In section 5 of the Form R, there have been a number of issues raised with regard to the definition of "release," particularly with respect to Class I underground injection wells and RCRA Subtitle C Landfills. Several commenters believe that EPA's interpretation of the EPCRA definition of "release" will lead to the misperception that a reported EPCRA section 313 "release" necessarily results in an actual exposure of people or the environment to a toxic chemical. The TDR Committee will continue to discuss possible recommendations on ways to collect (including nomenclature and format changes) and disseminate the data that are consistent with the Agency's interpretation of the EPCRA definition of "release" and would address the concerns raised regarding public misperception.

In addition to the discussions on section 5, the TDR Committee will also be discussing how EPA characterizes the TRI data through the annual public data release. Concerns have been raised that EPA's presentation of the TRI data can lead to public misperception of the data. Some commenters have stated that because EPA uses the word "release," TRI data leads to the misperception that a reported EPCRA section 313 "release" necessarily results in actual exposure of people or the environment to a toxic chemical. The Committee will be discussing possible recommendations on ways to more clearly present release data to the public to distinguish between the various methods of disposal while still making it possible to present meaningful statistics on a national basis about releases.

A meeting summary from the September 29-30 TDR Committee meeting will shortly be available on the TRI Home Page. The address of the TRI Home Page is <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/tri>. This summary can be found under the heading "TRI Stakeholder Dialogue." In addition, the agenda and

an issue paper outlining topics for discussion at the December 9-10 Committee meeting will also be available at this same site prior to the meeting. Oral presentations or statements by interested parties will be limited to 5 minutes. Interested parties are encouraged to contact Cassandra Vail, to schedule presentations before the Committee.

II. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this action, as well as the public version, has been established for this action under docket control number "OPPTS-400120" (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, Rm. NE-B607, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at: oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number "OPPTS-400120." Electronic comments on this action may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

Dated: November 24, 1997.

Cassandra Vail,

Designated Federal Official, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5927-5]

Science Advisory Board; Notification of Open Public Advisory Committee Meetings

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that two committees of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) will meet on the dates and times described below. All times noted