

o. A copy of the application is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room. This filing may also be viewed on the Web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at (866) 208-3676 or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

p. You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support. To view upcoming FERC events, go to <http://www.ferc.gov> and click on "View Entire Calendar".

q. With this notice, we are initiating consultation with the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), as required by 106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 36 CFR 800.4.

r. *Procedural Schedule and Final Amendments*: The application will be processed according to the following Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate. The Commission staff proposes to issue one environmental assessment rather than issue a draft and final EA. Comments, terms and conditions, recommendations, prescriptions, and reply comments, if any, will be addressed in an EA issued in the summer of 2005.

Issue Acceptance or Deficiency Letter—April 2004

Issue Scoping Document—July 2004

Notice that application is ready for environmental analysis—January 2005

Notice of the availability of the EA—June 2005

Ready for Commission decision on the application—December 2005

Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the issuance date of the notice of ready for environmental analysis.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E4-71 Filed 01-14-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7610-2]

### Draft Toxicological Review of Toluene: In Support of Summary Information on the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS)

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice of external peer-review panel meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing an external peer-review panel meeting to review the external review draft document entitled, "Toxicological Review of Toluene: In Support of Summary Information on the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS)" (NCEA-S-1264). The document was prepared by EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) of the Office of Research and Development. EPA will use comments and recommendations from the expert panel meeting to finalize the draft document.

**DATES:** The peer-review panel meeting will begin on February 5, 2004, at 8:30 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. Members of the public may attend as observers.

**ADDRESSES:** The external peer-review panel meeting will be held at the Jurys Washington Hotel, 1500 New Hampshire Ave., NW., Washington, DC. Under an Interagency Agreement with EPA and the Department of Energy, the Oak Ridge Institute of Science and Education (ORISE) is organizing, convening, and conducting the peer-review panel meeting. To attend the meeting, register by January 23, 2004, by calling ORISE, PO Box 117, MS 17, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-0117, at (865) 241-5784 or (865) 241-3168 (facsimile). Interested parties may also register online at: [ShapardL@orau.gov](mailto:ShapardL@orau.gov). Space is limited, and reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

A limited number of paper copies are available by contacting the IRIS Hotline at (202) 566-1676 or (202) 566-1749 (facsimile). If you are requesting a paper copy, please provide your name, mailing address, and the document title and number, "Draft Toxicological Review of Toluene: In Support of Summary Information on the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS)" (NCEA-S-1264). Copies are not available from ORISE.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Questions regarding registration and logistics should be directed to Leslie

Shapard, ORISE, PO Box 117, MS 17, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-0117, at 865-241-5784 (telephone), (865) 241-3168 (facsimile), [ShapardL@orau.gov](mailto:ShapardL@orau.gov) (email).

If you have questions about the document, contact Lynn Flowers, IRIS Staff, National Center for Environmental Assessment, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone: (202) 564-1537; facsimile: (202) 565-0075; e-mail: [flowers.lynn@epa.gov](mailto:flowers.lynn@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The draft report is a reassessment of the chronic health effects of toluene which was first entered into the IRIS data base in 1987. The report provides the scientific basis for deriving an oral reference dose (RfD) and inhalation reference concentration (RfC) for the noncancer health risk from exposure to toluene. A cancer assessment is also included in the draft report.

IRIS is a data base that contains scientific Agency consensus positions on potential adverse human health effects that may result from chronic (or lifetime) exposure to specific chemical substances found in the environment. The data base (available on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/iris>) contains qualitative and quantitative health effects information for more than 500 chemical substances that may be used to support the first two steps (hazard identification and dose-response evaluation) of the risk assessment process. When supported by available data, the data base provides RfDs and RfCs for chronic health effects, and oral slope factors and inhalation unit risks for carcinogenic effects. Combined with specific exposure information, government and private entities use IRIS to help characterize public health risks of chemical substances in a site-specific situation and thereby support risk management decisions designed to protect public health.

Toluene (CASRN 108-88-3) or methylbenzene is used as a gasoline additive to increase octane ratings, in benzene production, and as a solvent in paints, coatings, inks, adhesives, and cleaners. Toluene is also used in the production of nylon, plastics and polyurethanes. Toluene is released to the environment, mostly into the atmosphere during the production, transport, and use of gasoline. Toluene has been detected in drinking water supplies, particularly in locations near leaking underground storage tanks containing fuel products. Toluene has also been detected in soil and water at or near certain hazardous waste sites and in smoke from wood and cigarettes.

EPA has established an official public docket for this action under Docket ID No. ORD-2003-0015. The official public docket consists of the document referenced in this notice and a list of charge questions that have been submitted to the external peer reviewers. Both documents are available on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/>. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the appropriate docket identification number.

Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

Dated: January 7, 2004.

**Peter W. Preuss,**

Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. 04-895 Filed 1-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-2004-0002; FRL-7341-6]

### Public Workshop on Plant-Incorporated Protectant Experimental Use Permits; Notice of Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is holding a public workshop entitled Plant-Incorporated Protectant (PIP) Experimental Use Permits (EUP): Process and Compliance. EPA recognizes that some PIP EUP regulatory issues require review and clarification, and is seeking public participation and input to help identify the best approaches to regulatory improvements pertaining to PIP EUPs.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on February 10 and 11, 2004 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Requests to participate in the meeting, identified by docket ID number OPP-2004-0002, must be received on or before February 2, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Crystal City Hilton, 2399 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202. Telephone number: (703) 418-6800.

Requests to participate in the meeting may be submitted to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Karen Heisler, Region 9 (CMD-1) 75 Hawthorne St., San Francisco, CA 94105; telephone number: 415-947-4240; fax number: 415-947-3583; e-mail address: [Heisler.Karen@epa.gov](mailto:Heisler.Karen@epa.gov). To

preregister for the workshop by February 2, 2004 contact Teresa Bullock at American Farmland Trust by e-mail: [tbullock@niu.edu](mailto:tbullock@niu.edu), by telephone: (815) 753-9347 or by fax: (815) 753-9348).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### I. General Information

##### A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the general public, and may be of particular interest to persons who apply for, manage, or conduct research under a PIP Experimental Use Permit, or whose work involves issues related to biotechnology-derived PIP EUPs. Potentially affected entities may include, but are not limited to: applicants for PIP experimental use permits; Federal, State, and local regulators of biotechnology; government, industry, and academic researchers working in the field of agricultural biotechnology; non-governmental organizations; agricultural/agronomic associations, and the biotechnology trade association. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

##### B. How Can I Get Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?

1. *Docket.* EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket identification (ID) number OPP-2004-0002. The official public docket consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received, and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. This docket facility is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The docket telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

2. *Electronic access.* You may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, EPA Dockets. You may use EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/> to view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B.1. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the appropriate docket ID number.

#### II. Background

##### A. What Topics Will the Workshop Address?

The basic goal of this workshop is to address and clarify certain aspects of PIP EUPs such as the definition of terms and permit conditions so that the PIP EUP program, including associated field obligations, is clear to EUP applicants and researchers. The workshop is expected to improve the PIP EUP process and result in increased compliance, thereby enhancing protection of the environment and human health. The workshop will address the PIP EUP application and permitting process, and associated compliance issues. EPA will provide background on its PIP EUP regulatory goals, and a preselected panel comprised of stakeholders from industry, academia, and public interest groups will discuss their goals and needs. EPA will solicit input from workshop participants on specific topics, including the PIP EUP application and permitting process; permit terminology and definitions; the enforceability of EUP language and activities; containment and confinement issues; and content and data requirements. Participants will be asked to identify concerns and recommend potential solutions. EPA anticipates holding panel discussions on three additional topics: The comparability of U.S. Department of Agriculture and EPA experimental biotechnology programs; the balancing of proprietary information with public transparency; and compliance issues and needs. These topics are directly related to ensuring environmental protection, maintaining a healthy climate for experimental research, and promoting public confidence; information from the workshop may be used as guidance in further Agency deliberations of these topics. To ensure that a diversity of views are represented in these