

shares of Islanders Bank, Friday Harbor, Washington.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, March 27, 2002.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 02-7863 Filed 4-1-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Meeting of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a public hearing by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform. As governed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act in accordance with Section 10(a)(2), the Secretary Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform is seeking guidance for the Department's efforts to streamline regulatory requirements. The Advisory Committee will advise and make recommendations for changes that would be beneficial in four broad areas: health care delivery, health systems operations, biomedical and health research, and the development of pharmaceuticals and other products. The Committee will review changes identified through regional public hearings, written comments from the public, and consultation with HHS staff.

All meetings and hearings of the Committee are open to the general public. During each meeting, invited witnesses will address how regulations affect health-related issues. Meeting agendas will also allow some time for public comment. Additional information on each meeting's agenda and list of participating witnesses will be posted on the Committee's Web site prior to the meetings (<http://www.regreform.hhs.gov>).

DATES: The third public hearing of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2002, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Thursday, April 18, 2002, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform will meet on Wednesday, April 17, 2002, in the Philadelphia Room, Ramada Plaza Suites and Conference Center, One

Bigelow Square, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15219. On Thursday, April 18, 2002, the Committee will meet in the Pittsburgh Room, Ramada Plaza Suites and Conference Center, One Bigelow Square, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15219.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christy Schmidt, Executive Coordinator, Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 344G, Washington, DC, 20201, (202) 401-5182.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Ramada Plaza Suites and Conference Center is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Anyone planning to attend the meeting who requires special disability-related arrangements such as sign-language interpretation should provide notice of their need by Friday, April 12, 2002. Please make any request to Michael Starkweather by phone: 301-628-3141; fax: 301-628-3101; e-mail: mstarkweather@s-3.com. On June 8, 2001, HHS Secretary Thompson announced a Department-wide initiative to reduce regulatory burdens in health care, to improve patient care, and to respond to the concerns of health care providers and industry, State and local Governments, and individual Americans who are affected by HHS rules. Common sense approaches and careful balancing of needs can help improve patient care. As part of this initiative, the Department is establishing the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform to provide findings and recommendations regarding potential regulatory changes. These changes would enable HHS programs to reduce burdens and costs associated with departmental regulations and paperwork, while at the same time maintaining or enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and access of HHS programs.

Dated: March 26, 2002.

William Raub,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.

[FR Doc. 02-7831 Filed 4-1-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

[ATSDR-180]

Availability of the Draft Document, Public Health Assessment Guidance Manual (Update), Public Comment Draft

AGENCY: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for public comment of the draft document, Public Health Assessment Guidance Manual (Update). The draft is a revision and update of the 1992 Public Health Assessment Guidance Manual.

SUMMARY: ATSDR is mandated to conduct public health assessments under Section 104(i) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) [42 U.S.C. 9604(i)] and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) [42 U.S.C. 6939a(c)].

The general procedures for the conduct of public health assessments are included in the ATSDR Final Rule on Health Assessments and Health Effects Studies of Hazardous Substances Releases and Facilities (55 FR 5136, February 13, 1990, codified at 42 CFR part 90). The revision of the 1992 Guidance Manual sets forth in detail the public health assessment process as developed and modified by ATSDR since 1992 and presents the methodologies and guidelines that will be used by ATSDR staff and agents of ATSDR in conducting public health assessments. Areas emphasized in this updated guidance include community involvement, exposure assessment, and weight-of-evidence (WOE) approaches to decision making about hazards associated with sites.

Availability

The draft Public Health Assessment Guidance Manual (Update) will be available to the public on or about March 25, 2002. A 60-day public comment period will be provided for the draft manual, which will begin on the date of this publication. The close of the comment period will be indicated on the front of the draft manual. Comments received after close of the public comment period will be considered at the discretion of ATSDR based upon what is deemed to be in the best interest of the general public.