

the proposed framework for the 2010 initiative based on an analysis of public comments received during a 3-month period, which ended on December 15, 1997. They will make recommendations on the format to be adopted for publication in the fall of 1998. The members will also discuss proposals for 2010 objectives as provided by the HHS agencies after consideration of public comments. The Council's recommendations will form the basis of a draft of the 2010 objectives to be published concurrently with the draft format.

If time permits at the conclusion of the formal agenda of the Council, the Chair may allow brief oral statements from interested parties and persons in attendance. The meeting is open to the public; however, seating is limited. Because of strict security in the Humphrey Building, members of the public who do not have a Federal government identification card should call Ms. Gloria Robledo (202-401-7736) when they arrive in the building lobby to arrange for an escort to the meeting. If you will require a sign language interpreter, please call Ms. Robledo by 4:30 p.m. E.D.T. on April 17, 1998 to inform her of this need.

Dated: January 29, 1998.

Susanne A. Stoiber,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health (Disease Prevention and Health Promotion).

[FR Doc. 98-3380 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

Nominations for Members of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force: Clarification

The Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) in the January 7, 1998 **Federal Register** (FR) Notice (63 FR 879-880) invited nominations for members of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Curricula vitae were requested with the nominations. The FR notice stated that response will be available for public inspection.

AHCPR is clarifying the January 7 notice regarding availability of responses. Under the heading "Materials Submission and Deadline" on page 880 the following statement should be included: "Information regarded as private and personal, such as a nominee's social security number, home and Internet addresses, home telephone and fax numbers, or names of

children, will not be disclosed to the public." This is in accord with agency confidentiality policies and Department regulations (45 CFR 5.67).

Dated: February 5, 1998.

John M. Eisenberg,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-3429 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-90-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Announcement 98015]

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; Fatality Surveillance and Field Investigations at the State Level Using the NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation Model; Notice of Availability of Funds for Fiscal Year 1998

Introduction

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1998 funds for cooperative agreements to build State capacity for conducting traumatic occupational fatality surveillance, investigation, and intervention activities through the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Model.

CDC is committed to achieving the health promotion and disease prevention objectives of Healthy People 2000, a national activity to reduce morbidity and mortality and improve the quality of life. This announcement is related to the priority areas of Occupational Safety and Health, and Surveillance and Data Systems. (To order a copy of Healthy People 2000, see the section WHERE TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.)

Authority

This program is authorized under the Public Health Service Act, as amended, Section 301(a) [42 U.S.C. 241(a)]; the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Section 20(a) [29 U.S.C. 669(a)]. The applicable program regulation is 42 CFR Part 52.

Smoke-Free Workplace

CDC strongly encourages all grant recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and to promote the nonuse of all tobacco products, and Public Law 103-227, the Pro-Children Act of 1994, prohibits smoking in certain facilities

that receive Federal funds in which education, library, day care, health care, and early childhood development services are provided to children.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are State Departments of Health, Departments of Labor, and Departments of Industry located within any State or territory of the United States. Program activities, however, may not be carried out by departmental divisions that are responsible for enforcement of occupational safety and health standards. Awards will be limited to those organizations that can exercise public health authority for intervention into occupational safety and health problems.

Only one application per State will be accepted under this announcement.

Note: An organization described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which engages in lobbying activities shall not be eligible to receive Federal funds constituting an award, a grant, contract, loan, or any other form.

Availability of Funds

Approximately \$190,000 will be available in FY 1998 to fund two or three awards. It is expected that the awards will range from \$60,000 to \$100,000. Individual awards may vary by State, and will be based upon the scope and nature of traumatic occupational fatalities documented by the respondent, and upon proposed personnel, administrative, and associated costs. The awards will be made on or about July 1, 1998, with 12-month budget periods within project periods of up to 5 years. Funding estimates may vary and are subject to change.

Continuation awards within the project period will be determined on the basis of satisfactory progress and the availability of funds.

Use of Funds

Restrictions on Lobbying

Applicants should be aware of restrictions on the use of HHS funds for lobbying of Federal or State legislative bodies. Under the provisions of 31 U.S.C. Section 1352 (which has been in effect since December 23, 1989), recipients (and their subcontractors) are prohibited from using appropriated Federal funds (other than profits from a Federal contract) for lobbying Congress or any Federal agency in connection with the award of a particular contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or loan. This includes grants/cooperative agreements that, in whole or in part, involve conferences for which federal

funds cannot be used directly or indirectly to encourage participants to lobby or to instruct participants on how to lobby.

In addition, the current HHS Appropriations Act expressly prohibits the use of appropriated funds for indirect or "grass roots" lobbying efforts that are designed to support or defeat legislation pending before state legislatures. Section 503 of the law provides as follows:

Sec. 503(a) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, for the preparation, distribution, or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television, or video presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before the Congress, or any State legislature, except in presentation to the Congress or any State legislative body itself.

(b) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used to pay the salary or expenses of any grant or contract recipient, or agent acting for such recipient, related to any activity designed to influence legislation or appropriations pending before the Congress or any State legislature.

Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997, as enacted by the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, 1997, Division A, Title I, Section 101(e), Public Law No. 104-208 (September 30, 1996).

Background

Traumatic occupational fatalities represent a public health problem of significant proportion. Based on data from the National Traumatic Occupational Fatalities (NTOF) surveillance system, nearly 6500 workers die each year in the U.S. from traumatic injuries sustained in the workplace. The four highest risk industries for fatal injury are: mining, construction, transportation/communication/public utilities, and agriculture/forestry/fishing. Each of these industrial sectors has a traumatic fatality rate that is at least twice the overall civilian workforce rate of 7.0 deaths per 100,000 workers. The leading causes of death for all industries are motor vehicles, machinery, homicide, falls, and electrocutions. These categories account for nearly 60 percent of the occupational fatalities each year. In order to adequately develop and implement intervention strategies aimed at reducing fatal injuries in the

workplace, more specific data pertaining to the interaction of the worker, the work environment, and work processes are needed.

Purpose

The purpose of funding these cooperative agreements is to expand the State-based FACE project and significantly strengthen the occupational public health infrastructure. This will be accomplished by integrating resources for occupational safety and health research and public health prevention programs at the State and local levels. The ultimate goal of the project is to reduce traumatic occupational fatalities within the States.

Over the past eight years, State-level personnel have shown that the NIOSH FACE model for investigation of occupational fatalities can be successfully implemented in the States. The most immediate products of the State-level FACE programs have been accurate and timely surveillance systems for detecting traumatic occupational fatalities occurring within the State, fatality investigations identifying causal factors, and recommendations for prevention strategies. This program will permit awardees to efficiently integrate resources for prevention of occupational fatalities at the State and local level. Additionally, States will be encouraged to target occupational traumatic injury research and prevention programs based on specific State priority areas. FACE data will be shared with all award recipients. The specific objectives for this cooperative agreement are as follows:

A. Develop a timely, comprehensive, multiple-source State-level surveillance system for identifying and recording basic epidemiologic data on all traumatic occupational fatalities occurring within the State.

B. Conduct on-site investigations of specific traumatic occupational fatalities using the NIOSH FACE investigative model.

C. Through case investigations, identify factors common to selected types of traumatic occupational fatalities leading to development and prioritization of prevention strategies.

D. Develop and disseminate prevention recommendations to reduce the risk of fatal occupational injuries within the State.

E. Develop and implement prevention strategies and projects for reducing State incidence of traumatic occupational injuries and fatalities.

Program Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of this program, the recipient will be responsible for the activities under A. (Recipient Activities), and CDC/NIOSH will be responsible for the activities under B. (CDC/NIOSH Activities).

A. Recipient Activities

1. Develop a comprehensive multiple-source, State-level surveillance system for prompt identification and reporting of epidemiologic data on all traumatic occupational fatalities occurring in the State.

2. Conduct in-depth site investigations of targeted occupational fatalities as determined by NIOSH. Currently, falls from elevations and machinery-related incidents are targeted fatality types. These are among the leading causes of work-place fatalities, as identified by national surveillance systems; however, they may change over the term of the agreement. Greatest emphasis must be placed on the determined targets; however, States may choose, in cooperation with NIOSH, to conduct in-depth investigations of other fatality types identified.

3. In specified format, develop and submit to NIOSH a narrative report of each in-depth fatality investigation which describes the fatal incident and includes recommendations for preventing future similar occurrences.

4. Submit first reports of fatalities, investigative narrative reports, and supplementary investigative data electronically to NIOSH through CDC's WONDER/PC system.

5. Evaluate surveillance data and investigative findings to identify specific worker populations to which prevention programs should be addressed.¹

6. Identify entities such as employers, unions, and trade associations that can effect change in the workplace.

7. Communicate recommended preventions to those who can effect change in the workplace and to those at risk through targeted dissemination.

8. Prepare and submit periodic status reports of activities in designated format and an annual report that summarizes the activities and progress made by the State toward meeting the objectives for the State FACE program.

9. Participate in annual NIOSH-conducted FACE project workshop/

¹ A Framework for Assessing the Effectiveness of Disease and Injury Prevention. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), March 27, 1992/ Vol.41/Jn. The MMWR can be accessed through World-Wide Web (<http://www.cdc.gov/epo/mmwr/mmwr.html>).

conference in Morgantown, West Virginia, or other selected site.

B. CDC/NIOSH Activities

1. Provide formats for data reporting forms, coding formats, computer software, and State personnel training for electronic transmission of FACE surveillance and investigative data to the NIOSH data base.
2. Provide assistance to awardee staff in establishing traumatic occupational fatality notification networks.
3. Provide initial training in procedures and subsequent technical assistance for conducting on-site fatality investigations using the FACE investigative methodology (including the use of FACE investigative data collection instruments).
4. Provide assistance in identifying sentinel events resulting from industrial applications of new and emerging technologies.
5. Provide technical assistance in the dissemination of summary reports and other published findings to State and local health and labor officials, voluntary health groups, workers, unions, employers and professional organizations.
6. Provide technical assistance in identifying and evaluating effective intervention strategies.
7. CDC will provide funds to purchase one IBM-compatible, Pentium-based personal computer, printer, telecommunications equipment, and needed software for use on appropriate activities related to this cooperative agreement, if necessary.

Technical Reporting Requirements

An original and two copies of an ANNUAL progress report are due no later than 30 days after the end of each budget period. A Financial Status Report (FSR) is required no later than 90 days after the end of each budget period. FINAL progress report and FSR are due no later than 90 days after the end of the project period (October 31, 2003). Monthly electronically transmitted CDC WONDER/PC FACE status reports are due to NIOSH no later than the 10th of the following month. All other reports are submitted to the Grants Management Branch, CDC.

Annual progress report should include:

- A. A brief program description.
- B. A listing of program goals and objectives accompanied by a comparison of the actual accomplishments related to the goals and objectives established for the period.
- C. If established goals and objectives to be accomplished were delayed,

describe both the reason for the deviation and anticipated corrective action or deletion of the activity from the project.

Application

A. Preapplication Letter of Intent

Although not a prerequisite of application, a non-binding letter-of-intent to apply is requested from potential applicants. The letter should be submitted to the Grants Management Branch, CDC. (See "Application Submission and Deadline" section for the address.) It should be postmarked no later than February 25, 1998. The letter should identify the announcement number, name of principal investigator, and specify the priority area to be addressed by the proposed project. The letter-of-intent does not influence review or funding decisions, but it will enable CDC to plan the review more efficiently and will ensure that each applicant receives timely and relevant information prior to application submission.

B. Application Content

The entire application, including appendices, should not exceed 40 pages and the Proposal Narrative section contained therein should not exceed 25 double-spaced pages. Pages should be clearly numbered and a complete index to the application and any appendices included. The original and each copy of the application must be submitted unstapled and unbound. All materials must be typewritten, double-spaced, with unreduced type (font size 12 point) on 8½" by 11" paper, with at least 1" margins, headers, and footers, and printed on one side only. Do not include any spiral or bound materials or pamphlets. All graphics, maps, overlaps, etc. should be in black and white and meet the above criteria.

C. Title Page

The heading should include the title of grant program, project title, organization, name and address, project director's name address and telephone number.

D. Abstract

A one-page, singled-spaced, typed abstract must be submitted with the application. The heading should include the title of grant program, project title, organization, name and address, project director and telephone number. This abstract should be included in the **APPLICATION CONTENT** section of the application, under **INTRODUCTION**. This abstract is not in lieu of (but in addition to) the **INTRODUCTION** section.

E. Narrative

The narrative of the application should:

1. Document the applicant's understanding of the objectives of the project and the proposed agreement and the goals over the 5-year period of the agreement.
2. Describe the scope and nature of occupational fatalities in the applicant's State.
3. Describe the applicant's ability to provide qualified and appropriate staff and other resources necessary to implement the project. This may be supported by documentation of the applicant's experience in conducting similar research efforts, including surveillance activities.
4. Describe an implementation plan and provide a proposed schedule for accomplishing each of the activities to be carried out in this project including the implementation of the surveillance, field investigations, dissemination and prevention components, and a method for evaluating the accomplishments.
5. Provide the names, qualifications, and time allocations of: the principal investigator; professional staff to be assigned to this project; the support staff available for performance of this project; and the facilities, space, and equipment available for performance of this project.
6. Provide a detailed description of the proposed first-year activities, as well as a brief description of future year activities.
7. Provide letters of support or other documentation demonstrating collaboration of the applicant's ability to work with diverse groups, establish linkages, and facilitate awareness information.

F. Budget

Completed budget forms should be placed at the beginning of the application. The applicant should provide a detailed budget, with accompanying justification of all operating expenses, that is consistent with the stated objectives and planned activities of the project. CDC may not approve or fund all proposed activities. Applicants should be precise about the program purpose of each budget item, providing anticipated costs for personnel, travel (including travel expenses for annual NIOSH-conducted FACE project workshop/conference in Morgantown, West Virginia, or other selected site), communications, postage, equipment (see Item 7 under CDC/NIOSH Activities), supplies, etc., and all sources of funds to meet those needs.

For contracts described within the application budget, if known, applicants

should name the contractor; describe the service(s) to be performed; provide an itemized breakdown and justification for the estimated costs of the contract; the kinds of organizations or parties to be selected; the period of performance; and the method of selection. Budget narrative pages showing, in detail, how funds in each object class will be spent should be placed directly behind form 424A. Do not put these pages in the body of the application.

Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation of the applications will be based on the following criteria:

A. Goals and Objectives

Ability to communicate the scope and nature of traumatic occupational fatalities in the State as evidenced by the quality of the narrative and documented research and experience. (15%)

B. The qualifications and time commitment of proposed project staff (principal investigator, field investigator (if already identified), administrative and technical support staff). (25%-Total)

1. The existence of or potential for acquiring expertise in investigation of occupational fatalities. There should be a full-time field investigator dedicated to the project. (15%)

2. The existence of or potential for acquiring safety expertise relevant to formulation of injury prevention strategies. (10%)

C. Applicant's collaborative relationships with various relevant State or territorial agencies or organizations in addressing the problem of traumatic occupational fatality surveillance, investigation, and intervention. (30%-Total)

1. The existence of or potential for establishment of a multiple-source network for identification and reporting of traumatic occupational fatalities. (15%)

2. The existence of or potential for establishment of relationships with public safety departments, safety compliance agencies, and other entities that can provide background and supplementary data relating to specific fatality cases. (15%)

D. Demonstrated ability to communicate recommended interventions to those at risk through targeted dissemination. (25%)

E. Additional personnel/facilities/equipment already in place that can contribute to successful implementation of the project. (5%)

F. Budget Justification (Not Scored)

The budget will be evaluated to the extent that it is reasonable, clearly justified, and consistent with the intended use of funds.

Executive Order 12372 Review

Applications are subject to the Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs as governed by Executive Order (E.O.) 12372. E.O. 12372 sets up a system for State and local government review of proposed Federal assistance applications. Applicants should contact their State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) as early as possible to alert them to the prospective applications and receive any necessary instructions on the State process. For proposed projects serving more than one State, the applicant is advised to contact the SPOC for each affected State. A current list of SPOCs is included in the application kit.

If SPOCs have any State process recommendations on applications submitted to CDC, they should forward them to Ron Van Duyne, Grants Management Officer, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Room 300, 255 East Paces Ferry Road, NE., Atlanta, GA 30305, ATTN: Victoria Sepe no later than 60 days after the application deadline date. The program announcement number 98015 and program title FACE should be referenced on the document. The granting agency does not guarantee to "accommodate or explain" State recommendations it receives after that date.

Public Health System Reporting Requirements

This program is not subject to the Public Health System Reporting Requirements.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance for this program is 93.283.

Other Requirements

Paperwork Reduction Act

Projects funded through a cooperative agreement that involve collection of information from ten or more individuals will be subject to review and approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Application Submission and Deadline

The original and two copies of the application PHS Form 5161-1 (OMB Number 0937-0189) must be submitted to Victoria Sepe, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Mailstop E-13, 255 East Paces

Ferry Road, NE., Room 300, Atlanta, GA 30305, on or before March 31, 1998.

Deadline: Applications will be considered as meeting the deadline if they are either:

A. Received on or before the deadline date, or

B. Sent on or before the deadline date and received in time for submission to the objective review group. (The applicants must request a legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark or obtain a legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier or the U.S. Postal Service. Private metered postmarks will not be acceptable as proof of timely mailing.)

Late Applications: Applications that do not meet the criteria in A. or B. above are considered late applications. Late applications will not be considered and will be returned to the applicants.

Where to Obtain Additional Information

Application Packet

To receive additional written information call 1-888-GRANTS4. You will be asked to leave your name, address, and phone number and will need to refer to NIOSH Announcement 98015. You will receive a complete program description, information on application procedures, and application forms. CDC will not send application kits by facsimile or express mail. PLEASE REFER TO NIOSH ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER 98015 WHEN REQUESTING INFORMATION AND SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION.

Internet

This and other CDC announcements are available through the CDC homepage on the Internet. The address for the CDC homepage is: <http://www.cdc.gov>. For your convenience, you may be able to retrieve a copy of the PHS Form 5161-1 (OMB Number 0937-0189) from <http://mercury.psc.dhhs.gov>.

Business Management Technical Assistance

If you have questions after reviewing the contents of all the documents, business management technical assistance may be obtained from Victoria Sepe, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Mailstop E-13, Room 321, 255 East Paces Ferry Road, NE., Atlanta, GA 30305, telephone (404) 842-6804, Internet: vxw1@cdc.gov.

Programmatic Technical Assistance

If you have programmatic technical assistance questions you may obtain

information from Paul H. Moore, State FACE Project Officer, telephone (304) 285-6016, Internet: phm0@cdc.gov; Stephanie G. Pratt, State FACE Technical Officer, telephone (304) 285-5992, Internet: sgp2@cdc.gov, Trauma Investigations Section, Surveillance and Field Investigations Branch, Division of Safety Research, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1095 Willowdale Road, Mailstop 180P, Morgantown, WV 26505-2888, or Nancy A. Stout, Ed.D., Director, telephone (304) 285-5894, Division of Safety Research, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1095 Willowdale Road, Mailstop 1172, Morgantown, WV 26505-2888.

Potential applicants may obtain a copy of Healthy People 2000 (Full Report, Stock Number 017-001-00474-0) or Healthy People 2000 (Summary Report, Stock Number 017-001-00473-1) referenced in the **INTRODUCTION** through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-9325, telephone (202) 512-1800.

Dated: January 5, 1998.

Diane Porter,

Acting Director, National Institute For Occupational Safety and Health Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

[FR Doc. 98-3406 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-19-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 97F-0522]

Anitox Corp.; Filing of Food Additive Petition (Animal Use)

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that Anitox Corp. has filed a petition proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of formaldehyde in maintaining animal feeds and feed ingredients free of *Salmonella*.

DATES: Written comments on the petitioner's environmental assessment by March 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug

Administration, 12420 Parklawn Dr., rm. 1-23, Rockville, MD 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Henry E. Ekperigin, Center for Veterinary Medicine (HFV-222), Food and Drug Administration, 7500 Standish Pl., Rockville, MD 20855, 301-827-0174.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (sec. 409(b)(5) (21 U.S.C. 348(b)(5))), notice is given that a food additive petition (FAP 2237) has been filed by Anitox Corp., P.O. Box 1929, Buford, GA 30519. The petition proposes to amend the food additive regulations in § 573.460 *Formaldehyde* (21 CFR 573.460) to provide for the safe use of formaldehyde (37 percent aqueous solution) at a maximum of 5.4 pounds per ton of animal feed and feed ingredients to maintain the animal feeds and feed ingredients free of *Salmonella*.

The potential environmental impact of this action is being reviewed. To encourage public participation consistent with regulations promulgated under the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1501.4(b)), the agency is placing the environmental assessment submitted with the petition that is the subject of this notice on public display at the Dockets Management Branch (address above) for public review and comment. Interested persons may, on or before March 13, 1998, submit to the Dockets Management Branch (address above) written comments. Two copies of any comments are to be submitted, except that individuals may submit one copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. Received comments may be seen in the office above between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. FDA will also place on public display any amendments to, or comments on, the petitioner's environmental assessment without further announcement in the **Federal Register**. If, based on its review, the agency finds that an environmental impact statement is not required and this petition results in a regulation, the notice of availability of the agency's finding of no significant impact and the evidence supporting that finding will be published with the regulation in the **Federal Register** in accordance with 21 CFR 25.40(c).

Dated: January 26, 1998.

Stephen F. Sundlof,

Director, Center for Veterinary Medicine.

[FR Doc. 98-3379 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-01-F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 98F-0063]

Protein Technologies International; Filing of Food Additive Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that Protein Technologies International has filed a petition proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of a dry form of natamycin for use as an antimycotic in food.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

JoAnn Ziyad, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS-206), Food and Drug Administration, 200 C St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202-418-3116.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (sec. 409(b)(5) (21 U.S.C. 348(b)(5))), notice is given that a food additive petition (FAP 8A4581) has been filed by Protein Technologies International, Checkerboard Sq., St. Louis, MO 63164. The petition proposes to amend the food additive regulations in § 172.155 *Natamycin (pimaricin)* (21 CFR 172.155) to provide for the safe use of a dry form of the food additive for use on the surfaces of cuts and slices of cheese to inhibit mold spoilage, in accordance with various standards of identity for cheeses that allow the use of antimycotics and anticaking agents.

The agency has determined under 21 CFR 25.32(k) that this action is of the type that does not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

Dated: January 26, 1998.

Laura M. Tarantino,

Acting Director, Office of Premarket Approval, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.

[FR Doc. 98-3378 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-01-F