

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5955-6]

Public Stakeholders Meeting on the Process for Implementing the Guidelines for Carcinogen Risk Assessment**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This document announces a stakeholder meeting sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Science Policy Council. EPA is presenting a process for reassessing cancer assessments as part of EPA's initiative for implementing the Guidelines for Carcinogen Risk Assessment. The Guidelines were proposed in 1996. EPA also proposed an implementation process for reassessing cancer assessments in 1996 and is revising the process based on public comments. EPA is now seeking additional public comment and input on its current implementation process. The implementation process will be finalized at the same time as the Guidelines for Carcinogen Risk Assessment. The agenda will include opportunities for short stakeholder presentations, as well as structured, informal discussion based on the issues.

DATES: The meeting will begin on Tuesday, February 24, 1998, at 8:30 a.m. and end on Wednesday, February 25, 1998, at approximately 12 noon. Members of the public are invited to attend.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel at 18th and Eads Streets in Arlington, VA.

Resolve, Inc., an EPA contractor, has sub-contracted to The Mediation Institute, the logistical support and facilitation for the meeting. EPA urges participants to pre-register with Alana Knaster or Janet Pittman, The Mediation Institute, 4508 Park Cordero, Calabasas, CA 91302, Tel: 818/591-9526, FAX: 818/591-0980 as soon as possible. Space is limited. Registrants will receive an information packet containing the draft meeting agenda, and a discussion document outlining EPA's position on several major issues, along with other meeting information.

PRESENTATIONS: Members of the public who are interested in making a short presentation on a particular issue at the stakeholder meeting are requested to sign up for one of the topic areas at the time of their registration. EPA would appreciate receiving a short summary of the presentation, which should be no

more than one page. Presentations are limited to 5 minutes. Because EPA is seeking a variety of opinions, the facilitator will ensure that there is a balance of viewpoints.

SUBMITTING COMMENTS: To ensure that stakeholders who are unable to attend the meeting may present their views, EPA will also accept short written comments on the implementation process until March 27, 1998. Comments should be submitted to: Alana Knaster, same address and phone numbers as above.

Please note that all comments responding to this notice will be placed in a public administrative record. For that reason, commentors should not submit personal information such as medical data or home addresses, confidential business information or information protected by copyright. Due to limited time and resources, acknowledgments will not be sent.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical inquiries, as well as questions about the meeting, please contact Alana Knaster, same address and phone numbers as above. The main discussion document containing the implementation process can be obtained from the EPA World Wide Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/ncea/riskassf.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA is presenting a process for implementing the Guidelines for Carcinogen Risk Assessment for reassessing cancer assessments. The Guidelines were developed under the auspices of the EPA's Risk Assessment Forum (RAF) and proposed in 1996 (61 FR 17960). EPA also proposed an implementation process for reassessing cancer assessments in 1996 (61 FR 32799) and is revising the process based on public comments. The implementation process will be finalized at the same time as the Guidelines for Carcinogen Risk Assessment.

It is expected that once the Guidelines become final, existing cancer assessments will need reassessment based upon the revised Guidelines. The implementation process will help the EPA and the public select and prioritize the chemicals that would need a reassessment. It will also allow a selection of new assessments to be incorporated in the schedule for the reassessments.

The four main issues for which EPA specifically seeks public opinion include: (1) The implementation process, including opportunities for public input, (2) the criteria for selection of chemicals for reassessment, (3) whether small changes can be made in toxicity assessments without

completely reassessing all toxicity information, and (4) the form of external review for identification and prioritization of chemicals.

Following this meeting, EPA will use the comments to finalize the implementation process for cancer reassessments once the Guidelines for Carcinogen Risk Assessment are final.

Dated: January 22, 1998.

Dorothy E. Patton,

Director, Office of Science Policy.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF-787; FRL-5763-6]

Notice of Filing of Pesticide Petitions**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initial filing of pesticide petitions proposing the establishment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities.

DATES: Comments, identified by the docket control number PF-787, must be received on or before February 27, 1998.

ADDRESSES: By mail submit written comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticides Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person bring comments to: Rm. 1132, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov. Follow the instructions under "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION." No confidential business information should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as "Confidential Business Information" (CBI). CBI should not be submitted through e-mail. Information marked as CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with 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 EPA without prior notice. All written comments will be available for public