

vendors to ensure that all available commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) products that provide capabilities applicable to the NCS have been identified. All manufacturers and suppliers of appropriate technology that could be applied to support the NCS are offered this opportunity to describe how the government can best employ their products to meet the NCS mission needs.

In addition to currently available products, the government wants to understand the capabilities of leading-edge products currently under development that will be available by mid Fiscal Year 2004. The information submitted will be used to assist the government in the continuing development of its NCS implementation strategy.

This RFI is the first of several steps to solicit input and interest from the vendor community and to promote competition in response to needed technology for the NCS. We expect to issue other RFIs as planning evolves.

**DATES:** Information should be submitted via website not later than January 31, 2003, to <http://www.NationalChildrensStudy.gov>. Responses submitted after this date will not be accepted. The government will not request additional information or discuss submissions received in response to this RFI with individual responders.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit responses to [NCS.Technology@epa.gov](mailto:NCS.Technology@epa.gov) (<http://www.NationalChildrensStudy.gov>). Responses are limited to a total of 20 pages, and in WordPerfect or Microsoft Word. Page size must be 8.5 × 11", font must be 12 point or larger, and margins must be at least 1 inch. Briefly describe your product, the company that produces it, and the company's other products, services, history, ownership, and information you deem relevant. Provide points of contact for the product, including name, address (also include web address, if available), phone/fax number, and email address. Discuss technical feasibility alternatives and provide nonbinding order-of-magnitude cost and estimates of developmental time for the alternatives. Hardware and software vendors should submit a concept paper describing how the product could meet potential NCS needs. Indicate whether your product is commercially available or is on the General Services Administration Federal Supply Schedule. Supplemental product brochures or marketing materials outlining specifications and capabilities also may be submitted, and

will not be counted in the overall page count limits.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information, please contact Sherry G. Selevan, Ph.D.; mailing address: National Center for Environmental Assessment-Washington (8623D), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC 20460; telephone: 202-564-3312; facsimile: 202-565-0078; e-mail: [selevan.sherry@epa.gov](mailto:selevan.sherry@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Disclaimer**

This RFI is issued for information and planning purposes only and does not constitute a solicitation. The government does not intend to award a contract on the basis of this RFI or to otherwise pay for information received in response to this RFI. Responses to the RFI will not be returned, and because they will be available for background material for a workshop, submission will not be treated as proprietary. Information provided in response to this RFI will be used to assess tradeoffs and alternatives available for determining how to proceed in the planning process for the NCS and may lead to the development of a specification for the NCS. In accordance with FAR 15.201(e), responses to this RFI are not offers and cannot be accepted by the government to form a binding contract. Responders are solely responsible for all expenses associated with responding to this RFI.

Dated: January 3, 2003.

**George Alapas,**

*Acting Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.*

[FR Doc. 03-735 Filed 1-13-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-7438-4]

**Koppers Charleston Superfund Site; Notice of Proposed Settlement**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of modified proposed settlement.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Environmental Protection Agency is proposing to enter into an Administrative Settlement with Beazer East, Inc. for response costs pursuant to section 122(h)(1) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 USC 9622(h)(1) concerning the Koppers Charleston

Superfund Site (Site) located in Charleston, Charleston County, South Carolina. EPA will consider public comments on the modified proposed settlement for thirty (30) days. EPA may withdraw from or modify the proposed settlement should such comments disclose facts or considerations which indicate the proposed settlement is inappropriate, improper or inadequate. Copies of the proposed settlement are available from: Ms. Paula V. Batchelor, U. S. EPA, Region 4, (WMD-CPSB), 61 Forsyth Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, (404) 562-8887.

Written comments may be submitted to Ms. Batchelor within 30 calendar days of the date of this publication.

Dated: December 23, 2002.

**James T. Miller, Acting Chief,**

*CERCLA Program Services Branch, Waste Management Division.*

[FR Doc. 03-737 Filed 1-13-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-7438-6]

**Clean Water Act Section 303(d): Notice Final Agency Action Withdrawing of 1 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of withdrawal of 1 TMDL.

*Subject:* This notice announces EPA final action withdrawing of the TMDL for atrazine in the water column that EPA established pursuant to the Clean Water Act ("CWA") section 303(d), for Louisiana subsegment 080903, Big Creek from the confluence with the Boeuf River to the headwaters (including Big Colewa Bayou). EPA is withdrawing this TMDL because the draft criteria value for atrazine used in screening the waterbody to determine whether it meets Louisiana water quality standards and for calculation of allowable load allocations was draft only and had not been through the complete public notice process and had not been finalized. In place of the draft atrazine criteria number of 12 µg/l, EPA is establishing a screening value of 36 µg/l as calculated by one possible procedure found in Louisiana water quality standards (LAC 33:IX,1113.C.6). Based on this new screening value of 36 µg/l, Big Creek is not, and was not at the time EPA established this TMDL, impaired by atrazine and should not be listed on Louisiana's current CWA

section 303(d) list for atrazine. Thus, EPA is withdrawing this TMDL.

**Background:** EPA established this atrazine TMDL under CWA section 303(d) on February 28, 2001, to satisfy a consent decree obligation in the lawsuit styled *Sierra Club v. Clifford*, Civ. No. 96-0527 (E.D. La.). The Waterbody subsegment 080903, Big Creek from the confluence with the Boeuf River to the headwaters (including Big Colewa Bayou) was listed on the Louisiana Section 303(d) list of impaired waters as impaired due to pesticides, under the "no toxics in toxic amounts" narrative Louisiana water quality standard (LAC 33:IX,1113.B.5).

Since the State of Louisiana does not have a numeric water quality criterion for the protection of aquatic life for atrazine, EPA derived a numeric interpretation of the State of Louisiana's narrative water quality criterion for toxic substances using EPA's Draft Criteria Document for atrazine (Ambient Aquatic Life Water Quality Criteria for Atrazine—Draft, EPA 822-D-010002, August 2001) and used that interpretation as the basis for establishing the Big Creek TMDL for atrazine.

During the comment period for this TMDL, commenters submitted information stating that under Louisiana water quality standard provisions (LAC 33:IX,1113.C.6) it was not appropriate to use a draft criterion document value and that the Louisiana procedures should be used. EPA has evaluated these comments and has concluded that using the calculation procedure found in the Louisiana water quality standards provisions is more appropriate for establishing a screening value for atrazine in this particular case. Based on its modification of the screening value used for interpretation of Louisiana's narrative water quality criterion of "no toxics in toxic amounts," EPA concluded that the applicable water quality standard for the Big Creek is not, and was not at the time EPA established this TMDL, exceeded for atrazine in the water column.

Therefore, in the exercise of its discretion, EPA is withdrawing the Big Creek TMDL established in February 2001 for atrazine. Because Big Creek is not listed for atrazine on the Louisiana 303(d) list, LDEQ has no present obligation under the CWA to submit to EPA a TMDL for atrazine for Big Creek, nor does the CWA require EPA to maintain this TMDL. Three other TMDLs for Big Creek, DDT, carbofuran, and methyl parathion are not affected by this determination.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Ellen Caldwell at (214) 665-7513.

Dated: December 20, 2002.

**Jayne Fontenot,**

*Acting Director, Water Quality Protection Division, Region 6.*

[FR Doc. 03-736 Filed 1-13-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

## FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at [www.ffiec.gov/nic/](http://www.ffiec.gov/nic/).

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than February 7, 2003.

**A. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond** (A. Linwood Gill, III, Vice President) 701 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23261-4528:

1. *Forest Merger Corporation and FBR TRS Holdings, Inc.*, both in Arlington, Virginia; to become bank holding companies by merging with Friedman, Billings, Ramsey Group, Inc., and FBR Asset Investment Corporation, both in Arlington, Virginia, and thereby indirectly acquiring FBR Bancorp, Inc., Arlington, Virginia, and FBR National Bank and Trust, Bethesda, Maryland.

After the merger, Applicants would be renamed Friedman, Billings, Ramsey Group, Inc.

Applicants also have applied to acquire indirectly more than 5 percent of the voting shares of Pacific Credit Capital, Inc., and its subsidiary Pacific Crest Bank, both in Agoura Hills, California; Hingham Institution for Savings, Hingham, Massachusetts; ITLA Capital Corporation, and its subsidiary, Imperial Capital Bank, both in La Jolla, California.

Applicants also have applied to acquire indirectly more than 5 percent of the voting shares of Quaker City Bancorp, Inc., and its subsidiary, Quaker City Bank, both in Whittier, California; and First Bell Bancorp, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and its subsidiary Bell Federal Savings and Loan Association, Bellevue, Pennsylvania, and thereby engage in operating savings associations, pursuant to § 228.25(b)(4) of Regulation Y.

2. *MountainBank Financial Corporation*, Hendersonville, North Carolina; to merge with Cardinal Bankshares Corporation, Floyd, Virginia, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of The Bank of Floyd, Floyd, Virginia.

3. *MountainBank Financial Corporation*, Hendersonville, North Carolina; to merge with CNB Holdings, Inc., Pulaski, Virginia, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of Community National Bank, Pulaski, Virginia.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 8, 2003.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Deputy Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 03-670 Filed 1-13-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6210-01-S**

## FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Consumer Advisory Council

On January 3, 2003, the Federal Reserve Board named ten new members to its Consumer Advisory Council for three-year terms and designated a new Chair and Vice Chair of the Council for 2003. The Council advises the Board on the exercise of its responsibilities under the Consumer Credit Protection Act and on other matters in the area of consumer financial services. The Council meets three times a year in Washington, D.C.

Ronald Reiter was designated Chair; his term runs through December 2003. Mr. Reiter is Supervising Deputy Attorney General for the California Department of Justice.

Agnes Bundy Scanlan was designated Vice Chair; her term on the Council