

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-8523-1]

Science Advisory Board Staff Office; Notification of a Meeting of the Science Advisory Board**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office announces a public face-to-face meeting of the chartered SAB to: (1) Discuss EPA's research budget for Fiscal Year 2009; (2) Agency long-term research directions and priorities; (3) conduct a quality review of the Draft *SAB Advisory on EPA's "Report on the Environment 2007: Science Report"*; and (4) continue planning for upcoming SAB meetings.

DATES: The meeting dates are Thursday, February 28, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. through Friday, February 29, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Time).

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Westin Arlington Gateway, 801 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22203; phone (703) 717-6200.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Members of the public who wish to obtain further information about this meeting may contact Mr. Thomas O. Miller, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), by mail at EPA SAB Staff Office, (1400F), U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; by telephone at (202) 343-9982; by fax at (202) 233-0643; or by e-mail at: miller.tom@epa.gov. General information about the SAB, as well as any updates concerning the meeting announced in this notice, may be found on the SAB Web Site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SAB was established by 42 U.S.C. 4365 to provide independent scientific and technical advice, consultation, and recommendations 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.

Background: The purpose of this meeting will be to allow the SAB to discuss with Agency representatives the research priorities that are a component of the Fiscal Year 2009 research budget. The SAB conducts a review of the EPA

research budget each year and as a result of discussions and evaluations that are a part of this review, provides written advice to the EPA Administrator and testimony to the U.S. Congress on how that budget might contribute to the achievement of EPA's overall research goals.

The SAB will also conduct a quality review of one draft SAB Committee report, *SAB Advisory on EPA's "Report on the Environment 2007: Science Report."* The EPA Report on the Environment (ROE) 2007 addresses key questions about the current status of and trends in the condition of the environment and human health. These questions are intended to be relevant to EPA's current regulatory and programmatic activities and mission. In its review, the SAB was asked to comment on: (1) The adequacy of the formulation and scope of the questions addressed in the ROE 2007 Science Report, (2) the appropriateness of the indicators used to answer the questions in the report, (3) the accuracy of the characterization of gaps and limitations in the indicators used in the report, (4) the appropriateness of regionalization of national indicators in the report, (5) the utility of regional indicators in the report, and (6) the overall quality of the report with respect to technical accuracy, clarity, and appropriateness of level of communication. Additional information on this review can be found in the announcement of the review in the **Federal Register** (see FR 72 29498-29499 of May 29, 2007) and the EPA SAB Web Site at: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/02ad90b136fc21ef85256eba00436459/2457aac81d2003a98525701900616b47?OpenDocument>.

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

Procedures for Providing Public Input: Interested members of the public may submit relevant written or oral information for the SAB to consider on the topics included in this advisory activity and/or the group conducting the activity.

Oral Statements: In general, individuals or groups requesting an oral presentation at a public meeting will be limited to five minutes per speaker, with no more than one hour for all speakers. Interested parties should contact Mr. Miller, DFO, at the contact information provided above, by February 21, 2008, to be placed on the public speaker list for the February 28-29, 2008 meeting. **Written Statements:** Written statements should be received

in the SAB Staff Office by February 14, 2008, 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 via e-mail to miller.tom@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).

Accessibility: For information on access or services for individuals with disabilities, please contact Mr. Thomas Miller at (202) 343-9982, or via e-mail at miller.tom@epa.gov. To request accommodation of a disability, please contact Mr. Miller, preferably at least 10 days prior to the meeting, to give EPA as much time as possible to process your request.

Dated: January 24, 2008.

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

[FR Doc. E8-1793 Filed 1-30-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-8523-3]

Science Advisory Board Staff Office; Request for Nominations for Science Advisory Board Panel on Risk and Technology Review Assessments for Phase II Source Categories**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office is announcing the formation of an SAB Expert panel to review and provide advice about draft risk assessments that evaluate the effects of industrial emissions of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) on public health and the environment in accordance with EPA's Risk and Technology Review (RTR) Assessment. The SAB Staff Office is soliciting public nominations of technical experts for this panel.

DATES: Nominations should be submitted by February 21, 2008 per the instructions below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Members of the public who wish to obtain further information regarding the submission of nominations may contact Dr. Resha M. Putzrath, via telephone at: (202) 343-9978 or e-mail at: putzrath.resha@epa.gov. The SAB Mailing address is: U.S. EPA Science Advisory Board (1400F), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200

Pennsylvania Avenue, 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>.

Technical Contact: For questions and information concerning the Agency's draft technical documents and background information, contact Dr. Dave Guinnup, at: (919) 541-5368, or guinnup.dave@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The SAB was established by 42 U.S.C. 4365 to provide independent scientific and technical advice to the 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.

Section 112(f)(2)(A) of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments (CAA) requires EPA to evaluate whether emission standards that were previously adopted under the technology-based, Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) program provide an ample margin of safety to protect public health and prevent adverse environmental effects (taking into consideration costs, energy, safety, and other relevant factors). Within eight years of the promulgation of a MACT standard for the source category, EPA is mandated by the CAA to assess the risks to determine whether additional standards are needed.

EPA's Office of Air and Radiation has developed a Risk and Technology Review (RTR) Assessment Plan (referred to as RTR II) that has a streamlined approach. The SAB provided advice in a consultation on the RTR II in December 2006 [Consultation on EPA's Risk and Technology Review (RTR) Assessment Plan (EPA-SAB-07-009) available at: [http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/33152C83D29530F08525730D006C3ABF/\\$File/sab-07-009.pdf](http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/33152C83D29530F08525730D006C3ABF/$File/sab-07-009.pdf)]. The SAB identified some key scientific issues and provided recommendations for the Plan. The SAB Panel being formed will review EPA's draft risk assessments developed under the RTR II approach, as modified to reflect SAB recommendations. These draft risk assessments will evaluate the potential risks to human health and the environment that remain after sources come into compliance with MACT.

Request for Nominations: The SAB Staff Office is requesting nominations for nationally and internationally

recognized, non-EPA scientists with expertise and experience related to: Airborne (and possibly multi-pathway) fate-and-transport modeling of organic and inorganic chemicals; modeling of potential human exposures; modeling of human health risk; health effects of individual chemicals and mixtures of chemicals; risk assessment models and practices; uncertainty or sensitivity analyses; and risk communication theory and practice. The Agency is particularly interested in nominees with in-depth knowledge and experience in evaluating effects, exposure, and risk of hazardous air pollutants.

Process and Deadline for Submitting Nominations: Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals with expertise and experience described above for consideration of service on the SAB Panel on Risk and Technology Review Assessments for Phase II Source Categories. Nominations should be submitted in electronic format through the SAB Web site at the following URL: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/Web/participatepanelformation?OpenDocument>. 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 or who has any questions concerning the nomination process may contact Dr. Resha M. Putzrath, as indicated above in this notice. Nominations should be submitted in time to arrive no later than February 21, 2008.

To be considered, all nominations should include: A current *curriculum vitae* (C.V.) which provides the nominee's background, qualifications, research expertise, and relevant publications for service on the Panel; and a brief biographical sketch ("biosketch"). The biosketch should be no longer than one page and should contain the following information for the nominee: (a) Current professional affiliations and positions held; (b) area(s) of expertise, and research activities and interests relevant to the Panel; (c) leadership positions in national associations or professional publications or other significant distinctions; (d) educational background, especially advanced degrees, including when and from which institutions these were granted; and (e) service on other advisory committees or professional societies, especially those associated with issues under discussion in this review. Incomplete biosketches will not be

considered. 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 accessible through a link for this panel at: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/WebBOARD/CommitteesandMembership?OpenDocument>. 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 (f) for the Panel as a whole, diversity of, and balance among, factors such as scientific expertise and viewpoints.

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://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/WebSABSO/ethics?OpenDocument>.

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://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/WebSABSO/OverviewPanelForm?OpenDocument>.

Dated: January 24, 2008.

Anthony F. Maciorowski,

Deputy Director, EPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office.

[FR Doc. E8-1772 Filed 1-30-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-8522-9]

Science Advisory Board Staff Office, SAB Particulate Matter (PM) Research Centers Program Review Panel; Request for Nominations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency) Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office is announcing the formation of an SAB panel to advise the Agency concerning the future direction of its Particulate Matter (PM) Research Centers Program. The SAB Staff Office is soliciting public nominations for this Panel.

DATES: New nominations should be submitted by February 21, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any member of the public wishing further information regarding this Request for Nominations may contact Mr. Fred Butterfield, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), EPA Science Advisory Board (1400F), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; via telephone/voice mail: (202) 343-9994; fax: (202) 233-0643; or e-mail at: butterfield.fred@epa.gov. General information concerning the EPA Science Advisory Board can be found on the EPA Web Site: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The SAB was established by 42 U.S.C. 4365 to provide independent scientific and technical advice to the 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.

In EPA's 1998 appropriations bill, Congress directed EPA to establish as many as five university-based particulate matter (PM) research centers as part of the expanded Office of Research and Development (ORD) PM research program. The first research centers were funded from 1999 to 2005. The total budget for each center over five years was \$8 million, for a program total of \$40 million. In the original Request for Applications (RFA), prospective Centers were asked to propose an integrated research program on the health effects of PM, including exposure, dosimetry, toxicology and epidemiology. In 2004, a second competition was held. This RFA asked respondents to address the central theme of "linking health effects to PM sources and components," and to focus on the research priorities of susceptibility, biological mechanisms, exposure-response relationships, and source linkages. From the second competition, five current centers are funded for 2005-2010 (the budget remains \$40 million total).

ORD's PM Research Centers program was initially shaped by recommendations from the National Research Council. The SAB conducted an interim review of the Centers program in 2002 (see: [http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/6374FD2B32EFE730852570CA007415FE/\\$File/ec02008.pdf](http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/6374FD2B32EFE730852570CA007415FE/$File/ec02008.pdf)), which was instrumental in providing additional guidance for the second phase of the program (2005-2010). The Agency now seeks the advice of an SAB expert panel on the structure and strategic direction for the program as ORD contemplates funding a third round of air pollution research centers into the future. This Federal Register notice solicitation is seeking nominations for the SAB PM Research Centers Program Review Panel.

Request for Nominations: The SAB Staff Office is requesting nominations for nationally- and internationally-recognized, non-EPA scientists with extensive research program management expertise and experience related to airborne pollution and the application of research results in reducing air pollution in protection human health and the environment. The experts should also have had direct research experience related to PM.

Process and Deadline for Submitting Nominations: Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals to add expertise to the SAB PM Research Centers Program Review Panel in the areas of expertise listed above. Nominations should be submitted in electronic format through the SAB Web site: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/Web/participatepanelformation?OpenDocument>. 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 Mr. Fred Butterfield, DFO, as indicated above in this notice. Nominations should be submitted in time to arrive no later than February 21, 2008.

To be considered, all nominations should include: A current curriculum vitae (C.V.) which provides the nominee's background, qualifications, research expertise and relevant publications for service on the Panel; and a brief biographical sketch ("biosketch"). The biosketch should be no longer than one page and should contain the following information for the nominee:

(a) Current professional affiliations and positions held;

(b) Area(s) of expertise, and research activities and interests relevant to the Panel;

(c) Leadership positions in national associations or professional publications or other significant distinctions;

(d) Educational background, especially advanced degrees, including when and from which institutions these were granted; and

(e) Service on other advisory committees or professional societies, especially those associated with issues under discussion in this review.

Incomplete biosketches will not be considered. The EPA SAB Staff Office will acknowledge receipt of nominations.

The EPA SAB Staff Office will post the biosketches of qualified nominees for public comment on the SAB Web site. Information will be made available via the link to this panel found at: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/WebBoard/SABAdHocCommitteesandPanels?OpenDocument>, and will include, for each candidate, the nominee's name and their biosketch. Public comments on this "Short List" of candidates will be accepted for 21 calendar days. The