

Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes any information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public version of the official record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public version of the official record without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult the person identified under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT."

#### *E. What Should I Consider as I Prepare My Comments for EPA?*

You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

1. Explain your views as clearly as possible.
2. Describe any assumptions that you used.
3. Provide copies of any technical information and/or data you used that support your views.
4. If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate that you provide.
5. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
6. Offer alternative ways to improve the notice.
7. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this document.
8. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, be sure to identify the docket control number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation.

## **II. Proposed Experimental Programs**

The subject program proposes to test and evaluate genetically modified soybean that has been developed to provide control of velvetbean caterpillar (*Anticarsia gemmatilis*), stem borer (*Epinotia aporema*), and soybean looper (*Pseudoplusia includens*). Monsanto Company proposes to plant 66.5 acres of the plant-pesticide in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee on March 1, 2000. All plantings of soybean containing the Cry1Ac protein under this experimental program will be contained during the experimental program. No portion of the crop will be used for food or feed.

## **III. What Action is the Agency Taking?**

Following the review of the Monsanto Company application and any comments and data received in response to this notice, EPA will decide whether to issue or deny the EUP request for this EUP program, and if issued, the conditions under which it is to be conducted. Any issuance of an EUP will be announced in the **Federal Register**.

### **List of Subjects**

Environmental protection,  
Experimental use permits.

Dated: January 21, 2000.

**Janet L. Andersen,**

*Director, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

[FR Doc. 00-2485 Filed 2-8-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-F**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-6534-4]

### **Request for Qualifications and Preliminary Proposals for Communications, Outreach and Education**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing a request for qualifications and preliminary proposals for organizations interested in assisting the Chesapeake Bay Program in its effort to provide the communications, outreach and education components of the Bay Program partnership. Applicants must be a non-profit organization, interstate agency, college or university institution. The organization must have conducted work within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Note, this is a request for proposals for the benefit of the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership and not for direct benefit to EPA. Funding will be provided to an organization under the authority of the Clean Water Act, Section 117(a) and (b).

An original and 5 copies of proposals must be received by the US EPA, Chesapeake Bay Program by close of business March 3, 2000. The RFP is available at the following web-site: <http://www.epa.gov/r3chespk/> You may also request a copy by calling Robert Shewack at 410-267-9856 or by E-mail at: [shewack.robert@epa.gov](mailto:shewack.robert@epa.gov). All proposals must be received by EPA by close of business March 3, 2000. Any

late, incomplete or fax proposals will not be considered.

**William Matuszeski,**

*Director, Chesapeake Bay Program.*

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**BILLING CODE 6560-50-M**

## **FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION**

### **Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The FDIC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35). Currently, the FDIC is soliciting comments concerning an information collection titled "Applicant Background Questionnaire."

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before April 10, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written comments to Tamara R. Manly, Management Analyst (Regulatory Analysis), (202) 898-7453, Office of the Executive Secretary, Room 4058, Attention: Comments/OES, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20429. All comments should refer to "Applicant Background Questionnaire." Comments may be hand-delivered to the guard station at the rear of the 17th Street Building (located on F Street), on business days between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. [FAX number (202) 898-3838; Internet address: [comments@fdic.gov](mailto:comments@fdic.gov)].

A copy of the comments may also be submitted to the OMB desk officer for the FDIC: Alexander Hunt, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 3208, Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tamara R. Manly, at the address identified above.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **Proposal To Add the Following Collection of Information**

*Title:* Applicant Background Questionnaire.

*OMB Number:* new collection.