

application if the reference identifying the prior application by provisional application number was unintentionally delayed. A petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) for the benefit of a prior-filed provisional application must be accompanied by:

(i) The surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and

(ii) A statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under paragraph (a)(5)(ii) of this section and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

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3. Section 1.311 is amended by revising paragraph (a) to read as follows:

§ 1.311 Notice of allowance.

(a) If, on examination, it appears that the applicant is entitled to a patent under the law, a notice of allowance will be sent to the applicant at the correspondence address indicated in § 1.33. The notice of allowance shall specify a sum constituting the issue fee which must be paid within three months from the date of mailing of the notice of allowance to avoid abandonment of the application. The sum specified in the notice of allowance may also include the publication fee, in which case the issue fee and publication fee (§ 1.211(e)) must both be paid within three months from the date of mailing of the notice of allowance to avoid abandonment of the application. This three-month period is not extendable.

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4. Section 1.434 is amended by revising paragraph (d)(2) to read as follows:

§ 1.434 The request.

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(d) * * *

(2) A reference to any prior-filed national application or international application designating the United States of America, if the benefit of the filing date for the prior-filed application is to be claimed.

5. Section 1.491 is revised to read as follows:

§ 1.491 National stage commencement and entry.

(a) Subject to 35 U.S.C. 371(f), the national stage shall commence with the expiration of the applicable time limit under PCT Article 22(1) or (2), or under PCT Article 39(1)(a).

(b) An international application enters the national stage when the applicant has filed the documents and fees

required by 35 U.S.C. 371(c) within the period set in § 1.494 or § 1.495.

Dated: August 29, 2001.

Nicholas P. Godici,

Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Acting Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 01-22273 Filed 9-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[MD078-3078b; FRL 7049-4]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Control of VOC Emissions From Marine Vessel Coating Operations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve a revision to the Maryland State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision. The revision establishes and imposes reasonably available control technology to reduce volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from marine vessel coating operations. In the "Rules and Regulations" section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving the State's SIP submittal as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial submittal and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to this action, no further activity is contemplated. If EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing by October 5, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Makeba Morris, Chief, Permits and Technical Assessment Branch, Mailcode 3AP11, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. Copies of the documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Air Protection Division,

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103; and the Maryland Department of the Environment, 2500 Broening Highway, Baltimore, Maryland, 21224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Makeba Morris, (215) 814-2182, at the EPA Region III address above, or by e-mail at makeba.morris@epa.gov. Please note that while questions may be posed via telephone and e-mail, formal comments must be submitted, in writing, as indicated in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For further information, please see the information provided in the direct final action that is located in the "Rules and Regulations" section of this **Federal Register** publication.

Dated: August 28, 2001.

Thomas C. Voltaggio,

Regional Administrator, Region III.

[FR Doc. 01-22268 Filed 9-4-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 180

[OPP-301166; FRL-6799-6]

RIN 2070-AC18

Sulfuryl Fluoride; Proposed Pesticide Temporary Tolerances

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This document proposes to establish temporary tolerances for sulfuryl fluoride and inorganic fluoride residues resulting from application of sulfuryl fluoride in or on walnuts and raisins under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996. This fumigant is being proposed as a methyl bromide alternative in the post-harvest fumigation of stored walnuts and raisins. These temporary tolerances would support a proposed 3-year experimental use permit (EUP) effective between September 24, 2001 and September 24, 2004, conducted by Dow AgroSciences entirely in the state of California. The temporary tolerances will expire April 1, 2006. This will allow approximately 18 months after the end of the EUP, for all the treated commodities to clear commerce.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket control number OPP-301166 must be received on or before October 5, 2001.