

level/lowest-observed-adverse-effect-level (NOAEL/LOAEL) process for noncancer health effects and can be applied to determining the POD proposed for cancer endpoints (EPA, 1996). As the Agency moves toward harmonization of approaches for cancer and noncancer risk assessment, the dichotomy between cancer and noncancer health effects is being replaced by consideration of mode of action and whether the effects of concern are likely to be linear or nonlinear at low doses. Thus, the purpose of this document is to provide guidance for the Agency on the application of the BMD approach in determining the POD, whether a linear or nonlinear low dose extrapolation is used.

The document addresses a number of issues that must be resolved in order to apply the BMD approach for dose-response assessment in a consistent manner. These issues include: (1) Determination of appropriate studies and endpoints on which to base BMD calculations; (2) selection of the benchmark response (BMR) value; (3) choice of the model to use in computing the BMD; (4) details surrounding computation of the confidence limit for the BMD (BMDL); and (5) reporting requirements for BMD and BMDL computation.

Since the methods for BMD computation require appropriate software, another purpose of this document is to provide enough information about preferred computational algorithms to allow users to make an informed choice in the selection of that software. The document does not advocate use of any particular software package, although it is recommended that software with well documented algorithms, such as the Agency's BMD software (BMDS) package, be used. Nor is this guidance intended to document any particular software package, although it will present examples for illustrative purposes that use the Agency's BMDS package. It is also expected that this guidance will inform the design of studies for the computation of BMDs and dose-response analysis, though this will not be covered explicitly. The terminology used in the document is consistent with the EPA's BMDS. This software is available on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/ncea/bmids.htm>.

The Risk Assessment Forum has been active in promoting research and discussion on BMD issues since 1990. In 1993 the Risk Assessment Forum sponsored a colloquium on the applications of BMD methods to noncancer risk assessment. The focus of

this colloquium was to review a Forum draft report that outlined the techniques and presented the major questions and decisions involved in applying the BMD method. Following this a technical panel published a background document on the use of BMD in health risk assessment (EPA/630/R-94/007). In the ensuing years the Forum sponsored several workshops and symposia on the BMD approach, including a 1996 external peer review on an earlier draft of the document presently undergoing review. Following this external peer review, the Technical Panel will consider reviewers' and public comments in finalizing the document.

This document is intended to be updated as new information becomes available that would suggest approaches and default options alternative or additional to those indicated here and should not be viewed as precluding additional research on modified or alternative approaches that will improve quantitative risk assessment.

Dated: November 9, 2000.

William H. Farland,

Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6902-7]

Proposed Settlement Under Section 122(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, as Amended, 42 U.S.C. 9622(h), CHEMCENTRAL Warehouse Fire CERCLA Site, Kent, WA

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed settlement and request for public comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 122(i) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, as amended by the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act ("CERCLA"), notice is hereby given of a proposed settlement to resolve a claim against CHEMCENTRAL Corporation. The proposed settlement concerns the federal government's past response costs at the CHEMCENTRAL Warehouse Fire CERCLA Site, Kent, Washington. The settlement requires the settling party, CHEMCENTRAL Corporation, to pay \$24,066.34 to the Hazardous Substance Superfund. For thirty (30) days

following the date of publication of this document, the Agency will receive written comments relating to the settlement. The Agency's response to any comments received will be available for public inspection at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, office at 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101. A copy of the proposed settlement may be obtained from Mary Shillcutt, Regional Hearing Clerk, EPA, Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101, telephone number (206) 553-2429. Comments should reference the "CHEMCENTRAL Warehouse Fire CERCLA Site" and EPA Docket No. CERCLA-10-2001-0006 and should be addressed to Ms. Shillcutt at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jennifer G. MacDonald, Assistant Regional Counsel, EPA Region 10, Office of Regional Counsel, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101, telephone number (206) 553-8311.

Dated: November 8, 2000.

Charles E. Findley,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 10.

[FR Doc. 00-29357 Filed 11-17-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-51956; FRL-6754-1]

Certain New Chemicals; Correction

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; correction.

SUMMARY: EPA is issuing this notice to correct the Test Marketing Exemption T-00-0006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barbara Cunningham, Director, Office of Program Management and Evaluation, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (7401), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general. As such, the Agency has not attempted to describe the specific entities that this action may apply to. Although others may be affected, this action applies directly to the submitter of the premanufacture notices addressed in the action. If you have any questions