DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Amended Consent Decree Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act

Under 42 U.S.C. 9622(d), notice is hereby given that on February 11, 2004, a proposed First Amended Consent Decree (''Amended Decree'') in *United States and People of the State of Illinois, ex rel. Madigan* v. *Manville Sales Corporation,* Civil Action No. 88C 630, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

In this action, the United States asserted claims under 42 U.S.C. 9606 and 9607 to require Manville Sales Corporation, now known as Johns Manville, to perform certain response actions and to reimburse response costs incurred by the United States in response to releases and threatened releases of hazardous substances at a facility known as the Johns Manville Waukegan Disposal Area in Waukegan, Illinois (the ''Site''). The State of Illinois intervened in the action, which was resolved in March of 1988 through entry of a Consent Decree (the ''1988 Decree'') that provided for Johns Manville to perform a remedial action that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (''EPA'') selected in a Record of Decision dated June 30, 1987.

During construction of the remedy required under the 1988 Decree, EPA issued two Explanations of Significant Differences approving changes to certain aspects of the remedy. The Amended Decree provides for implementation of these changes.

Requirements modified or added by the Amended Decree include: (1) Requirements for cleanup of additional on-site areas where asbestos was discovered after entry of the Consent Decree; (2) revised design specifications for ''cover'' materials required in certain areas of the site; (3) provisions requiring excavation or capping of contaminated sediments in the Industrial Canal and closure of other on-site landfill areas and wastewater treatment system units used in Johns Manville's operations at the Site until 1998; (4) provisions restricting land use to prevent interference with the integrity or protectiveness of the remedy; and (5) provisions requiring that any subsequent conveyances of property at the Site be subject to environmental easements and restrictive covenants. The Amended Decree also updates various provisions of the Consent Decree to reflect more closely language of EPA's RD/RA Model Consent Decree.

The Department of Justice will receive for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication comments relating to the Amended Decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, P.O. Box 7611, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20044–7611, and should refer to *United States* v. *Manville Sales Corporation,* D.J. Ref. 90–11–1–7B.

The Amended Decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, 219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604, and at U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604. During the public comment period, the Amended Decree, may also be examined on the following Department of Justice Web site: *http://www.usdoj.gov/enrd/open.html.* A copy of the Amended Decree may also be obtained by mail from the Consent Decree Library, P.O. Box 7611, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20044–7611 or by faxing or e-mailing a request to Tonia Fleetwood (*tonia.fleetwood@usdoj.gov*), fax no. (202) 514–0097, phone confirmation number (202) 514–1547. In requesting a copy from the Consent Decree Library, please enclose a check in the amount of $35.50 (25 cents per page reproduction cost) payable to the U.S. Treasury. In requesting a copy exclusive of exhibits and defendants' signatures, please enclose a check in the amount of $18.75 (25 cents per page reproduction cost) payable to the U.S. Treasury.

William D. Brighton,

Assistant Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comments Requested

ACTION: 60-Day Emergency Notice of Information Collection Under Review: Open Letter to States With Permits That Appear to Qualify as Alternatives to NICS Checks.

The Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with emergency review procedures of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. OMB approval has been requested by February 27, 2004. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. If granted, the emergency approval is only valid for 180 days. Comments should be directed to OMB, Office of Information and Regulation Affairs, Attention: Department of Justice Desk Officer, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 60 days until April 20, 2004.

During the first 60 days of this same review period, a regular review of this information collection is also being undertaken. All comments and suggestions, or questions regarding additional information, to include obtaining a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, should be directed to John A. Spurgeon, Deputy Chief, Firearms Programs, Room 7400, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

—Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

—Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

—Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

—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.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* New Collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Open Letter to States With Permits That Appear to Qualify as Alternatives to NICS Checks.