

during the risk assessment process. EPA will use the peer review comments to revise and complete the Handbook and case studies.

DATES: The peer review meeting will begin on Wednesday, March 24, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. and end on Thursday, March 25, 1999 at approximately 5:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend the peer review meeting as observers. Seating is limited so advance registration is suggested.

ADDRESSES: The peer review meeting will be held at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, Old Town, 901 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-1501, phone 703-683-6000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The EPA has contracted with Eastern Research Group, Inc. (ERG, Inc., 110 Hartwell Avenue, Lexington, Massachusetts 02173) to manage and conduct the peer review. To attend the meeting as an observer, please preregister by calling ERG at 781-674-7374 or fax a registration request to 781-674-2906. Upon registration you will be sent an agenda and a logistical fact sheet. A limited amount of time is set aside on the second day of the meeting for observers to present brief oral comments on a first-come, first-serve basis and is limited to the time available; therefore, please notify ERG's registration line if you wish to present oral comments.

Interested parties can obtain a single copy of the draft materials by calling EPA's National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) at 1-800-490-9198. When contacting NSCEP, please provide your name and mailing address, and request publication number EPA/600/R-99/025 dated March 1999.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In March 1995, responding to recommendations in a National Research Council report, EPA's Administrator issued the Policy for Risk Characterization for Agency-wide use. A subcommittee of the EPA's Science Policy Council has been working with risk assessors and risk managers to test and develop principles for implementing the Policy. Unlike EPA's risk assessment guidelines, which provide specific guidance for targeted parts of the risk assessment process (e.g., Guidelines for Carcinogen Risk Assessment, Guidelines for Developmental Toxicity Risk Assessment), the draft Handbook proposes general guidance that focuses on presenting the results of the risk assessment so that these results are clear and reasonable for risk assessors and risk managers alike. The overall objective is to enable risk assessors to

more effectively prepare and present their results for risk managers to use in environmental decision-making. The accompanying case studies offer examples of several different kinds or risk characterizations. EPA is inviting the peer reviewers to provide comments and offer recommendations for enhancing the discussion of principles and processes in the draft Handbook and case studies. EPA will use the peer review comments to revise and complete the Handbook and case studies for Agency assessors and managers to use as one of their tools for implementing the Policy for Risk Characterization.

Dated: February 24, 1999.

Dorothy E. Patton,

Director, Office of Science Policy.

[FR Doc. 99-5234 Filed 3-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-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, N.W., 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.: 202-011346-007

Title: Israel Trade Conference

Parties:

Farrell Lines, Inc.

Zim Israel Navigation Co., Ltd.

Croatia Line d.d.

Synopsis: The proposed modification revises Article 13.1 of the Agreement to reduce the notice period for taking independent action from ten days to 72 hours

Dated: March 1, 1999.

By Order of the Federal Maritime Commission.

Bryant L. VanBrakle,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-5426 Filed 3-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisitions of Shares of Banks or Bank Holding Companies

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the notices are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The notices are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notices also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing to the Reserve Bank indicated for that notice or to the offices of the Board of Governors. Comments must be received not later than March 19, 1999.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis (JoAnne F. Lewellen, Assistant Vice President) 90 Hennepin Avenue, P.O. Box 291, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55480-0291:

1. *Stan Saylor*, Hebron, North Dakota; to acquire voting shares of Dakota Community Banshares, Inc., Hebron, North Dakota, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of Dakota Community Bank, Hebron, North Dakota.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City (D. Michael Manies, Assistant Vice President) 925 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64198-0001:

1. *Chris J. Murphy*, Omaha, Nebraska; to acquire voting shares of Otoe County Bancorporation, Inc., Nebraska City, Nebraska, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of Otoe County Bank & Trust Company, Nebraska City, Nebraska.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, March 1, 1999.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 99-5423 Filed 3-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank