

Annexes A, B, and/or C of the Stockholm Convention. Three of the five proposals were for industrial chemicals:

- Pentabromodiphenyl ether.
- Hexabromobiphenyl.
- Perfluorooctane sulfonate.

Two of the five proposals were for pesticides:

- Lindane.
- Chlordecone.

In accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8 of the Stockholm Convention and discussed in Unit II.B., during the November meeting POPRC examined the proposals and applied the screening criteria in Annex D of the Stockholm Convention. With regard to all five chemicals, POPRC decided that it was satisfied that the screening criteria had been fulfilled and that further work should therefore be undertaken to develop risk profiles. Therefore, POPRC, through the Secretariat, requested that Parties and observers provide information relevant to POPRC's development of risk profiles for the five chemicals listed in this unit. In the **Federal Register** of January 30, 2006 (71 FR 4913) (FRL-7758-9), EPA invited commenters to provide EPA with information for the risk profiles.

The second meeting of POPRC took place November 6-10, 2006, in Geneva, Switzerland. EPA provided notice of this meeting and POPRC's intention to consider risk profiles for the five chemicals in the **Federal Register** of October 6, 2006 (71 FR 59108) (FRL-8099-2). Information about the November POPRC meeting is available at the Stockholm Convention website [http://www.pops.int/documents/meetings/poprc\\_2/meeting\\_docs.htm](http://www.pops.int/documents/meetings/poprc_2/meeting_docs.htm).

In accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8 of the Stockholm Convention and discussed in Unit II.B., during the November 2006 meeting POPRC examined the draft risk profiles with respect to the requirements in Annex E of the Stockholm Convention. With regard to all five chemicals, POPRC decided that, based on finalized risk profiles, these chemicals were likely, as a result of their long-range environmental transport, to lead to significant adverse-human health and environmental effects such that global action is warranted. Additionally, in accordance with paragraph 7(a) of Article 8 of the Stockholm Convention, POPRC invited Parties and observers to submit to the Secretariat the information specified in Annex F to the Stockholm Convention by February 9, 2007. In the **Federal Register** of December 20, 2006 (71 FR 76325) (FRL-8109-1), EPA invited commenters to provide EPA with risk management information to support the development of its

submission to the Secretariat. On February 9, 2007, EPA provided comments to the Secretariat.

POPRC, through ad hoc working groups, is preparing draft risk management evaluations that are to include an analysis of possible control measures, which in accordance with Annex F of the Stockholm Convention ("Information on Socio-Economic Considerations") should encompass "the full range of options, including management and elimination." The risk management evaluations include socio-economic considerations associated with possible control measures (see Unit II.C.) and reflect due regard for the differing capabilities and conditions among the Parties. Additionally, these documents should discuss any specific exemptions or acceptable purposes being considered. Following the receipt of comments, the ad hoc working groups will further refine the draft risk management evaluations, which will then be considered by the full POPRC in November 2007 and proceed as discussed in Unit II.B.

#### *H. What is the Status of Chemicals at the Risk Profile Stage?*

As stated in Unit II.G., the second meeting of POPRC took place on November 6-10, 2006, in Geneva, Switzerland. EPA provided notice of this meeting and POPRC's intention to consider proposals for the five chemicals listed in this unit in the **Federal Register** of October 6, 2006. Information about the November POPRC meeting is available at the Stockholm Convention website (<http://www.pops.int> and [http://www.pops.int/documents/meeting/poprc\\_2/meeting\\_docs.htm](http://www.pops.int/documents/meeting/poprc_2/meeting_docs.htm)), respectively. POPRC had before it five proposals which were submitted for its consideration by Parties to the Stockholm Convention, for addition to Annexes A, B, and/or C of the Stockholm Convention. Two of the five proposals were for industrial chemicals:

- Octabromodiphenyl ether.
- Short-chained chlorinated paraffins.

One of the five proposals was for a chemical with both industrial and pesticidal uses:

- Pentachlorobenzene.

Two of the five proposals were for pesticides:

- Alpha-hexachlorocyclohexane.
- Beta-hexachlorocyclohexane.

In accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8 of the Stockholm Convention and discussed in Unit II.B., during the November meeting POPRC examined the proposals and applied the screening criteria in Annex D of the

Stockholm Convention. With regard to all five chemicals, POPRC decided that it was satisfied that the screening criteria had been fulfilled and, in accordance with paragraph 4(a) of Article 8 of the Stockholm Convention, POPRC invited Parties and observers to submit to the Secretariat the information specified in Annex E to the Stockholm Convention by February 9, 2007. In the **Federal Register** of December 20, 2006, EPA invited commenters to provide EPA with risk profile information to support the development of its submission to the Secretariat. EPA provided comments to the Secretariat on February 9, 2007.

POPRC, through ad hoc working groups, has prepared draft risk profiles for each of the chemicals to, as noted in Annex E of the Stockholm Convention, "evaluate whether the chemical is likely, as a result of its long-range environmental transport, to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects, such that global action is warranted." The draft risk profiles also further evaluate and elaborate on the information referred to in Annex D of the Stockholm Convention and include, as far as possible, the information listed in Annex E of the Stockholm Convention. Following the receipt of comments, the ad hoc working groups will further refine the draft risk profiles, which will then be considered by the full POPRC in November 2007, and proceed as discussed in Unit II.B.

#### **List of Subjects**

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Hazardous substances.

Dated: May 23, 2007.

**Charles M. Auer,**

*Director, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.*

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**BILLING CODE 6560-50-S**

#### **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 June 29, 2007.

**A. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City** (Donna J. Ward, Assistant Vice President) 925 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64198-0001:

1. *FirstBank Holding Company*, Lakewood, Colorado; to acquire up to 100 percent of the voting shares of FirstBank of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona (in organization).

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, May 30, 2007.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Deputy Secretary of the Board.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

#### Request for Quality Measures for Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services

**AGENCY:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), DHHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for measures.

**SUMMARY:** The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is soliciting the submission of survey instruments and items that could be used to measure the quality of Medicaid home and community-based service (HCBS) programs. Specifically, AHRQ is interested in metrics related to assessing the performance of such programs,

client functional outcomes and client experience of, and satisfaction with, Medicaid HCBS services and supports. This initiative is in response to the mandate within the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, Public Law 109-171, Section 6086(b) that AHRQ develop such measures, in consultation with relevant stakeholders. In preparation for this task, AHRQ is conducting an environmental scan of existing tools that could be adapted or used for assessing the quality of Medicaid HCBS services and supports.

Based on the agency's initial methodological work, there are several quality domains the resulting measure set could assess, including: timeliness of determining need and providing services and supports, person-centeredness, safety, equity, efficiency and, effectiveness of services and supports, qualifications of providers, client health and welfare, program administrative oversight, access, unmet need among current program participants, and coordination of long-term care services with other service providers. For example, relevant measures might include items from a consumer survey that ask about receipt of services or experience with select providers, or metrics that use program administrative data to determine if providers meet program qualifications or if assessments are done on a timely basis.

**DATES:** Please submit data collection instruments and supporting information about their development and/or use no later than 30 days after publication of this notice. AHRQ will not respond individually to submitters, but will consider all submitted items and instruments and publicly report the results of the review of the submission in an aggregated form.

**ADDRESSES:** Submission should include a brief cover letter, a copy of the instrument or items for consideration and supporting information (e.g., a users' guide, citation(s) or copies of supporting article(s)) as specified under the Submission Criteria below.

Submissions may be in the form of a letter or e-mail, preferably with an electronic file(s) as an e-mail attachment. Responses to this request should be submitted to: D.E.B. Potter, Center for Financing, Access and Cost Trends; Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 540 Gaither Road, Suite 500, Rockville, MD 20850, Phone: (301) 427-1564, Fax: (301) 427-1276; E-mail: [D.E.B.Potter@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:D.E.B.Potter@ahrq.hhs.gov).

To facilitate handling of submissions, please include full information about

the instrument developer and/or a designated contact.

- Name
- Title
- Organization
- Mailing address
- Telephone number
- Fax number
- E-mail address

Also, please submit a copy of the instrument or items for consideration, and evidence that it meets the submission criteria below. It is requested (but not required) that citation of a peer-reviewed journal article pertaining to the instrument, to include the title of the article, author(s), publication year, journal name, volume, issue, and page numbers where article appears be included.

Submitters must also provide a statement of willingness to grant to AHRQ the right to use and authorize others to use submitted measures and their documentation as part of any future instrument or measure set that may result from developing the statutorily-mandated Medicaid HCBS measure set. Electronic submissions are encouraged.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** D.E.B. Potter at the address above.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

##### Submission Criteria

Items and instruments submitted must focus on evaluating the performance of home and community-based services, client experience of, and satisfaction with, these home and community-based services and supports, as well as related client functional outcomes. Such services are defined broadly to include at a minimum the array of services included as HCBS under Section 1915(b), (c), or (b) and (c) of the Social Security Act (the Act), HCBS as a State plan option under Section 1915(i), as well as self-directed personal assistance services under Section 1915(j), and HCBS under Section 1115 of the Act, and HCBS demonstrations, as authorized under Section 6071 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005. For the purpose of this call for measures, the listed services are interpreted broadly to include Medicaid home health care services, Medicaid personal care services, and Medicaid targeted case management services.

Submitted materials should be designed to measure (i.e., quantify) program performance, client functional outcomes (including social role functioning), and/or client experience related to any of the following areas: The timeliness of determining need and providing services and supports,