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Dated: June 22, 2007.

Peter W. Preuss,

Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. E7-12569 Filed 6-27-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-8332-7]

Science Advisory Board Staff Office; Request for Nominations for Science Advisory Board Panels on Uncertainty Analysis and Expert Elicitation

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office announces the formation of SAB Panels to address issues related to uncertainty analysis and expert elicitation and is soliciting nominations for members of the Panels.

DATES: Nominations should be submitted by July 19, 2007 per the instructions below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Members of the public who wish to obtain further information regarding this announcement may contact Dr. Angela Nugent, Designated Federal Officer, via telephone at: (202) 343-9981 or e-mail at: nugent.angela@epa.gov. The SAB mailing address is: U.S. EPA Science Advisory Board (1400F), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. General information about the SAB as well as any updates concerning this request for nominations may be found on the SAB Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: There has been a recent increase in interest in the use of uncertainty analysis and expert elicitation as tools to be used in regulatory analyses and in support of EPA decision-making. At the request of EPA's Office of Air and Radiation and Office of the Science Advisor, the SAB plans to form several expert panels, as needed, to provide technical advice to EPA through the chartered SAB regarding the Agency's ongoing work in uncertainty analyses and expert elicitation. The SAB is a chartered Federal Advisory Committee, established by 42 U.S.C. 4365, to provide independent scientific and technical advice, consultation, and recommendations to the EPA

Administrator on the technical bases for EPA policies and actions. The SAB expert panels to be formed to address scientific issues related to uncertainty analysis and expert elicitation will comply with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and all appropriate SAB procedural policies.

Several specific reports have called for increased attention to quantitative uncertainty analysis and expert elicitation. In 2002, the National Research Council (NRC) published a Report to Congress, titled "Estimating the Health-Risk-Reduction Benefits of Proposed Air Pollution Regulations." One of the recommendations of the NRC was that "EPA should begin to move the assessment of uncertainties from its ancillary analyses into the primary analysis by conducting probabilistic, multiple-source uncertainty analyses. This shift will require specification of probability distributions for major sources of uncertainty. These distributions should be based on available data and expert judgment." More recently, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) suggested using expert elicitation as a tool in addressing Circular A-4 requirements (OMB, 2004) for probabilistic uncertainty analysis and also discussed its use in a Proposed Risk Assessment Bulletin (OMB, 2006). Provisions for expert elicitation were also included in EPA's recently revised cancer guidelines (2005). EPA's experience conducting expert elicitation has been limited, with the majority of experience in the Office of Air and Radiation.

The SAB Staff Office has received requests for advice from the SAB on four new advisory activities related to implementation of methods related to uncertainty analysis and expert elicitation. These four activities are summarized below.

EPA's Office of Air and Radiation has requested SAB review of a draft document, "Hierarchy of Methods Report," that catalogues quantitative and qualitative methods available for characterizing uncertainty in risk assessments and regulatory impact analyses. The document provides guidance for selecting methods, given the type of uncertainty being addressed, the quantity and type of available evidence or data, and the ability to gather additional data. The document summarizes data requirements associated with different methods, resource needs, experience and acceptability, and other considerations on their use to support regulatory decisions. The Office of Air and

Radiation requests SAB review of the characterization of methods described in the report, including the applicability, limitations and resource needs and the soundness of the approaches outlined on how to select specific approaches to characterizing uncertainty for risk assessments and regulatory impact analyses.

The Office of Air and Radiation has requested SAB advice on a draft "Influence Analysis Report," designed to help improve EPA analyses by identifying the sources of greatest impact on overall uncertainty. The Office of Air and Radiation requests advice on the methodological approach for developing the "Influence Analysis Report" to ensure that the office follows best practices for conducting influence analyses and adequately covers the issues contributing to uncertainty in analyses related to the benefits of air pollution-related environmental protection.

EPA's Office of the Science Advisor has requested SAB review of an "Expert Elicitation (EE) Task Force White Paper." The White Paper discusses the potential utility of using expert elicitation to support EPA regulatory and non-regulatory analyses and decision-making, provides recommendations for expert elicitation "good practices," and describes steps for a broader application across EPA. The Office of the Science Advisor has asked the SAB to provide advice regarding the potential usefulness of expert elicitation, how to strengthen the scientific basis for its use, and the implications for possible implementation at EPA.

EPA's Office of Air and Radiation has requested SAB review of an expert elicitation conducted to estimate the benefits of reduced premature mortalities associated with exposures to fine particles in the air. This expert elicitation was conducted in support of regulatory analyses for an upcoming proposed rulemaking (the Regulatory Impact Analysis of the Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards). The Office of Air and Radiation has asked the SAB to review the design, implementation, and results of the expert elicitation and EPA's interpretation of those results within the particulate matter Regulatory Impact Analysis. The Agency seeks SAB advice on whether the interpretation and application of the results of the elicitation in the Regulatory Impact Analysis are consistent with the recommendations from the NRC and whether the results are presented in a valid, clear, and concise manner for use by a wide variety of audiences,

including scientists, policy analysts, decision-makers, and the public.

Availability of the Review Materials: The EPA draft documents to be reviewed by the SAB Panel will be made available by the Office of Air and Radiation and Office of the Science Advisor. For questions and information concerning the review materials of the documents being developed by the Office of Air and Radiation, please contact Dr. Lisa Connor, at (919) 541-5060, or connor.lisa@epa.gov. For questions and information concerning the review materials of the documents being developed by the Office of the Science Advisor, please contact Dr. Robert Hetes, at (919) 541-1589, or hetes.robert@epa.gov.

Request for Nominations: The SAB Staff Office is requesting nominations for nationally and internationally recognized non-EPA scientists with expertise and experience related to uncertainty analysis or expert elicitation in the following fields: Statistics, mathematics, biostatistics, cognitive psychology, decision analysis, environmental economics, human health sciences, ecological science, epidemiology, policy analysis, risk assessment, and risk communication.

Process and Deadline for Submitting Nominations: Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals to add expertise to the SAB Uncertainty and Expert Elicitation Expert Panels in the areas of expertise described above. Nominations should be submitted in electronic format through the SAB Web site at the following URL: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>; or directly via the Form for Nominating Individuals to Panels of the EPA Science Advisory Board link found at URL: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/panels/paneltopics.html>. Please follow the instructions for submitting nominations carefully. To be considered, nominations should include all of the information required on the associated forms. Anyone unable to submit nominations using the electronic form and who has any questions concerning the nomination process may contact Dr. Angela Nugent, DFO, as indicated above in this notice. Nominations should be submitted in time to arrive no later than July 19, 2007.

For nominees to be considered, please include: Contact information; a curriculum vitae; a biosketch of no more than two paragraphs (containing information on the nominee's current position, educational background, areas of expertise and research activities, service on other advisory committees and professional societies; the candidate's special expertise related to

the panel being formed; and sources of recent grant and/or contract support).

The EPA SAB Staff Office will acknowledge receipt of nominations. The names and biosketches of qualified nominees identified by respondents to the **Federal Register** notice and additional experts identified by the SAB Staff will be posted on the SAB Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>. Public comments on this "Short List" of candidates will be accepted for 21 calendar days. The public will be requested to provide relevant information or other documentation on nominees that the SAB Staff Office should consider in evaluating candidates.

For the EPA SAB Staff Office, a balanced subcommittee or review panel includes candidates who possess the necessary domains of knowledge, the relevant scientific perspectives (which, among other factors, can be influenced by work history and affiliation), and the collective breadth of experience to adequately address the charge. To establish individual expert panels for the advisory activities described above, the SAB Staff Office will consider public comments on the "Short List" of candidates, information provided by the candidates themselves, and background information independently gathered by the SAB Staff Office. Specific criteria to be used for Panel membership include: (a) Scientific and/or technical expertise, knowledge, and experience (primary factors); (b) availability and willingness to serve; (c) absence of financial conflicts of interest; (d) absence of an appearance of a lack of impartiality; and (e) skills working in committees, subcommittees and advisory panels; and, for the Panel as a whole, (f) diversity of, and balance among, scientific expertise, viewpoints, etc.

The SAB Staff Office's evaluation of an absence of financial conflicts of interest will include a review of the "Confidential Financial Disclosure Form for Special Government Employees Serving on Federal Advisory Committees at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency" (EPA Form 3110-48). This confidential form allows Government officials to determine whether there is a statutory conflict between that person's public responsibilities (which includes membership on an EPA Federal advisory committee) and private interests and activities, or the appearance of a lack of impartiality, as defined by Federal regulation. The form may be viewed and downloaded from the following URL address: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/epaform3110-48.pdf>.

The approved policy under which the EPA SAB Office selects subcommittees and review panels is described in the following document: Overview of the Panel Formation Process at the Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board (EPA-SAB-EC-02-010), which is posted on the SAB Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/ec02010.pdf>.

Dated: June 22, 2007.

Anthony F. Maciorowski,
Deputy Director, EPA Science Advisory Board
Staff Office.

[FR Doc. E7-12538 Filed 6-27-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-8332-8]

Science Advisory Board Staff Office; Notification of Public Meetings of the Science Advisory Board Hypoxia Advisory Panel

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office is announcing two public teleconferences of the SAB Hypoxia Advisory Panel to discuss revisions to its draft advisory report concerning the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico.

DATES: The teleconferences will be held on July 30, 2007 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Eastern time) and August 1, 2007 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Eastern time).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any member of the public wishing further information regarding the public meeting may contact Dr. Holly Stallworth, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), U.S. EPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office by telephone/voice mail at (202) 343-9867, or via e-mail at: stallworth.holly@epa.gov. The SAB mailing address is: US EPA, Science Advisory Board (1400F), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460. General information about the SAB, as well as any updates concerning the meetings announced in this notice, may be found in the SAB Web Site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that the SAB Hypoxia Advisory Panel will hold public meetings to develop a report that details advances in the state of the science regarding hypoxia in the

Northern Gulf of Mexico. The SAB was established by 42 U.S.C. 4365 to provide independent scientific and technical advice to the EPA Administrator on the technical basis for Agency positions and regulations. The SAB is a Federal Advisory Committee chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. The SAB will comply with the provisions of FACA and all appropriate SAB Staff Office procedural policies.

EPA participates with other Federal agencies, states and tribes in the Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force. In 2001, the Task Force released the Action Plan for Reducing, Mitigating and Controlling Hypoxia in the Northern Gulf of Mexico (or Action Plan available at: <http://www.epa.gov/msbasin/taskforce/actionplan.htm>). The Action Plan was informed by the science described in 2000 in An Integrated Assessment of Hypoxia in the Northern Gulf of Mexico (or Integrated Assessment available at: http://www.noaa.gov/products/hypox_finalfront.pdf) developed by the National Science and Technology Council, Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. Six technical reports provided the scientific foundation for the Integrated Assessment and are available at: http://www.nos.noaa.gov/products/pub_hypox.html. Given the passage of 6 years, EPA's Office of Water has requested that the SAB develop a report that evaluates the updated science regarding the causes and extent of hypoxia in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as the scientific basis of possible management options in the Mississippi River Basin.

In response to EPA's request, the SAB Staff Office formed the SAB Hypoxia Advisory Panel. Background on the Panel formation process was provided in a **Federal Register** notice published on February 17, 2006 (71 FR 8578-8580). The SAB Hypoxia Advisory Panel has previously held several face-to-face meetings (71 FR 45543-45544, 71 FR 66329-66330, 72 FR 5968-5969 and 72 FR 17158-17159) and teleconferences (71 FR 55786-55787, 71 FR 59107, 71 FR 77743-77744 and 72 FR 11359-11360). Information about the SAB Hypoxia Advisory Panel is available on the SAB Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>.

Availability of Meeting Materials: Materials in support of these meetings will be placed on the SAB Web Site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/> in advance of the meeting.

Proceedures for Providing Public Input: Interested members of the public may submit relevant written or oral

information for the SAB to consider during the advisory process. **Oral Statements:** In general, individuals or groups requesting an oral presentation at a public teleconference will be limited to five minutes per speaker, with no more than a total of one hour for all speakers. Interested parties should contact Dr. Stallworth, DFO, at the contact information noted above, no later than July 23, 2007, to be placed on the public speaker list for the July 30 or August 1 meetings. **Written Statements:** Written statements should be received in the SAB Staff Office no later than July 23, 2007 so that the information may be made available to the SAB for their consideration prior to this meeting. Written statements should be supplied to the DFO in the following formats: one hard copy with original signature, and one electronic copy via e-mail at: stallworth.holly@epa.gov (acceptable file format: Adobe Acrobat PDF, WordPerfect, MS Word, MS PowerPoint, or Rich Text files in IBM-PC/Windows 98/2000/XP format).

Meeting Access: For information on access or services for individuals with disabilities, please contact Dr. Stallworth at (202) 343-9867 or stallworth.holly@epa.gov. To request accommodation of a disability, please contact Dr. Stallworth, preferably at least 10 days prior to the teleconference to give EPA as much time as possible to process your request.

Dated: June 22, 2007.

Anthony F. Maciorowski,
Deputy Director, EPA Science Advisory Board
Staff Office.

[FR Doc. E7-12568 Filed 6-27-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[Docket # EPA-RO4-SFUND-2007-0489; FRL-8332-5]

Anaconda/Milgo; Miami, Dade County, FL; Notice of Amended Settlement

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of Amended Settlement.

SUMMARY: In the **Federal Register** notice dated April 9, 2007 (72 FR 17551), EPA posted a Notice of Settlement under Section 122(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), concerning the Anaconda/Milgo Superfund Site located in Miami, Dade County, Florida. In the body of the settlement one of the settling PRPs, Dade Metals Corporation, was mistakenly not listed as one of the