ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–7163–8]

Annual Conference on Analysis of Pollutants in the Environment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Announcement of conference.

SUMMARY: The Office of Science and Technology and Battelle, co-sponsors, will hold the “25th Annual Conference on Analysis of Pollutants in the Environment” to discuss all aspects of environmental measurement. The conference is open to the public.

DATES: The annual conference will be held on May 7–9, 2002. On May 7, 2002, the conference will begin at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn at 5 p.m. A workshop on “Surviving a Laboratory Audit” will be presented from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

On May 8, 2002, the conference will begin at 8:45 a.m. and adjourn at 4:15 p.m. On May 9, 2002, the conference will begin at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn at 12 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The conference will be held at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, 777 Waterside Drive, Norfolk, Virginia, 23510.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Conference and workshop arrangements are being conducted by Battelle. For information on registration, hotel rates, transportation, social events, and reservations call Andrea Grew, Battelle, at (781) 952–5200 or by facsimile at (781) 934–2124.

If you need special accommodations at this meeting, including wheelchair access, you should contact Andrea Grew, Battelle, at least five business days prior to the meeting so that we can make appropriate arrangements. If you have technical questions regarding the conference or workshop programs, please contact Marion Kelly, e-mail: kelly.marion@epa.gov, (202) 566–1045 or by facsimile at (202) 566–1053.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The “25th Annual Conference on Analysis of Pollutants in the Environment” is designed to bring together representatives of regulated industries, commercial environmental laboratories, State and Federal regulators, municipal water and wastewater laboratories, and environmental consultants and contractors to discuss all aspects of environmental measurement with a particular focus on environmental water regulations, compliance monitoring, and related issues.

The draft program agenda for the conference follows:

Tuesday, May 7, 2002

Welcome and Status of Office of Water Activities
8:45 a.m. Welcome—Robert G. Beimer, Battelle
9:00 a.m. Opening Remarks—William Telliardi, U.S. EPA Office of Science & Technology, Engineering and Analysis Division
10:15 a.m. Break

Bacteriological Tracking
10:30 a.m. Microbial Source Tracking: Principles and Practice—Mansour Samadpour, University of Washington
11:00 a.m. Source Tracking of Bacteria: A Case Study—Ward Staubitz, U.S. Geological Survey Site Investigation
11:30 a.m. The Destruction of the World Trade Center and PCBs, PBDEs, PCDD/Fs, PBDD/Fs, and Chlorinated Biphenyls in Water, Sediment, and Sewage Sludge—Simon Litten, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; D. McChesney, U.S. EPA Region II; and Brian Fowler and M.C. Hamilton, Axys Analytical Services
12:00 Noon—Lunch

Workshop
1:30 p.m.—5:00 p.m. Surviving a Laboratory Audit—U.S. EPA Staff: Nancy Wentworth, Office of Research and Development, Quality Assurance Division; Joseph Slayton, U.S. EPA Region III, Environmental Science Center; U.S. EPA Drinking Water Representative; Steve Baker, State of Arizona
5:00 p.m. Adjourn

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Organics Analysis
8:45 a.m. Determination of the Congener Distribution in Aroclors to the Sub-ppm Level—Coreen Hamilton, Katherine Kaye, and Brian Fowler, Axys Analytical Services
9:15 a.m. Application of Aroclor Toxicity Equivalents to Historic Aroclor Data and to Non-detects—Andy Beliveau, U.S. EPA Region I
9:45 a.m. Navigating EPA’s Alternate Test Procedure for Development of an Alternate Chlorophenolics Procedure: Process and Results—Diana Cook, Glenn Wilson, and Michelle Wreal, National Council for Air and Stream Improvement
10:00 a.m. Break
10:15 a.m. Polybrominated diphenyl ethers: An Emerging Environmental Problem—Mehran Alaee, Canadian Center for Inland Waters
10:45 a.m. Polybrominated diphenyl ethers by Gas Chromatography with an Electron Capture Detector—Robert Rieck, U.S. EPA Region X, Manchester Laboratory
11:15 a.m. Polybrominated diphenyl ethers by HRGC/HRMS—Coreen Hamilton, Brian Fowler, and Louis Haviland, Axys Analytical Services
11:45 a.m. Lunch

Sample Preservation and Holding Times
1:00 p.m. Study Supporting Extension of the Unpreserved Mercury Holding Time to 28 Days—Mark Bruce, Scott Irwin, and Patrick O’Meara, Severn Trent Laboratory, Canton, Ohio
1:30 p.m. Effect of Freezing on Concentrations of Classical Pollutants—Khouane Dithavong, U.S. EPA Office of Science & Technology, Engineering and Analysis Division
2:00 p.m. Effect of Starting Temperature, Ice Placement, and Other Variables on Length of Time that Samples Remain Below 4 ºC in a Picnic Cooler—William Telliardi, U.S. EPA Office of Science & Technology, Engineering and Analysis Division
2:30 p.m. Break

Metals Analysis
2:45 p.m. Determination of Arsenic Species in Fish and Their Impact on Fish Advisories—Eric Crecelius, Margaret O’Neill, and Tim Fortman, Battelle Marine Sciences Laboratory
3:15 p.m. Results of the Interlaboratory Validation of EPA Method 245.7: Mercury in Water by Cold-vapor Atomic Fluorescence—
Maria Gomez-Taylor, U.S. EPA Office of Science & Technology, Engineering and Analysis Division

**Bioassay**

3:45 p.m.  Comparison of Results of Determination of Dioxin-like Toxicity by Cell-line Bioassays and HRGC/HRMS—Harry McCarty, DynCorp Information & Enterprise Technology, Inc.

4:15 p.m.  Adjourn

5:30 p.m.  Conference Reception

**Thursday, May 9, 2002**

Whole Effluent Toxicity

8:30 a.m.  Grading on a Curve: How to Use Laboratory Control Charts and Other QA/QC Data to Interpret Toxicity Test Results—Tim Moore, Risk Sciences; and Jim Pletl, Hampton Roads Sanitation District

Microbiological Methods

9:00 a.m.  Interlaboratory Validation of EPA Method 1605 for Aeromonas in Water—Misty Pope, Kevin Miller, Kevin Connell, Jessica Pulz, Chris Maynard, Ben Meadows, and Kyle May, DynCorp Information & Enterprise Technology, Inc.; and Mary Ann Feige, U.S. EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water Technical Support Center, Cincinnati

9:30 a.m.  Are Current Microbiological Method Holding Times Meaningful? An Assessment of the Stability of Multiple Pathogens in Wastewater at Multiple Times and Temperatures—Robin Oshiro, U.S. EPA Office of Science and Technology, Engineering and Analysis Division; and Misty Pope, Kevin Connell, Jessica Pulz, Ken Miller, and Yildiz Chambers, DynCorp Information & Enterprise Technology, Inc.

10:00 a.m.  Break

10:15 a.m.  Special Session: Demonstration of E. coli and Enterococci Methods Proposed by EPA for Use in Recreational Water Monitoring—Robin Oshiro, U.S. EPA Office of Science and Technology, Engineering and Analysis Division

12:00 Noon—Adjourn


Geoffrey H. Grubbs, Director, Office of Science and Technology.

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency, 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 continuing information collections. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), this notice seeks comments concerning the U.S. Fire Administration’s National Fire Academy Long-term Course Evaluation Forms.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The data collection from the long-term evaluation forms—one for students and one for the student’s supervisor—will obtain course specific feedback regarding the impact of course content on job performance. This data is needed to improve instructional delivery and curriculum design. Demographic data are needed to identify differentials in course impact. The information collection also supports the Government Performance and Results Act.

**Collection of Information**

**Title:** National Fire Academy Long-term Evaluation Form for Supervisors, National Fire Academy Long-term Evaluation Form for Students.

**Type of Information Collection:** Renewal of existing collection in use with OMB approval.

**OMB Number:** 3067–0260.

**Form Numbers:** Form F–8872–NETC; F–8873–NETC.

**Abstract:** The National Fire Academy’s long-term evaluation forms—one for students and one for the student’s supervisor—will obtain course specific feedback regarding impact of course content on job performance. The information is needed to improve instruction and content. Demographic data are needed to identify differentials in course impact.

**Affected Public:** Individuals.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** 375.

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**Estimated Cost:** $105,000.

**Comments:** Written comments are solicited to (a) evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. Comments should be received within 60 days of the date of this notice.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons should submit written comments to Muriel B. Anderson, Chief, Records Management Section, Program Services and Systems Branch, Facilities and Services Management Division, Administration and Resource Planning Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW, Room 316, Washington, DC 20472.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Terry Gladhill, Program Analyst, National Fire Academy, (301) 447–1239 for additional information. You may contact Ms. Anderson for copies of the proposed collection of information at telephone number (202) 646–2625 or facsimile number (202) 646–3347 or e-mail muriel.Anderson@fema.gov.