

“third party method” as provided under 40 CFR Section 6.510(b)(3). By utilizing the third party method, EPA enters into an agreement for the Authority to engage and pay for the services of a contractor to prepare the EIS under the direction of EPA.

Need for Action: EPA awarded construction grants totaling \$12,615,000 to Tampa Bay Water for the reservoir and pipeline. Based upon draft Environmental Information Documents (EID) submitted for the regional reservoir, EPA determined the EID did not adequately address potential impacts of the project and could not issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI). Known concerns include viable alternatives to the proposed action, impacts on protected wetlands, effects from inter-basin transfer of water, short- and long-term impacts on the Alafia River and Tampa Bay aquatic ecosystems from the incremental withdrawal of water resources attributable to reservoir operations, impacts on threatened and endangered species, impacts of salinity changes on aquatic organisms, sport and commercial fisheries.

Alternatives:

- EPA releases grant funds without conditions.
- EPA releases grant funds with conditions.
- EPA withholds grant funds exercising the “No Action” alternative.

Scoping: EPA will hold a public scoping meeting in which a general description of the projects and its goals will be presented. Time and meeting location will be announced in newspapers local to the project. Both oral and written comments will be accepted at the meeting to assist EPA to determine the scope of the EIS. Persons who do not attend the meeting and wish to comment on the issues are invited to respond in writing to this agency within 30 days of the scoping meeting.

Estimated Date of Release: August 30, 2001.

Responsible Official: A. Stanley Meiburg, Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 4, Environmental Protection Agency.

Richard E. Sanderson,

Director, Office of Federal Activities.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[AD-FRL-6574-8]

Electric Utility Steam Generating Units; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The EPA must determine whether hazardous air pollutants (HAP) emissions from electric utility steam generating units should be regulated under section 112 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), as amended, on or before December 15, 2000. The EPA's Office of Air and Radiation, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards will hold a public meeting to provide interested persons an opportunity to provide EPA their views regarding the Agency's determination.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on June 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held in the Lake Michigan Room, 12th floor, of the EPA Region V offices located at 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois. The meeting will be from 9:30 a.m. until 4 p.m., Central Daylight time.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. William Maxwell, Combustion Group, Emission Standards Division (MD-13), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711, telephone number: (919) 541-5430, facsimile number: (919) 541-5450, e-mail maxwell.bill@epa.gov. Members of the public wishing to attend the meeting should register by phoning Ms. Libby Bradley at (919) 541-5578. Please note that space is limited to approximately 150 attendees and registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. On or about June 1, 2000, a tentative agenda, including a list of those registered to date, will be posted to the Agency website <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/uatw/combust/utiltox>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 112(n)(1)(A) of the CAA requires EPA to perform a study (*i.e.*, utility toxics study) of the hazards to public health anticipated to occur as a result of HAP emissions from electric utility steam generating units, after imposition of the requirements of the CAA, and to prepare a Report to Congress containing the results of the study. The Agency is to proceed with rulemaking activities under section 112 to control HAP emissions from electric utility steam generating units if EPA finds such rulemaking is appropriate and necessary

after considering the results of the study. The utility toxics study was completed, and the Final Report to Congress issued on February 24, 1998. The Agency is required to make a finding as to whether it is appropriate and necessary to regulate HAP emissions from electric utility steam generating units on or before December 15, 2000.

On February 29, 2000, EPA published a notice in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 10783) requesting from the public any information or data that might be considered appropriate for the Agency to consider prior to making the regulatory determination. The deadline for submitting any such data is March 31, 2000. A public meeting is being held in order to provide the public an opportunity to present their views to EPA concerning this determination. This meeting will allow EPA to listen to public opinion on the issue of mercury and other HAP emissions from electric utility steam generating units and the regulatory determination. Members of the public wishing to present formal comments at the meeting should so indicate when registering. Individual speaking times will be limited to 10 minutes in order to give everyone an equal opportunity to speak. Seating will be limited for the meeting and advance registration is suggested. Walk-in comments will be heard on a time-available basis at the end of the session. Please note that scheduling of this public meeting does not extend the March 31, 2000 deadline for submitting additional data in response to the February 29, 2000 **Federal Register** document. Rather, this meeting provides opportunity for interested persons to make known their views to EPA.

Dated: March 27, 2000.

Robert D. Brenner,

Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation.

[FR Doc. 00-8713 Filed 4-7-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6575-4]

Meeting of the Local Government Advisory Committee and Small Community Advisory Subcommittee

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Local Government Advisory Committee and its Small Community Advisory Subcommittee

will meet on April 26, 2000, from 12 noon—2 p.m. EDT in Washington, DC. The meeting will be held in Room 3528 in the Ariel Rios North Building and Committee members will participate via conference call. The Committee will consider adopting recommendations to the Agency regarding its draft implementation guidance for Executive Order 13132, entitled “Federalism.”

The Committee will hear comments from the public between 12:30–12:45 p.m. on the 26th. Each individual or organization wishing to address the Committee will be allowed a minimum of three minutes. Please contact the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) at the number listed below to schedule agenda time. Time will be allotted on a first come, first serve basis.

This is an open meeting and all interested persons are invited to attend. Meeting minutes will be available after the meeting and can be obtained by written request from the DFO. Members of the public are requested to call the DFO at the number listed below if planning to attend so that arrangements can be made to comfortably accommodate attendees as much as possible. However, seating will be on a first come, first serve basis.

DATES: The meeting will begin at 12 p.m. on Wednesday, April 26, 2000, and conclude no later than 2 p.m. on the same day.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Washington, DC at EPA Headquarters in Room 3528 of the Ariel Rios North Building located at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.

Requests for Minutes and other information can be obtained by writing to the DFO at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (1306A), Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The DFO for this Committee is Denise Zabinski Ney. She is the point of contact for information concerning any Committee matters and can be reached by calling (202) 564–3684 or by email at ney.denise@epa.gov.

Dated: March 3, 2000.

Denise Zabinski Ney,
Designated Federal Officer, Local Government Advisory Committee.

[FR Doc. 00–8834 Filed 4–7–00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6575–6]

National Environmental Justice Advisory Council; Notification of Meeting and Public Comment Period(s); Open Meetings

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), Public Law 92–463, we now give notice that the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), along with the various subcommittees will meet on the dates and times described below. All times noted are Eastern Standard Time. All meetings are open to the public. Due to limited space, seating at the NEJAC meeting will be on a first-come basis. Documents that are the subject of NEJAC reviews are normally available from the originating EPA office and are *not* available from the NEJAC. The NEJAC and subcommittee meetings will take place at the Omni Hotel at CNN Center, 100 Center Street, Atlanta, GA 30335. The meeting dates are as follows: May 23, 2000 through May 26, 2000. All times shown are Eastern Time. This is the second in a series of focused policy issue meetings for the NEJAC. To help prepare for this specific focused policy issue meeting the following background information is provided:

Request

The Charter for the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) states that NEJAC shall provide independent advice to the Administrator on areas that may include, among other things, “the direction, criteria, scope, and adequacy of the EPA’s scientific research and demonstration projects” relating to environment justice. In order to provide such independent advice, the Agency, through the Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ), requests that the NEJAC convene a focused and issue-oriented public meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. The meeting shall be used to receive comments on, discuss, and analyze federal efforts to make community-based strategies in the area of disease prevention and health improvement more effective. The Agency, furthermore, requests that the NEJAC produce a comprehensive report on the differing views, interests, concerns, and perspectives expressed by the stakeholder participants on the issue, and provide advice and recommendations for the Agency’s review and consideration.

Issue

The meeting will focus on federal efforts to secure disease prevention and health improvement in communities where health disparities exist that may result from, or be exacerbated by, disproportionate effects of environmental pollutants and certain socioeconomic and cultural factors.

(1) What strategies and areas of research* should be pursued to achieve more effective, integrated community-based health assessment, intervention, and prevention efforts?

(2) How should these strategies be developed, implemented and evaluated so as to insure substantial participation, integration and collaboration among federal agencies, in partnership with: impacted communities; public health, medical and environmental professionals; academic institutions; state, tribal and local governments; and the private sector?

(3) How can consideration of socioeconomic status and cultural factors: (a) Contribute to health disparities and cumulative and disproportionate environmental effects; and (b) be incorporated into community health assessments?

Background

Dr. David Satcher, the Surgeon General, recently stated that a major national health goal for the next ten years should be to reduce the health disparities that exist in this country and which are especially apparent in minority, low-income, and/or indigenous communities. Equally true is that many of these same communities bear a disproportionate exposure to environmental pollutants that may underlie and/or contribute to these disparities. When such exposures are combined with other social and physical living conditions present in these environments, the potential for health disparities is magnified even further.

A growing number of researchers and community representatives have argued that one should not treat minority, low-income, and/or indigenous communities with an “all things being equal” approach. Given varying degrees of vulnerability among communities, the impacts of specific environmental pollutants on a given community’s health and that community’s ability to cope with such impacts often may be

*Research in this context encompasses a broad range of studies that may include basic science, applied research, and data collection. These may be carried out by: federal, state, tribal or local governments; universities; communities; industry; and/or individuals.