

risk to the U.S. general population. These degradation products are not of toxicological concern. The human body produces measurable quantities of H₂O₂ during metabolism and specifically for the destruction of pathogens by phagocytes. The body possess several systems for the removal of H₂O₂ including catalase and peroxidases including glutathione peroxidase.

Residues of H₂O₂ are not expected on treated commodities (whether raw agricultural commodities or processed) and the residues do not bioaccumulate in livestock and/or poultry that consume treated feedstuffs because H₂O₂ is highly reactive and short-lived due to the inherent instability of the peroxide bond (O-O bond). Because the peroxide bond is weak, transformation to water and oxygen is very highly favored thermodynamically (1993 RED). The degradation products of hydrogen peroxide are water and oxygen. Therefore, exposure of the pesticide chemical (from the use proposed in this petition) to the U.S. general population should not occur.

2. *Infants and children.* H₂O₂ naturally degrades to water and oxygen which would not pose a health risk to the U.S. population subgroup of infants and children. These degradation products are not of toxicological concern.

Residues of H₂O₂ are not expected on treated commodities (whether raw agricultural commodities or processed) and the residues are not expected to bioaccumulate in livestock and/or poultry that consume treated feedstuffs because H₂O₂ is highly reactive and short-lived due to the inherent instability of the peroxide bond (O-O bond). Because the peroxide bond is weak, transformation to water and oxygen is very highly favored thermodynamically (1993 RED). The degradation products of H₂O₂ are water and oxygen. Therefore, exposure of the pesticide chemical (from the use proposed in this petition) to the U.S. population subgroup of infants and children should not occur.

F. International Tolerances

The petitioner understands that there are no current established Maximum Residue Levels for H₂O₂.

G. Information on endocrine effects

H₂O₂ does not act like hormones or inhibit hormonal activity.

II. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this notice of filing, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice of filing

under docket control number [PF-784] (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 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located at the address in "ADDRESSES" at the beginning of this document.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comment and data will also be accepted on disks in Wordperfect 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number (PF-784) and appropriate petition number. Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental Protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, Food additives, Feed additives, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: December 16, 1997.

Frank Sanders,

Director, Antimicrobials Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 98-929 Filed 1-13-98; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5949-8]

Gray PCB Site: Notice of Proposed Settlement

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed settlement.

SUMMARY: Under section 122(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has agreed to settle claims for response costs at the Gray PCB Site, Hopkinsville, Christian County, Kentucky, with J. Trockman & Sons, Inc. EPA will consider public comments on the proposed settlements

for thirty (30) days. EPA may withdraw from or modify the proposed settlements should such comments disclose facts or considerations which indicate the proposed settlement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. Copies of the settlements are available from: Ms. Paula V. Batchelor, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta Federal Center, Waste Programs Branch, Cost Recovery Section, 61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104. 404-562-8887.

Written comments must be submitted to Mr. Ray Strickland at the above address on or before February 13, 1998.

Dated: December 5, 1997.

Richard D. Green,

Acting Director, Waste Management Division.

[FR Doc. 98-936 Filed 1-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5949-9]

The Incidence and Severity of Sediment Contamination in Surface Waters of the United States

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability of report to Congress.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) announces the public availability of a report to Congress, The Incidence and Severity of Sediment Contamination in Surface Waters of the United States. This report to Congress is required by the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Section 501(b)(4) of the Act defines contaminated sediment as "sediment containing chemical substances in excess of appropriate geochemical, toxicological or sediment quality criteria or measures; or otherwise considered to pose a threat to human health or the environment". Section 503(a)(1) of the Act requires USEPA to compile existing information on the quantity, chemical and physical composition, and geographic location of pollutants in aquatic sediment, including the probable source of such pollutants and identification of those sediments which are contaminated. Section 503(a)(2) of the Act requires the Administrator of USEPA to report to Congress the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the survey required under section 503(a)(1), including recommendations for actions necessary to prevent contamination of aquatic