

Agency, Mail Code: 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460, Attention Docket ID No. TRI-2003-0001. Please state in the beginning of the comment the specific burden reduction option(s) being addressed by the comment.

3. *By Hand Delivery or Courier.*

Deliver your comments to: EPA Docket Center, (EPA/DC) EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20004, telephone: 202-566-1744, Attention Docket ID No. TRI-2003-0001. Please state in the beginning of the comment the specific burden reduction option(s) being addressed by the comment. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation as identified in Unit II.A.

*B. How Should I Submit CBI to the Agency?*

Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI electronically through EPA's electronic public docket or by e-mail. Commenters wishing to submit proprietary information for consideration must clearly distinguish such information from other comments and clearly label it as CBI. Send submissions containing such proprietary information directly to the following address only, and not to the public docket, to ensure that proprietary information is not inadvertently placed in the docket: Attention: OEI Document Control Officer, Mail Code: 2822T, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. You may claim information that you submit to EPA as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI (if you submit CBI on disk or CD ROM, mark the outside of the disk or CD ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD ROM the specific information that is CBI). The EPA will disclose information claimed as CBI only to the extent allowed by the procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes any information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket and EPA's electronic public docket. If you submit the copy that does not contain CBI on disk or CD ROM, mark the outside of the disk or CD ROM clearly that it does not contain CBI. Information not marked as CBI will be included in the public docket and EPA's electronic public docket without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult the person identified in

the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Dated: December 22, 2003.

**Elaine G. Stanley,**

*Director, Office of Information Analysis and Access.*

[FR Doc. 03-32057 Filed 12-29-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**[FRL-7603-6]**

**Intent To Grant Exclusive License**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to grant an exclusive license.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 207 and 37 CFR part 404, EPA hereby gives notice of its intent to grant an exclusive, royalty-bearing, revocable license to practice the invention described and claimed in the patent application listed below, all U.S. patents issuing therefrom, and all reexamined and reissued patents granted in the United States in connection with such patent application to Analytical Engineering, Incorporated of Columbus, Indiana. The patent application is:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/306,044, entitled "Exhaust Aftertreatment System and Method for an Internal Combustion Engine," filed November 27, 2002 and claiming priority from the first filed provisional application, filed November 29, 2001.

Normally, 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1) requires an agency to issue both a notice of availability of an invention for exclusive licensing, as well as a notice of intent to grant the exclusive license. However, EPA has authority under the same 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1) to proceed without a notice of availability when expeditious transfer of rights will best serve the interest of the Federal government and the public. Under that authority, EPA has decided not to issue a notice of availability of this invention for licensing. Analytical Engineering, Incorporated is co-owner by assignment from its employee inventors of an undivided interest in the invention. It is unlikely that any other party would be willing to take a license from EPA on a patent application or patent encumbered by co-ownership. Accordingly, EPA is relying on its authority under 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1) to proceed without such notice of availability.

The proposed exclusive license will contain appropriate terms, limitations

and conditions in accordance with the limitations and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.5 and 404.7 of the U.S. Government patent licensing regulations.

EPA will negotiate the final terms and conditions and execute the exclusive license, unless within 30 days from the date of this Notice, EPA receives, at the address below, written objections to the grant, together with supporting documentation. The documentation from objecting parties having an interest in practicing the above patent application should include an application for an exclusive or nonexclusive license with the information set forth in 37 CFR 404.8. The EPA Patent Counsel and other EPA officials will review all written responses and then make recommendations on a final decision to the Director of the National Vehicle Fuel Emissions Laboratory, who has been delegated the authority to issue patent licenses under EPA Delegation 1-55.

**DATES:** Comments to this notice must be received by EPA at the address listed below by January 29, 2004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Laura Scalise, Patent Attorney, Office of General Counsel (Mail Code 2377A), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC 20460, telephone (202) 564-8303.

Dated: December 10, 2003.

**Marla E. Diamond,**

*Associate General Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 03-32058 Filed 12-29-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**[FRL-7604-5]**

**Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter (External Review Draft)**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of drafts of chapters for public review and comment.

**SUMMARY:** On or about December 29, 2003, the National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA), within EPA's Office of Research and Development, will make available for public review and comment revised drafts of Chapters 7 and 8 of EPA's document *Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter*, which incorporate revisions made in response to earlier external review of those chapters. Under sections 108 and 109 of the Clean Air Act, the purpose of this document is to provide an assessment of the latest

scientific information on the effects of airborne particulate matter (PM) on the public health and welfare for use in EPA's current review of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM.

**DATES:** Comments on the draft chapters must be submitted in writing no later than January 31, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Send the written comments to the Project Manager for Particulate Matter, National Center for Environmental Assessment—RTP (B243-01), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711.

A copy of the revised Chapters 7 and 8 of the *Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter* will be available on CD-ROM from NCEA—RTP. Contact Ms. Diane Ray by phone (919-541-3637), fax (919-541-1818), or e-mail ([ray.diane@epa.gov](mailto:ray.diane@epa.gov)) to request these chapters. Please provide the document's title, *Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter*, and the EPA numbers for each of the two revised chapters (EPA/600/P-99/002aE, EPA/600/P-99/002bE), as well as your name and address, to properly process your request. Internet users will be able to download a copy from the NCEA home page. The URL is <http://www.epa.gov/ncea/>. Hard copies of the revised chapters can also be made available upon request.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Robert Elias, National Center for Environmental Assessment—RTP (B243-01), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711; telephone: 919-541-4167; fax: 919-541-1818; e-mail: [elias.robert@epa.gov](mailto:elias.robert@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EPA is in the process of updating and revising, where appropriate, its *Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter* as issued in 1996 (usually referred to as the "Criteria Document"). Sections 108 and 109 of the Clean Air Act require that EPA carry out a periodic review and revision, where appropriate, of the air quality criteria (embodied in the Criteria Document) and national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for "criteria" air pollutants such as PM. Details of EPA's plans for the review of the NAAQS for PM were initially announced in a previous **Federal Register** notice (62 FR 55201, October 23, 1997). EPA made a First External Review Draft of the updated *Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter* available for review by the Clean Air Act Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) and members of the public in October 1999 (64 FR 57884, October 27, 1999). Following that public review period and

a meeting of the CASAC in December 1999 (64 FR 61875, November 15, 1999), EPA revised the document as appropriate to incorporate CASAC and public comments, as well as to reflect many new studies on the effects of PM that were not available in time for discussion in the First External Review Draft.

EPA then made a Second External Review Draft of the *Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter* available for CASAC and public review in April 2001 (66 FR 18929, April 12, 2001).

Following that public review period and a second CASAC meeting in July 2001 (66 FR 34924, July 2, 2001), EPA again revised the document as appropriate to incorporate changes in response to CASAC and public comments and also made further revisions reflecting new studies on effects of particulate matter that had become available between issuance of the First and Second External Review Drafts.

EPA then made a Third External Review Draft of the *Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter* available for CASAC and public review in May 2002 (67 FR 31303, May 9, 2002). Following that public review period and a third CASAC meeting in July 2002 (67 FR 41723, June 19, 2002), EPA again revised the document as appropriate to incorporate revisions in response to CASAC and public comments and also made further revisions reflecting new studies on effects of particulate matter that had become available between issuance of the Second and Third External Review Drafts, as well as reanalyses of certain existing studies occasioned after discovery of problems with applications of statistical software.

EPA made a Fourth External review Draft available for CASAC and public review in June 2003 (68 FR 36985). A public meeting with CASAC was held August 25-26, 2003, during which CASAC reached closure on Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, with only relatively minor final revisions to be made. No further public review is requested on these chapters. However, CASAC did not reach closure on Chapters 7 (toxicology), 8 (human health), and 9 (integrative synthesis), each of which are to be more extensively revised or, in the case of chapter 9, to be significantly restructured.

EPA is now making revised drafts of Chapters 7 and 8 available for CASAC and public review. These two revised draft chapters will be reviewed by CASAC via a publicly accessible teleconference call in late January, 2004 (date and time to be announced in a subsequent **Federal Register** notice). Following that CASAC teleconference,

Chapter 9 will be released for CASAC and public review at a public meeting in early March (date and site to be announced in a later **Federal Register** notice).

Dated: December 22, 2003.

**Peter W. Preuss,**

*Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.*

[FR Doc. 03-32054 Filed 12-29-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-M**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7604-4]

### Neurotoxicity of Tetrachloroethylene (Perchloroethylene): Discussion Paper

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of discussion document and plans for conducting a consultation workshop on the Neurotoxicity of Tetrachloroethylene.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the availability of an External Review Draft entitled, "Neurotoxicity of Tetrachloroethylene (Perchloroethylene): Discussion Paper" (EPA/600/P-03/005A). EPA will accept public comments on the paper within 60 days of the date of this notice. The document was prepared by the EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) within the Office of Research and Development.

This document serves as background material for an EPA-sponsored workshop designed to consult with neurotoxicologists about the potential adverse effects of perchloroethylene. Versar, Inc., an EPA contractor, will convene a panel of experts and conduct a one-day meeting to discuss the available information and related issues in evaluating the neurotoxic potential of perchloroethylene to humans under environmental exposure conditions. Details of the expert consultation meeting will be announced at a later date.

NCEA will consider the opinions of the individual consultants as well as the submitted written public comments in preparing an Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) Toxicological Review of Tetrachloroethylene. The IRIS document, which will evaluate all health effects and will estimate population risks, will be peer-reviewed at a subsequent time.

**DATES:** The sixty-day public comment period begins December 30, 2003, and