

888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. A copy of any motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

D2. Agency Comments—Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-12634 Filed 5-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-50840; FRL-5789-2]

### Receipt of a Notification to Conduct Small-Scale Field Testing of a Genetically Engineered Microbial Pesticide

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces receipt from DuPont Agricultural Products of a notification (352-NMP-A) of intent to conduct small-scale field testing involving baculoviruses, which have been genetically engineered to express synthetic genes which encode for an insect-specific toxin. The tests will be small-scale and will not involve more than a cumulative total of 10 acres per pest per year. Any food or feed crops shall be destroyed or consumed only by experimental animals. The Agency has determined that the notification may be of regional and national significance. Therefore, in accordance with 40 CFR 172.11(a), the Agency is soliciting public comments on this notification. Q02

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before June 12, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** By mail, submit written comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, deliver comments to: Rm. 1119, 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 Unit II. of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) 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 CBI. Information so marked 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 will be included in the public docket by EPA without prior notice. The public docket is available for public inspection in Rm. 1119 at the Virginia address given above, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William R. Schneider, PM 90, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (7511W), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location, telephone number, and e-mail address: 5th floor CS1 2800 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, (703) 308-8683, e-mail:

schneider.william@epamail.epa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice of receipt of this notification does not imply a decision by the Agency on this notification.

EPA received a notification from DuPont Agricultural Products of Delaware (352-NMP-A). The proposed small-scale field trials involve the introduction of genetically engineered isolates of nuclear polyhedrosis baculoviruses, which have been genetically engineered to express a synthetic gene which encodes for an insect-specific toxin. The purpose of the proposed testing will be to assess and compare the efficacy of formulated and unformulated genetically engineered constructs, formulated and unformulated wild type nuclear polyhedrosis baculoviruses, and various controls against agriculture pest insects. These tests are similar to testing previously approved by EPA in 1996 (notification 352-NMP-4) and 1997 (notification 352-NMP-5). Following review of DuPont's notification and any comments received in response to this notice, EPA may approve the tests, ask for additional data, require additional modifications to the test protocols, or require an Experimental Use Permit application to be submitted. In

accordance with 40 CFR 172.50, under no circumstances shall the proposed tests proceed until the submitter has received notice from EPA of its approval of such tests.

## II. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this document, as well as the public version, has been established for this document under docket control number "OPP-50840" (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 Virginia 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 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number "OPP-50840." Electronic comments on this proposed rule may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

Dated: April 29, 1998.

**Kathleen F. Knox,**

*Acting Director, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

[FR Doc. 98-12721 Filed 5-12-98; 8:45 am]

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-00535; FRL-5786-8]

### Changes to Registration Priority System Involving Organophosphate (OP) Alternatives and Reduced Risk Candidates

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is soliciting comments on a draft, updated policy for the prioritization and expedited review of applications for significant OP alternative new active ingredients and new use registration applications for