

no later than 3:00 pm on December 3rd. All times noted are Eastern Time. This meeting is open to the public. Due to limited space, seating at meetings will be on a first-come basis. For further information concerning this meeting, please contact the individuals listed below. Documents that are the subject of SAB reviews are normally available from the originating EPA office and are *not* available from the SAB Office.

No reviews are being conducted at this meeting. The EEC will consider two draft subcommittee reports for approval. These are the Quality Management Subcommittee's draft report on the implementation of the Agency's quality program and the draft report of the Retrospective Subcommittee on attributes of successful SAB advice. (Copies of these drafts will be available from Ms. Mary Winston, address below.)

The EEC will consider four commentaries currently in preparation to determine whether they should be forwarded to the Executive Committee for consideration or ended. The commentaries address measures of technology performance, environmental impacts of natural hazards, waste reuse, and the toxicity characteristic leaching procedures. (Copies of these drafts will be available at the meeting. Contact Ms. Mary Winston, address below, for advanced copies, if available.) EEC members will brief the committee on the progress of proposed commentaries on sources of PM 2.5 and barriers to Pollution Prevention. Members will also have the opportunity to identify other topics for potential commentaries.

The EEC has received written requests for three reviews; Agency staff will provide preliminary briefings on these requests which will enable the EEC to refine the charge and determine the expertise needed for the subsequent reviews. Two requests are from the Office of Research and Development—Wet Weather Pollution Research and Research on the Natural Attenuation of Contaminants in Ground Water, Soils and Sediments to Support Decisions on Site Remediation and Restoration. The Office of Emergency and Remedial Response is seeking EEC input on whether average or "Not to Exceed" concentrations are most appropriate for the development of cleanup goals at waste sites. (Copies of the requests can be obtained from Ms. Mary Winston, address below. Copies of any hand-outs distributed at the meeting in the course of these briefings will be available subsequently through Ms. Winston.)

Agency staff will brief the EEC on topics of mutual interest including brown fields, environmental justice, industrial ecology, and sediments. The

EEC will select FY99 activities, then attend to the practicalities of scheduling and completing the work. (Copies of any hand-outs distributed at the meeting in the course of these briefings will be available subsequently through Ms. Mary Winston, address below.)

Members of the public desiring additional information about the meeting should contact Kathleen White Conway, Designated Federal Officer, Environmental Engineering Committee, Science Advisory Board (1400), Room 3702L, U.S. EPA, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone/voice mail at (202) 260-2558; fax at (202) 260-7118; or via E-mail at conway.kathleen@epa.gov. A copy of the draft Agenda is available from Ms. Mary Winston at (202) 260-2554; fax at (202) 260-7118; or via E-Mail at winston.mary@epa.gov.

Members of the public who wish to make a brief oral presentation to the Committee must contact Ms. Conway in writing (by letter or by fax—see previously stated information) no later than 12 noon Eastern Time, Wednesday, November 25, 1998 in order to be included on the Agenda. Public comments will be limited to ten minutes per speaker or organization. The request should identify the name of the individual making the presentation, the organization (if any) they will represent, any requirements for audio visual equipment (e.g., overhead projector, 35mm projector, chalkboard, etc), and at least 35 copies of an outline of the issues to be addressed or of the presentation itself.

#### **Providing Oral or Written Comments at SAB Meetings**

The Science Advisory Board expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted oral or written statements. In general, each individual or group making an oral presentation will be limited to a total time of ten minutes. For conference call meetings, opportunities for oral comment will be limited to no more than five minutes per speaker and no more than fifteen minutes total. Written comments (at least 35 copies) received in the SAB Staff Office sufficiently prior to a meeting date, may be mailed to the relevant SAB committee or subcommittee prior to its meeting; comments received too close to the meeting date will normally be provided to the committee at its meeting. Written comments may be provided to the relevant committee or subcommittee up until the time of the meeting.

Additional information concerning the Science Advisory Board, its

structure, function, and composition, may be found on the SAB Website (<http://www.epa.gov/sab>) and in The Annual Report of the Staff Director which is available from the SAB Publications Staff at (202) 260-4126 or via fax at (202) 260-1889. Individuals requiring special accommodation at SAB meetings, including wheelchair access, should contact the appropriate DFO at least five business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Dated: November 12, 1998.

**Donald G. Barnes,**

*Staff Director, Science Advisory Board.*

[FR Doc. 98-30827 Filed 11-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[OPPTS-00255; FRL-6045-2]

### **Multimedia Strategy for Priority Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic Pollutants; Notice of Availability and Solicitation of Public Comments**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and solicitation of public comments.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is making available for public review and comment the draft Multimedia Strategy for Priority Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic (PBT) Pollutants. This document outlines the Agency's comprehensive approach to identify and take action to reduce releases of and exposures to PBT pollutants. Also available for public review and comment in connection with this document is the draft EPA Action Plan for Mercury. Interested parties may request copies of these documents as set forth in the "ADDRESSES" unit of this notice.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by February 16, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Each comment must bear the docket control number OPPTS-00255. All comments should be sent in triplicate to: OPPT Document Control Officer (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Rm. G-099, East Tower, Washington, DC 20460.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to: [oppt.ncic@epa.gov](mailto:oppt.ncic@epa.gov). Follow the instructions under Unit IV. of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

All comments which contain information claimed as CBI must be

clearly marked as such. Three sanitized copies of any comments containing information claimed as CBI must also be submitted and will be placed in the public record for this notice. Persons submitting information on any portion of which they believe is entitled to treatment as CBI by EPA must assert a business confidentiality claim in accordance with 40 CFR 2.203(b) for each such portion. This claim must be made at the time that the information is submitted to EPA. If a submitter does not assert a confidentiality claim at the time of submission, EPA will consider this as a waiver of any confidentiality claim and the information may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to the submitter.

To obtain copies of the draft Multimedia Strategy for Priority PBT Pollutants and the draft EPA Action Plan for Mercury contact: Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (7409), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, telephone number: 202-260-1023, facsimile number: 202-260-0178, e-mail: PPIC@epa.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sam K. Sasnett, Pollution Prevention Division (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, telephone number: 202-260-8020, e-mail: sasnett.sam@epa.gov.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **I. Electronic Availability**

#### *A. Internet*

Electronic copies of the draft Multimedia Strategy for Priority PBT Pollutants and the draft EPA Action Plan for Mercury are available from the EPA Home Page at the **Federal Register** - Environmental Documents entry for these documents under "Laws and Regulations" (<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgrstr/>). Copies are also available electronically from the EPA Home Page (<http://www.epa.gov/pbt/>) under "Strategy."

#### *B. Fax-on-Demand*

For Fax-on-Demand, use a faxphone to call 202-401-0527 and select item 4045 for a copy of the draft Multimedia Strategy for Priority PBT Pollutants and item 4046 for the draft EPA Action Plan for Mercury.

### **II. Background**

This **Federal Register** notice announces the availability of and requests comment on the draft Multimedia Strategy for Priority PBT Pollutants and the draft EPA Action Plan for Mercury.

EPA has developed this draft national strategy to overcome the remaining challenges in addressing priority PBT pollutants. These pollutants pose risks because they are toxic, persist in ecosystems, and accumulate in fish and other animals further up the food chain. Consumption of fish is a significant exposure pathway for humans. These pollutants travel long distances, transfer rather easily among air, water, and land and linger for generations, making EPA's traditional single-statute approaches less than the full solution to reducing risks from PBTs. The fetus and young child may be at particular risk for developmental effects.

This strategy fortifies and builds on existing EPA commitments related to priority PBTs, such as the 1997 Canada-U.S. Binational Toxics Strategy (BNS), the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation, and the recently released Clean Water Action Plan. EPA is forging a new approach to reduce risks from and exposures to priority PBT pollutants through increased coordination among EPA national and regional programs. This approach also requires the significant involvement of stakeholders, including international, state, local, and tribal organizations, the regulated community, environmental groups, and private citizens.

A primary function of the strategy is to establish and implement national action plans on priority PBT pollutants. The PBT strategy targets for immediate focus the 12 PBT substances included in the Canada-U.S. Binational Toxics Strategy Level 1 list. As they are developed, these national action plans will be appended to the strategy. In this manner the strategy will continue to be a living document. One such draft action on mercury is also being made available for review and public comment at this time. It illustrates an action plan that is national and even international in scope and describes the kinds of actions EPA may take to reduce risks posed by other priority PBT pollutants. Each substance or group of substances will present its own set of action opportunities.

EPA's strategy realizes that the 12 Binational Toxics Strategy Level 1 substances are not the only PBTs we need to be concerned about. The strategy calls for developing a process to select additional pollutants of concern. Once these pollutants are selected, action plans will be developed to address environmental and human health problems associated with them. Other activities include preventing the introduction of new PBTs into commerce, identifying research needs for priority PBTs, and measuring the

results of PBT reduction activities, preferably in terms of environmental and human health impacts.

### **III. Comments**

EPA is requesting comment on the overall approach of the strategy and its proposed individual components, including the development and implementation of national action plans, the 12 initial pollutants for which EPA intends to develop such plans, the process for selection of additional PBT substances for national action plans, approaches for the prevention of the introduction (and reintroduction) of new PBT substances, and means of measuring progress in the reduction of PBTs in the environment. EPA is particularly interested in whether the strategy clearly articulates its goals and is comprehensive enough, whether there are major activities or approaches not articulated, and whether the directions outlined in the strategy are appropriate.

EPA also is requesting comment on the Mercury Action Plan. EPA is interested in comments on its overall approach to reducing exposure to mercury. EPA also invites comments on the applicability of the approach outlined for mercury to other PBT pollutants and the usefulness of the Mercury Action Plan as a model for other action plans that may be developed under the PBT Initiative.

### **IV. Public Record and Electronic Submissions**

The official record for this notice, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice under docket control number OPPTS-00255 (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 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, Rm. NE-B607, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

oppt.ncic@epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments 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 OPPTS-00255. Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

**List of Subjects**

Environmental protection.

Dated: November 9, 1998.

**Lynn R. Goldman,**

*Assistant Administrator for Prevention Pesticides and Toxic Substances.*

[FR Doc. 98-30719 Filed 11-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

**Sunshine Act Meeting**

**Sunshine Act Meeting; Open Commission Meeting—Thursday, November 19, 1998**

The Federal Communications Commission will hold an Open Meeting on the subjects listed below on Thursday, November 19, 1998, which is scheduled to commence at 9:30 a.m. in Room 856, at 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Item No.	Bureau	Subject
1	Mass Media .....	Title: Fees for Ancillary or Supplementary Use of Digital Television Spectrum Pursuant to Section 336(e)(1) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (MM Docket No. 97-247). Summary: The Commission will consider establishing a program for assessing and collecting fees for the provision of ancillary or supplementary services by commercial digital television ("DTV") licensees.
2	Mass Media .....	Title: Ancillary or Supplementary Use of Digital Television Capacity by Noncommercial Licensees. Summary: The Commission will consider whether to impose limits on remunerative activities undertaken by noncommercial television licensees on their DTV capacity.
3	Mass Media .....	Title: Review of the Commission's Broadcast and Cable Equal Employment Opportunity Rules and Policies and Termination of (MM Docket No. 96-16)—EEO Streamlining Proceeding. Summary: The Commission will consider and invite comments regarding proposed broadcast and cable equal employment rules and policies to be consistent with the D.C. Circuit's decision in the Lutheran Church.
4	Common Carrier .....	Title: Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (CC Docket No. 97-21) and Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service (CC Docket No. 96-45). Summary: The Commission will consider action concerning a revised organizational structure for administering the universal service support mechanisms and other related issues.
5	International .....	Title: Implementation of Section 25 of the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992; and Direct Broadcast Satellite Public Interest Obligations (MM Docket No. 93-25). Summary: The Commission will consider implementing Section 335 of the Communications Act regarding public interest requirements for Direct Broadcast Satellite Systems.
6	Wireless Telecommunications .....	Title: 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review—Spectrum Aggregation Limits for Wireless Telecommunications Carriers; Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association's Petition for Forbearance from the 45 MHz CMRS Spectrum Cap; Amendment of Parts 20 and 24 of the Commission's Rules—Broadband PCS Competitive Bidding and the Commercial Mobile Radio Service Spectrum Cap (WT Docket No. 96-59); and Implementation of Sections 3(n) and 332 of the Communications Act and Regulatory Treatment of Mobile Services (GN Docket No. 93-252). Summary: The Commission will evaluate the Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) spectrum cap, 47 C.F.R. Section 20.6, as part of the biennial regulatory review, and consider a petition for forbearance from the 45 MHz CMRS spectrum cap filed by the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association.
7	Office of Engineering and Technology .....	Title: Amendment of Section 2.106 of the Commission's Rules to Allocate Spectrum at 2 GHz for Use by the Mobile-Satellite Service (ET Docket No. 95-18). Summary: The Commission will consider petitions for reconsideration or clarification of the allocation of the 1990-2025/2165-2200 MHz bands to the mobile-satellite service and further proposals concerning the Broadcast Auxiliary Service allocation in the 2 GHz band, and the reallocation of the 2110-2150 MHz band pursuant to the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.
8	Office of Engineering and Technology; International and Wireless Telecommunications.	Title: Amendment of Parts 2 and 25 of the Commission's Rules to Permit Operation of NGSO FSS Systems Co-Frequency with GSO and Terrestrial Systems in the Ku Band Frequency Range (RM-9147) and Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Authorize Subsidiary Terrestrial Use of the 12.2-12.7 GHz Band by Direct Broadcast Satellite Licensees and Their Affiliates (RM-92-45).