FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Government in the Sunshine Meeting Notice

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

TIME AND DATE: 2:15 p.m., Friday, May 2, 2008.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, 20th Street entrance between Constitution Avenue and C Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20551.

STATUS: Open.

We ask that you notify us in advance if you plan to attend the open meeting and provide your name, date of birth, and social security number (SSN) or passport number. You may provide this information by calling (202) 452–2474 or you may register online. You may pre-register until close of business (May 1, 2008). You also will be asked to provide identifying information, including a photo ID, before being admitted to the Board meeting. The Public Affairs Office must approve the use of cameras; please call (202) 452–2892. For the hearing impaired only, please use the Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD) on 202–263–4869.

Privacy Act Notice: Providing the information requested is voluntary; however, failure to provide your name, date of birth, and social security number or passport number may result in denial of entry to the Federal Reserve Board. This information is solicited pursuant to sections 10 and 11 of the Federal Reserve Act and will be used to facilitate a search of law enforcement databases to confirm that no threat is posed to Board employees or property. It may be disclosed to other persons to evaluate a potential threat. The information also may be provided to law enforcement agencies, courts and others, but only to the extent necessary to investigate or prosecute a violation of law.

Matters to be Considered

Discussion Agenda

1. Proposed Amendments to Consumer Regulations to Prohibit Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices by Banks.

Note: 1. The staff memo to the Board will be made available to the public in paper and the background material will be made available on a computer disc in Word format. If you require a paper copy of the document, please call Penelope Beattie on 202–452–3982.

2. This meeting will be recorded for the benefit of those unable to attend. Computer discs (CDs) will then be available for listening in the Board’s Freedom of Information Office, and copies can be ordered for $4 per disc by calling 202–452–3684 or by writing to: Freedom of Information Office, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michelle Smith, Director, or Dave Skidmore, Assistant to the Board, Office of Board Members at 202–452–2955.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: You may call 202–452–3206 for a recorded announcement of this meeting; or you may contact the Board’s Web site at http://www.federalreserve.gov for an electronic announcement. (The Web site also includes procedural and other information about the open meeting.)


Robert deV. Frierson,
Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. E8–9493 Filed 4–29–08; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6210–01–P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals To Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or To Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225) to engage de novo, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company, including the companies listed below, that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.28 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.28) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notice also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at www.ffiec.gov/nic/.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than May 26, 2008.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland

(Nadine Wallman, Vice President) 1455 East Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44101–2566:

First Southern Bancorp, Inc., Stanford, Kentucky; to acquire up to 24.99 percent of the voting shares of CKF Bancorp, Inc., Danville, Kentucky, and thereby indirectly acquire Central Kentucky Federal Savings Bank, Mentor, Ohio, and thereby engage in operating a savings and loan association, pursuant to section 225.28(4)(ii) of Regulation Y.


Robert deV. Frierson,
Deputy Secretary of the Board.

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BILLING CODE 6210–01–S

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Toxicology Program (NTP); Report on Carcinogens (RoC); Request for Public Comments on the RoC Expert Panel’s Recommendations on Listing Status for Aristolochic Acids and Riddelliine in the 12th RoC and the Scientific Justifications for the Recommendations

AGENCY: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS); National Institutes of Health (NIH).

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The RoC Office invites public comments on the recommendations from an expert panel on listing status for aristolochic acids and riddelliine in the 12th RoC and the scientific justifications for the recommendations. The recommendation and scientific justification for each candidate substance are available electronically in Part B of the Expert Panel Report (http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/29682, see Expert Panel Report Part B) or in printed text from the RoC Office (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT below). The RoC Office convened an eight-member expert panel of scientists from the public and private sectors on January 24–25, 2008, to review aristolochic acid related exposures and riddelliine. The panel was asked (1) to apply the RoC listing criteria to the relevant scientific evidence and make recommendations regarding listing status [i.e., known to be a human carcinogen, reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen, or not to list] for
aristolochic acids and for riddelliine in the 12th RoC and (2) to provide the scientific justifications for the recommendations.

DATES: The Expert Panel Report (Part B) for aristolochic acids and for riddelliine will be available for public comment by April 23, 2008. Written comments should be submitted by June 16, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to Dr. Ruth Lunn, RoC Office [NIEHS, P.O. Box 12233, MD EC–14, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, FAX: (919) 541–0144, or lunn@niehs.nih.gov. Courier address: RoC Office, 79 T.W. Alexander Drive, Building 4401, Room 3118, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Ruth Lunn, RoC Office, (919) 316–4637 or lunn@niehs.nih.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Aristolochic acid related exposures (which includes “aristolochic acid” and “botanical plants containing aristolochic acid”) and riddelliine are among the candidate substances under review for possible listing in the 12th RoC (see complete list at http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/10091). Aristolochic acid is a generic name for a family of nitrophenanthrene carboxylic acids that occurs naturally in plants in the Aristolochiaceae family, primarily of the genera Aristolochia and Asarum. Botanical products from plants containing aristolochic acid are used in traditional folk medicines to treat arthritis, gout, rheumatism, and festering wounds, and have been used inadvertently as part of a weight-loss regimen. Exposure to aristolochic acid has been reported for many countries, including the United States. In 2001, the Food and Drug Administration issued warnings to consumers, health care professionals, and industry associations concerning herbal products containing aristolochic acid. Other countries, including the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, and Australia, have banned these herbs. Nevertheless, botanical products potentially containing aristolochic acid are still available legally in other countries and can be bought via the Internet.

Riddelliine is a pyrrolizidine alkaloid (PA) of the macrocyclic diester class. Riddelliine and riddelliine N-oxide (a metabolite of riddelliine that can be converted back to riddelliine) occur in plants of the genus Senecio that are found in sandy desert areas of the western United States and other parts of the world. At least 15 Senecio species have been identified that are used in herbal medicines or possibly as food worldwide. Exposure to humans could result from direct contamination of foodstuffs by parts of Senecio plants or from indirect introduction of the alkaloid through products derived from animals that have fed on the plants. PAs have been found in eggs, honey, bee pollen, and milk.

As part of the RoC review process (available at http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/15208), the NTP announced the availability of the draft background documents for aristolochic acid related exposures and riddelliine in the Federal Register (72 FR 63900, November 13, 2007), invited public comments on the draft background documents, and announced the expert panel meeting for aristolochic acid related exposures and riddelliine. The RoC Office convened an eight-member expert panel of scientists from the public and private sectors to evaluate these two substances. The expert panel met on January 24–25, 2008, in a public forum at the Chapel Hill Sheraton Hotel in North Carolina. The panel first addressed aristolochic acid related exposures and then riddelliine in its deliberations. The panel was charged to peer review the draft background document for the candidate substance, and then to make a recommendation on its listing status in the 12th RoC and to provide a scientific justification for that recommendation. Details about the meeting, including public comments received and the expert panel reports, are available on the RoC Web site (http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/29682). The expert panel report for each candidate substance contains two parts: Part A has the peer-review comments on the draft background document and Part B is the recommendation on listing status and its scientific justification. The expert panel recommended redefining the two proposed candidate substances: (1) “Aristolochic acid” and (2) “botanical plants containing aristolochic acid” into a single candidate substance, “aristolochic acids.” They concluded that aristolochic acids, the nitrophenanthrene carboxylic acids found primarily in the Aristolochiaceae family of plants, are responsible for the carcinogenic effects observed in humans who consume Aristolochia or herbal remedies prepared from these plants. The expert panel recommended that (1) aristolochic acids be listed in the 12th RoC as known to be human carcinogens and (2) riddelliine be listed in the 12th RoC as reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen. The panel’s recommendation on listing status and its scientific justification are now being released for public comment.

Next Steps

The RoC Office is in the process of finalizing the background document for each candidate substance based upon the expert panel’s peer-review comments and the public comments received (72 FR 63900). Persons can register free-of-charge with the NTP listserve (http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/231) to receive notification when the final background documents are posted on the RoC Web site (http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/10091).

As part of the RoC review process, two government groups will also conduct reviews of aristolochic acids and riddelliine; these meetings are not open to the public. Upon completion of these reviews, the NTP will (1) draft a substance profile for each candidate substance that contains its listing recommendation for the 12th RoC and the scientific information supporting that recommendation, (2) solicit public comments on the draft substance profiles, and (3) convene a meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors to peer review the draft substance profiles.

Request for Comments

The RoC Office invites written public comments on the expert panel’s recommendations on listing status for aristolochic acids and riddelliine and the scientific justifications for the recommendations. All comments received will be posted on the RoC Web site. Persons submitting written comments are asked to include their name and contact information (affiliation, mailing address, telephone and facsimile numbers, e-mail, and sponsoring organization, if any) and send them to Dr. Lunn (see ADDRESSES above). The deadline for submission of written comments is June 16, 2008.

Background Information on the RoC

The RoC is a Congressionally mandated document that identifies and discusses agents, substances, mixtures, or exposure circumstances (collectively referred to as “substances”) that may pose a hazard to human health by virtue of their carcinogenicity. The RoC follows a formal, multi-step process for review and evaluation of selected chemicals. Substances are listed in the report as either known or reasonably anticipated to be human carcinogens. The NTP prepares the RoC on behalf of the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Information about the RoC and the review process are available on its Web site (http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/
Proposed Project


Background and Brief Description

This study examines the definitions of sexual violence in three racial/ethnic minority communities: African-American, American Indian, and Hispanic. The purpose of this project is to develop an understanding of sexual violence in these communities. The developed survey will include the following: projecting estimates of sexual violence; describing the type of sexual violence; and developing a strategy that will increase awareness of sexual violence in minority communities. In addition, this project will establish the groundwork for similar future research.

This research builds on findings from the National Violence against Women Survey, (NC) 183781, November 2000), a joint research effort funded by the (CDC) and National Institute of Justice (NIJ) that explored the occurrence of violence against women through a survey administered to a national sample of adult females and males. The proposed study will expand on this work by clarifying definitions, expanding the categories of sexual violence, and examining the sexual violence event.

This study will focus on women and will occur in two phases: cognitive and in-person interviews. In each of the three communities, in-depth cognitive interviews will be conducted with 12 adult women, for a total of 36 cognitive interviews. However, a total of 66 individuals will be screened.

Respondents will be identified through agencies working with victims of sexual violence. Participants will be interviewed (in either English or Spanish) at the referral agency. The primary purpose of this interview is to assess the questions for the next phase of the study.

In the next phase, researchers will conduct face-to-face interviews with approximately 200 women in each of the three minority communities. However, a total of 1,315 individuals will be screened. Female respondents who are 18 years old will be selected randomly from the communities. Letters will be mailed to each household in the sample. These households will be contacted at a later date in order to collect eligibility information and to randomly select an individual. Participants will complete a 45 minute interview.

There are no costs to respondents except for their time to participate in the interview. The total estimated annualized burden hours are 646.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes a list of information collection requests under review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). To request a copy of these requests, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer at (404) 639-9937 or send an e-mail to omb@cdc.gov. Send written comments to CDC Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC or by fax to (202) 395-6974. Written comments should be received within 30 days of this notice.

Estimated Annualized Burden

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Dated: April 21, 2008.

Maryam I. Daneshvar,
Acting Reports Clearance Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
[FR Doc. E8–9379 Filed 4–29–08; 8:45 am]