single doses of potassium perchlorate caused the release of iodide from the thyroids of patients with Graves' Disease. The provisional RfD values did not undergo internal Agency or external peer review. In March of 1997 a peer review panel convened by an independent organization, Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment (TERA), determined that the health effects and toxicity data for perchlorate were insufficient to generate a credible RfD for risk assessment purposes. The reviewers were concerned that developmental toxicity, notably neurological development due to hypothyroidism during pregnancy, could be a critical effect of perchlorate that has not been adequately examined in studies to date. They also concluded that insufficient data were available on potential effects of perchlorate on organs and tissues other than the thyroid.

New Health Effects/Toxicology Studies Underway

A set of toxicological and ecological studies is underway to address key data gaps and provide a comprehensive database related to the toxicity of perchlorate. The studies are being funded and overseen by a variety of organizations with potential responsibility for perchlorate contamination in the environment including the United States Air Force, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Perchlorate Study Group (PSG).[1]

To date, a 90-day subchronic oral study, a neurobehavioral developmental toxicity study, and a genotoxicity study have been completed. Currently ongoing studies include a segment II developmental toxicity study, a two-generation reproductive toxicity study, absorption, distribution, metabolism, and elimination (ADME) studies, perchlorate mechanistic studies, and immunotoxicity studies. Ecotoxicity studies in Daphnia, earthworms, lettuce and fathead minnow are also being performed. The results of most of these studies will be available for discussion in the Toxicological Review document and for development of the revised RfD, cancer, and ecological assessment for perchlorate.

The peer review will focus on the scientific data, methods, and analyses, along with the assumptions and uncertainties that are associated with the revised provisional RfD, cancer assessment, and ecological assessment for perchlorate. Following the peer review workshop, RTI will issue a report summarizing the workshop. EPA will consider the results of the workshop prior to issuing the revised Toxicological Review document for perchlorate. Although the completed risk assessment will be one of the factors considered in making future decisions regarding perchlorate contamination in the environment, these decisions and other risk management issues will not be a part of the peer review process.

Dated: September 23, 1998.

Timothy Fields, Jr.,

Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

[FR Doc. 98–26007 Filed 9–28–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

[1] The PSG is a consortium of defense contractors and manufacturers including: Aerojet, Alliant Techsystems, American Pacific/Western Electrochemical Company, Atlantic Research Corporation, Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp. Lockheed Martin, Thiokol Propulsion Group, and United Technologies Chemical Systems.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting; Notice of a Matter To Be Withdrawn From the Agenda for Consideration at an Agency Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the ''Government in the Sunshine Act'' (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that the following matter will be withdrawn from the ''discussion agenda'' for consideration at the open meeting of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation scheduled to be held at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 29, 1998, in the Board Room on the sixth floor of the FDIC Building located at 550 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.:

Memorandum and resolution re: Amendments to Part 362—Activities and Investments of Insured State Banks; Part 303—Applications, Requests, Submittals, Delegations of Authority, and Notice Required to be Filed by Statute or Regulation; and Section 337.4—Securities Activities of Subsidiaries of Insured State Banks: Bank Transactions with Affiliated Securities Companies.

Requests for further information concerning the meeting may be directed to Mr. Robert E. Feldman, Executive Secretary of the Corporation, at (202) 898–6757.

Dated: September 25, 1998.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Robert E. Feldman,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–26145 Filed 9–25–98; 10:53 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Notice of Agreement(s) Filed

The Commission hereby gives notice of the filing of the following agreement(s) under the Shipping Act of 1984.

Interested parties can review or obtain copies of agreements at the Washington, DC offices of the Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Room 962. Interested parties may submit comments on an agreement to the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC 20573, within 10 days of the date this notice appears in the **Federal Register**.

Agreement No.: 202–009648A–096.

Title: Inter-American Freight Conference (''IAFC'').

Parties:

A.P. Moller-Maersk Line
CSAV/Braztrans Joint Service
Crowley American Transport, Inc.
Ivaran Lines Limited d/b/a/ Ivaran Lines
Companhia Maritima Nacional
Companhia de Navegacao Lloyd Brasileiro
Empresa Lineas Maritimas Argentinas
Empresa de Navegacao Alianca S.A.
Columbus Line
Transportacion Maritima Mexicana S.A. De C.V.
Sea-Land Service, Inc.
APL Co. Pte. Ltd.
Transroll Navieras Express
Compagnie Generale Maritime S.A.
TNX Transportes Ltda.
Euroatlantic Container Line S.A.

Synopsis: The proposed modification would permit a new IAFC member to continue to honor its existing service contracts, provided that if the new member has or acquires a contractual right to terminate the service contract, or to cease accepting cargo thereunder, the new member must exercise such right when it arises. Any amendment to such a service contract must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the other member lines. The parties have requested expedited review.

Agreement No.: 203–011474–002.

Title: CSAV/CCNI Car Carrier Agreement.

Parties:

Compania Sud Americana de Vapores, S.A.
Compania Chilena de Navegacion