

comments should be received in the SAB Staff Office at least one week prior to the meeting date so that the comments may be made available to the committee for their consideration. Comments should be supplied to the appropriate DFO at the address/contact information noted above in the following formats: one hard copy with original signature, and one electronic copy via e-mail (acceptable file format: WordPerfect, Word, or Rich Text files (in IBM-PC/Windows 95/98 format). Those providing written comments and who attend the meeting are also asked to bring 25 copies of their comments for public distribution.

General Information: Additional information concerning the Science Advisory Board, its structure, function, and composition, may be found on the SAB website (<http://www.epa.gov/sab>) and in The FY2000 Annual Report of the Staff Director which is available from the SAB Publications Staff at (202) 564-4533 or via fax at (202) 501-0256. Committee rosters, draft Agendas and meeting calendars are also located on our website.

Meeting Access: Individuals requiring special accommodation at this meeting, including wheelchair access to the conference room, should contact Dr. Barnes at least five business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Dated: January 11, 2001.

Donald G. Barnes,

Staff Director, Science Advisory Board.

[FR Doc. 01-1520 Filed 1-17-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-60059; FRL-6762-9]

Notice of Receipt of Request for Cancellation of Registration of *Bacillus thuringiensis* (B.t.) subspecies *tolworthi* Cry9C and the Genetic Material Necessary for its Production in Corn

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 6(f)(1) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as amended, EPA is issuing a notice of receipt of a request by Aventis CropScience USA LP the sole U.S. registrant, to cancel their registration of *Bacillus thuringiensis* (B.t.) subspecies *tolworthi* Cry9C and the genetic

material necessary for its production in corn.

DATES: Unless the request is withdrawn, the Agency will approve these use deletions and the deletions will become effective on February 20, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Phil Hutton, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, Office of Pesticide Programs (7511C), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 308-8260; e-mail address: hutton.phil@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

Section 6(f)(1) of FIFRA, provides that a registrant of a pesticide product may at any time request that any of its pesticide registrations be canceled. The Act further provides that, before acting on the request, EPA must publish a notice of receipt of any such request in the **Federal Register**. Thereafter, the Administrator may approve such a request.

II. Background

On May 12, 1998, EPA issued a registration to Plant Genetic Systems (America) Inc. for StarLink™ corn (original EPA Registration No. 70218-1). StarLink™ contains the active ingredient *Bacillus thuringiensis* subsp. *tolworthi* Cry9C protein and the genetic material necessary for its production in corn. EPA issued the registration, but restricted the use of the pesticide to field corn used for feed, industrial non-food uses, and seed increase because the Agency could not find that there was a reasonable certainty of no harm from its use in human food, based on a concern that the protein Cry9C could be allergenic. The Agency's assessment of Cry9C revealed that it has particular characteristics in common with known allergens: it is relatively heat stable and does not readily breakdown in simulated digestive fluids. This raises the possibility that it could be a human allergen. However, EPA determined that, notwithstanding its concern with respect to human ingestion of Cry9C, Cry9C was "safe" and when used as animal feed, would not present unreasonable risks to human health. Because the protein does not transfer to meat and poultry products, use in animal feed would not result in human dietary exposure to the protein/potential allergen.

On October 29, 1998, the StarLink™ corn registration was conveyed from Plant Genetic Systems (America) to AgrEvo USA. AgrEvo USA and Rhone

Poulenc Ag Company subsequently formed Aventis CropScience USA LP (Aventis). As of February 22, 2000, the StarLink™ corn registration is now held by Aventis under registration number 264-669.

Test data from several sources demonstrate that StarLink™ corn was diverted into human food. Data from Aventis, Kraft Corporation, and the Food and Drug Administration confirmed the presence of Aventis' Cry9c DNA (the genetic material necessary for the production of Cry9C) in Taco Bell taco shells when tested using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) primers. The PCR primers used are unique to the Aventis *cry9c* gene.

III. Intent to Cancel Registration

This notice announces receipt by the Agency of an application from Aventis, to cancel the registration for StarLink™ corn (EPA Registration No. 264-669). The active ingredient in this product is *Bacillus thuringiensis* subsp. *tolworthi* Cry9C protein and the genetic material necessary for its production in corn.

The 30-day comment period will permit other interested members of the public to comment prior to the Agency's approval of the deletions. Users of this product who desire continued use should contact both the EPA contact person listed above, and the registrant at the following address: Dr. Sally Van Wert, Aventis CropScience, P.O. Box 12014, 2 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; telephone: (919) 549-2379, to discuss withdrawal of the application for cancellation before February 20, 2001. It should be noted however, that this cancellation is being proposed because Aventis has failed to ensure that StarLink™ corn will not be diverted to human food, it is incumbent on any proponent of further use to demonstrate either: (1) That further use will not be diverted to human food, or (2) that StarLink™ corn is safe for human consumption because it will not present an unreasonable allergenic risk.

IV. Existing Stocks Provision

For the purpose of this notice, existing stocks are defined as those stocks of Cry9C corn grain and corn seed (EPA Registration No. 264-669) that exist before the date on which the registration of this product is canceled. Under section 6(a)(1), the Administrator may permit the continued sale or use of existing stocks of a pesticide whose registration has been canceled, if she determines that such sale or use would be consistent with the purposes of FIFRA (7 U.S.C. 136d(a)(1)). Sales of corn grain produced by farmers growing

StarLink™ corn or that corn in the required 660 foot buffer may only be sold or used for domestic animal feed or industrial non-food uses and cannot be sold for planting. No StarLink™ seed corn may be sold or distributed. Because of significant concerns regarding the potential for StarLink™ corn to enter the human food stream of commerce, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has undertaken an incentive program to ensure that all StarLink™ corn currently on the farm is either fed to livestock on the farm, or is directed only to domestic animal feed or industrial non-food uses.

This existing stocks disposition does not prohibit growers from using existing stocks of StarLink™ grain as animal feed. Nor will feeding animals StarLink™ corn render meat or milk derived from such animals adulterated. The existing tolerance exemption for the Cry9C protein and the genetic material necessary for its production, found at 40 CFR 180.1192, is not revoked by this Notice.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests, Product registrations.

Dated: January 8, 2001.

Susan B. Hazen,

Deputy Director, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 01-1522 Filed 1-17-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6933-9]

Implementation Guidance for Radionuclides

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice, request for comments on the draft radionuclides implementation guidance.

SUMMARY: The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for Radionuclides on December 7, 2000, in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 76708). The EPA has also prepared the Draft Implementation Guidance for the Radionuclides Rule. This Notice is announcing the availability of this draft document and asking for comments from stakeholders and the public. These comments will be considered in developing the Final Implementation Guidance document. The EPA encourages the full participation of all

stakeholders and the public throughout this process.

The Draft Implementation Guidance for the Radionuclides Rule is a comprehensive reference to assist States in implementing the Rule. The draft guidance was developed based on the Final Rule, with input and review from EPA Headquarters and Regional staff, and comments from States and the public on a previous version of the document. Along with summaries of the Rule and implementation timelines, the document contains: A detailed explanation of the rule requirements; guidance for violation determinations, and significant non-compliance definitions; Safe Drinking Water Information (SDWIS) reporting requirements; guidance for State primacy revision applications, and special primacy requirements; and a series of "stand-alone" fact sheet guidance materials for States and Public Water Systems. The guidance document describes the new standards for uranium, as well as the revisions to the radionuclides monitoring framework.

The Appendices to the document provide further information and tools to assist States and EPA Regional Offices with primacy revisions and Rule implementation, including: Violation tables to assist with compliance determination; a sample Extension Agreement between EPA and the States to document how implementation responsibilities will be shared if States do not submit a primacy applications by the deadline; a primacy revision crosswalk; a "stand-alone" State reporting guidance; rule training materials; and beta and photon emitter conversion tables.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before March 30, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Address all comments concerning this Notice to Ed Thomas, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (MC-4606), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for information to request a copy of the draft guidance and electronic addresses.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information related to the Radionuclides Rule, contact: Ed Thomas, at (202) 260-0910 or e-mail to thomas.edwin@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the draft guidance may be obtained by contacting the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791, or at EPA's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water's (OGWDW) Web Site: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/rads/implement.html>, or by contacting Ed

Thomas of OGWDW at (202) 260-0910 or by e-mail at thomas.edwin@epamail.epa.gov.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, Environmental Protection Agency.

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FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Board of Directors will meet in open session at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, January 19, 2001, to consider the following matters:

Summary Agenda: No substantive discussion of the following items is anticipated. These matters will be resolved with a single vote unless a member of the Board of Directors requests that an item be moved to the discussion agenda.

Summary reports, status reports, and reports of actions taken pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors.

Memorandum and resolution re: Final Amendments to Part 308—Rules of Practice and Procedure, to implement the requirements of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act.

Memorandum re: Information Sharing and Confidentiality Agreement Pursuant to Section 307 of Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act.

Discussion Agenda: Memorandum and Resolution Re: Proposed Amendments to Part 325—Capital Standards for Nonfinancial Equity Investments.

The meeting will be held in the Board Room on the sixth floor of the FDIC Building located at 550-17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

The FDIC will provide attendees with auxiliary aids (e.g., sign language interpretation) required for this meeting. Those attendees needing such assistance should call (202) 416-2089 (Voice); (202) 416-2007 (TTY), to make necessary arrangements.

Requests for further information concerning the meeting may be directed to Mr. Robert E. Feldman, Executive Secretary of the Corporation, at (202) 898-6757.

Dated: January 12, 2001.