

RR. The authority vested in the Secretary or that may become vested in the Secretary, and not otherwise delegated, limited, or reserved, to conduct studies and demonstration projects, as directed by Congress, that relate to the programs established by Title XI of the Social Security Act (Act), insofar as they relate to the mission of the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), and Titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI. This delegation encompasses the authority to approve related program activities required by the studies and demonstration projects if such authority is or becomes vested in the Secretary and is not otherwise delegated, limited, or reserved. These activities include, but are not limited to, direct performance, entering into contracts or cooperative agreements, making grants, approving payments for contracts, cooperative agreements, and grants and approving authorized waivers of compliance with certain requirements of titles XI, XVIII, and XIX and XXI of the Act when such actions are for the purpose of conducting studies and demonstration projects.

This delegation shall be exercised under the Department's existing delegation of authority and policy on regulations. In addition, I hereby ratify and affirm any actions taken by the Administrator or other HCFA officials which, in effect, involved the exercise of this authority prior to the effective date of this delegation. This delegation is effective immediately.

Dated: December 2, 1997.

**Donna E. Shalala,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-32747 Filed 12-15-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Cancer Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meeting:

*Name of SEP:* Cancer Education Program, Telephone Conference Call.

*Date:* December 18, 1997.

*Time:* 3:30 p.m. to Adjournment.

*Place:* National Cancer Institute, Executive Plaza North, Room 611A, 6130 Executive Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892.

*Contact Person:* Mary Bell, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, National Cancer

Institute, NIH, Executive Plaza North, Room 611A, 6130 Executive Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892, Telephone: 301/496-7978.

*Purpose/Agenda:* To review, discuss and evaluate grant applications.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the urgent need to meet timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

The meeting will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in secs. 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C. Grant applications and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Numbers: 93.393, Cancer Cause and Prevention Research; 93.394, Cancer Detection and Diagnosis Research; 93.395, Cancer Treatment Research; 93.396, Cancer Biology Research; 93.397, Cancer Centers Support; 93.398, Cancer Research Manpower, 93.399, Cancer Control.)

Dated: December 10, 1997.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

### National Institutes of Health

#### Electric and Magnetic Fields Research and Public Information; Dissemination (EMFRAPID) Program; Environmental Toxicology Program, Office of Special Programs; National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health

**NOTICE:** Second EMF Science Review Symposium—EMFRAPID Program.

#### Background

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the Department of Energy (DOE) are coordinating the implementation of the Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) Research and Public Information Dissemination (RAPID) Program. EMFRAPID was established by the 1992 Energy Policy Act (Section 2118 for Public Law 102-486) which was signed in October 1992. This five-year effort is designed to determine the potential effect from exposure to 60 Hz electric and magnetic fields on biological systems, especially those produced by the generation, transmission and use of electric energy. DOE is responsible for characterizing field exposures and for mitigating exposures which may be hazardous. The NIEHS is responsible for

the development and implementation of a research program on the possible human health effects of electric and magnetic fields (EMF). The RAPID Program requires the NIEHS to report on the extent to which exposure to electric and magnetic fields adversely affects human health.

The NIEHS has three groups that assist in managing and directing the science portion of RAPID and who will provide guidance on reporting on the health effects of electric and magnetic fields. The first, known as the Interagency Agency Committee on Electric and Magnetic Fields (IAC) is composed of representatives from 10 federal agencies with responsibilities related to electric and magnetic fields (DOE, NIEHS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of Defense (DOD), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Rural Electrification Administration (REA), the Department of the Interior (DOI), and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)). The IAC, established by the President of the United States, must also prepare a final report for Congress.

The second is the National Electric and Magnetic Field Advisory Committee (NEMFAC). NEMFAC consists of representatives from public interest groups, organized labor, state governments, academia, and industry. This groups advises DOE and NIEHS on the design and implementation of the program. NEMFAC also provides recommendations to the IAC.

Finally, the NIEHSA has an internal EMF Steering Committee (SC) consisting of senior scientists with broad programmatic responsibilities and a broad scientific perspective. The SC manages all aspects of the EMFRAPID Research Program at the NIEHS.

#### NIEHS Report on Human Health Effects of EMF

The report development process combines a critical evaluation of the scientific literature with an assessment of the strength of the evidence for human health effects resulting from EMF exposures. To accomplish the initial part of this process, the NIEHS is convening a series of open, public symposia on science related to EMF exposures and their biological effects for these study areas: theoretical/*in vitro* research findings, epidemiological results, and *in vivo*/clinical laboratory findings. The symposia (March 1997, January 1998, and April 1998) provide