

Dated: October 18, 1999.

A. Stanley Meiburg,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 4.

[FR Doc. 00-267 Filed 1-6-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 300

[FRL 6517-4]

National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Proposed rule to Delete the D.L. Mud, Inc., Superfund Site from the National Priorities List and Request for Comments.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 announces its proposal to delete D.L. Mud, Inc., Superfund Site (Site) located in Vermilion Parish, Louisiana, from the National Priorities List (NPL) and requests public comments on this proposed action. The NPL, promulgated pursuant to Section 105 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended, is Appendix B of 40 CFR Part 300 which is the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). The EPA and the State of Louisiana, through the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), have determined that all appropriate response actions under CERCLA, other than operation and maintenance and five-year reviews, have been completed and that the Site poses no significant threat to public health or the environment. However, this deletion does not preclude future actions under Superfund.

DATES: Comments concerning this Site must be received by February 7, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to: Ms. Janetta Coats, Community Involvement Coordinator, U.S. EPA (6SF-PO), 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733, (214) 665-7308 or 1-800-533-3508

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Katrina Higgins, Remedial Project Manager, U.S. EPA (6SF-LP), 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733, (214) 665-8143 or 1-800-533-3508 (Toll Free). *Information Repositories:* Repositories have been established to provide detailed information concerning this decision at the following address:

U.S. EPA Region 6 Library, Suite 12D13, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733, (214) 665-6524, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; Vermilion Parish Library, 200 North Magdalen Square, Abbeville, Louisiana 70511, (318) 893-2674, Monday and Thursday 9 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; and, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, 7290 Bluebonnet Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809, (225) 765-0487, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For additional information, see the direct final rule to delete which is located in the Rules section of this **Federal Register**.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 300

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Chemicals, Hazardous waste, Hazardous substances, Intergovernmental relations, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Superfund, Water pollution control, Water supply.

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1321(c)(2); 42 U.S.C. 9601-9657; E.O. 12777, 56 FR 54757, 3 CFR, 1991 Comp., p. 351; E.O. 12580, 52 FR 2923; 3 CFR, 1987 Comp., p. 193.

Dated: December 21, 1999.

Lynda F. Carroll,

Acting Regional Administrator,

U.S. EPA, Region 6.

[FR Doc. 00-360 Filed 1-6-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

42 CFR Part 405

[HCFA-1125-N]

Medicare Program; Meetings of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee on the Ambulance Fee Schedule

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice announces the dates and locations for the eighth meeting of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee on the Ambulance Fee Schedule. This meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of this committee is to develop a proposed rule that would establish a fee schedule for the payment of ambulance services under the

Medicare program through negotiated rulemaking, as mandated by section 4531(b) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA '97).

DATES: The eighth meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2000 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., January 25, 2000 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., and January 26, 2000 from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The 3-day January meeting will be held at the Turf Valley Hotel, 2700 Turf Road, Ellicott City, Maryland 21042; (410) 465-1500.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquiries regarding these meetings should be addressed to Bob Niemann ((410) 786-4569) or Margot Blige ((410) 786-4642) for general issues related to ambulance services or to Lynn Sylvester ((202) 606-9140) or Elayne Tempel ((207) 780-3408), facilitators.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 4531(b)(2) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA '97) added a new section 1834(l) to the Social Security Act (the Act) which mandates by January 1, 2000, implementation of a national fee schedule for payment of ambulance services furnished under Medicare Part B. The fee schedule is to be established through negotiated rulemaking. Section 4531(b)(2) of the BBA '97 also provides that, in establishing such fee schedule, the Secretary will—

- Establish mechanisms to control increases in expenditures for ambulance services under Part B of the program;
- Establish definitions for ambulance services that link payments to the type of services furnished;
- Consider appropriate regional and operational differences;
- Consider adjustments to payment rates to account for inflation and other relevant factors; and
- Phase in the fee schedule in an efficient and fair manner.

The Negotiated Rulemaking Committee on the Ambulance Fee Schedule has been established to provide advice and make recommendations to the Secretary with respect to the text and content of a proposed rule that would establish a fee schedule for the payment of ambulance services under Part B of the Medicare program.

The first and second meetings were for organizational purposes solely. There were no significant decisions made in these two meetings.

The Committee held its third meeting on May 24 and 25, 1999. At this meeting, the Committee heard presentations from HCFA staff, including a data presentation. The Committee requested another presentation by HCFA's Office of the