

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. 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: January 28, 1999.

Donald G. Barnes,

Staff Director, Science Advisory Board.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6300-2]

Science Advisory Board; Emergency Notification of Public Advisory Committee Meetings

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that one Committee of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) will meet on the dates and times described below. All times noted are Eastern Time. The meeting is open to the public, however, seating is limited and available on a first come basis. Documents that are the subject of SAB reviews are normally available from the originating U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) office and are *not* available from the SAB Office. Public drafts of SAB reports are available to the Agency and the public

from the SAB office. Details on availability are noted below.

1. Drinking Water Committee (DWC)

The Drinking Water Committee (DWC) of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) will hold a public meeting beginning at 9:00 am Wednesday, February 17, 1999 and ending not later than 5:00 pm Thursday, February 18, 1999. The meeting will be held at the Drawbridge Estate hotel, 2477 Royal Drive, Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky, 41017; telephone (606) 341-2800. At this meeting, the Committee will complete its review of the US EPA ORD comparative risk framework method (an approach for balancing the chemical and microbial risks from drinking water) and receive a briefing on the status of the EPA's water consumption project.

On December 10-11, 1998, the Drinking Water Committee held its first meeting at which comparative risk framework review was initiated. At that time, the Agency briefed the Committee on the various components of the framework and a case study, after which, members and Agency representatives discussed specific topics. These interactions are captured in the minutes of the December, 1998 meeting which includes, as attachments, the written comments of the individual review panel members. The DWC engaged in a consultation with the Agency on the water consumption project at its June 18, 1998 meeting.

Background—(a) Comparative Risk Framework Methodology: The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires EPA to provide for the maximum control of exposures to pathogenic organisms in water while minimizing concomitant exposures to the disinfection byproducts (DBPs) that might be generated by control measures. SDWA also requires EPA to conduct cost-benefit analyses of the regulatory impacts in order to identify cost-effective drinking water treatment options.

The National Center for Environmental Assessment-Cincinnati Office (NCEA-Cin) has developed a methodology for risk analysis and comparison that could help to inform the Agency while it is considering SDWA regulatory and implementation actions. The Agency's draft document, *Comparative Risk Framework Methodology and Case Study (Framework Document)*, presents a method for such comparisons that applies the prevention-effectiveness approach developed by the Centers for Disease Control for structuring and analyzing complex risk trade-off problems. Prevention-effectiveness

research combines tools of decision and economic analysis to look at the cost-effectiveness of different public health interventions and employs decision trees to explicitly and graphically structure the problem. The document consists of a Comparative Risk Framework Methodology (CRFM) and a Case Study. The application of this approach explicitly recognizes disinfection and treatment of drinking water to be primary public health intervention and prevention measures designed to minimize the transmission of microbial pathogens in drinking water.

Charge—Comparative Risk Framework Methodology: The Drinking Water Committee was requested to review the strategy proposed for structuring and analyzing this comparative risk/risk tradeoff problem, including the overall concept, the use of population-based probabilities for expressing both cancer and noncancer health risks and mechanisms for arriving at these numbers, and the pros and cons of the different common metrics/weights proposed for comparing qualitatively and quantitatively different health risks. Specific charge questions are available by contacting the Office of the Science Advisory Board at the address noted below. Charge questions are included for the following areas: overall approach; the comparative risk framework methodology; the case study; engineering and water treatment issues; risk characterization; microbial risks; chemical dose-response assessment; exposure; health conditions; the common health metric; the results of the methods application; and research needs.

(b) Water Consumption Estimates for the United States: EPA is now developing estimates of water intake for the United States. Included in the final report will be estimates of water intake (municipal tap and bottled water) with percentile distributions by age, gender, race, socioeconomic status, and geographic region and separately for pregnant and lactating women. The estimates will be derived using a method developed by EPA which will be applied to data contained in the United States Department of Agriculture's 1994-1996 Continuing Survey of Food Intake by Individuals (CSFII). EPA anticipates wide use of the estimates in future drinking water rule-making activities. This will be one of two briefings for standing Science Advisory Board committees in preparation for a formal SAB review of the EPA water consumption report during the Spring of 1999. The other briefing will occur during the March

1999 meeting of the SAB's Integrated Human Exposure Committee.

For Further Information Contact: Single copies of the background information for the review of the risk comparison framework can be obtained by contacting Mr. Glenn Rice, US EPA National Center for Environmental Assessment, 26 Martin Luther King Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45268; or by telephone at (513) 569-7813. No background documents are expected to be provided to the Committee for the water consumption briefing. Additional information for this meeting, or the meeting agenda, can be obtained by contacting Mr. Thomas O. Miller, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the Drinking Water Committee, Science Advisory Board (1400), U.S. EPA, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460; by telephone at (202) 260-5886; by fax at (202) 260-7118 or via the E-Mail at: miller.tom@epa.gov, or by contacting Ms. Dorothy Clark at (202) 260-6555, by fax at (202) 260-7118, and by E-Mail at: clark.dorothy@epa.gov. Anyone wishing to make an oral presentation to the Committee must contact Mr. Miller, in writing (by letter, fax, or E-mail) no later than 12 noon, Thursday, February 11, 1999, in order to be included on the Agenda. The request should identify the name of the individual who will make the presentation and an outline of the issues to be addressed. At least 35 copies of any written comments to the Committee are to be given to Mr. Miller no later than the time of the presentation for distribution to the Committee and the interested public.

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delayed comments received up to 15 days after the meeting will be provided to the Committee for consideration and will be made part of the permanent Committee record.

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Dated: February 3, 1999.

Donald G. Barnes,

Staff Director, Science Advisory Board.

[FR Doc. 99-2952 Filed 2-4-99; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-00569A; FRL-6061-8]

Pesticides: Science Policy Issues Related to the Food Quality Protection Act; Extension of Comment Period

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: On December 4, 1998, EPA issued a notice of availability for the draft science policy paper "Proposed Threshold of Regulation Policy When a Food Use Does Not Require a Tolerance." The comment period would have ended February 4, 1999. In response to several requests, EPA has decided to extend the comment period two weeks.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to EPA by February 18, 1999.

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. 1132, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: opp-docket@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. 119 at the Virginia address given in this unit, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Kempter (7505C), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Room 713D, CM#2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, (703) 305-5448, e-mail: kempter.carlton@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Agency has issued the draft document listed in the SUMMARY at the beginning of this document and solicited comments on it. The background on this document can be found in the previous **Federal Register** notice published on December 4, 1998 (63 FR 67063) (FRL-6048-2). In response to several requests, a time extension of two weeks is being provided such that the comment period will now end on February 18, 1999.

II. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this rulemaking, as well as the public version, has been established for this rulemaking under docket control number OPP-00569 for "Proposed Threshold of Regulation Policy When a Food Use Does Not Require a Tolerance." 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, except legal holidays. The official rulemaking 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@epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the