that the FOIA's disclosure obligation is not absolute and provides exemptions to protect, for example, national security, personal privacy, privileged records, and law enforcement interests.

In response to both Presidential memoranda, FDA has formed an internal Transparency Task Force to develop recommendations for making useful and understandable information about FDA activities and decisionmaking more readily available to the public in a timely manner and in a user-friendly format, in a manner compatible with the agency's goal of protecting confidential information, as appropriate. As a part of this process, the Task Force is holding two public meetings and establishing a public docket to seek public input on these issues. The first public meeting to solicit input from interested stakeholders on improving agency transparency, the subject of this meeting notice, will be held on June 24, 2009. The Task Force is exploring additional ways to seek input through the Internet, and is planning to hold a second public meeting in the fall of 2009. A meeting announcement describing the scope of the second meeting will be published in the **Federal Register**.

II. Scope of Meeting

FDA is interested in receiving comments from the public on issues related to transparency. The comments should focus on ways in which the agency should provide information to the public about what FDA is doing, the bases for the agency's decisions, and the processes used to make agency decisions. In addition to general suggestions about the ways the agency can inform the public, we are specifically interested in soliciting input on the following questions:

1. How can the agency better explain its operations, activities, processes, and decisionmaking?

2. What specific information should FDA provide about agency operations, activities, processes, and decisionmaking, including:
   a. Enforcement actions?
   b. Product approvals?
   c. Recalls?
   d. Other actions?

3. What tools, techniques, processes, or other mechanisms should FDA use to be more effective in providing useful and understandable information?
   a. Internet tools?
   b. Tools to improve targeting and effectiveness of communications, including risk communication?
   c. Improvements to the Freedom of Information Act processes?
   d. Other?

4. What, if any, legislative or regulatory changes are needed to improve FDA's ability to provide useful and understandable information to the public?

5. As FDA becomes more transparent, what information should remain confidential in order to promote key internal and external policy goals, such as preserving patient privacy, and how, in these cases, should FDA explain the importance of confidentiality?

6. What metrics should FDA use to gauge the effectiveness of its transparency efforts?

III. Request for Comments

Regardless of attendance at the public meeting, interested persons may submit written or electronic comments (see **ADDRESSES**). Submit a single copy of electronic comments or two paper copies of any mailed comments, except that individuals may submit one paper copy. To permit time for interested persons to submit data, information, or views on this subject, submit comments by August 7, 2009. Where relevant, you should annotate and organize your comments to identify the specific question addressed by the question number referenced in the previous text. Please identify comments with the docket number assigned to this notice, which is found at the heading of this document. Received comments may be seen in the Division of Dockets Management (see **ADDRESSES**) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. FDA is also exploring additional electronic means for the public to provide comments and feedback on this topic.

IV. Transcripts

Transcripts of the meeting will be available for review approximately 30 days after the meeting at *http://www.regulations.gov* and at the Division of Dockets Management (see **ADDRESSES**).

Dated: May 29, 2009.

Jeffrey Shuren,

Associate Commissioner for Policy and Planning.

[FR Doc. E9–12902 Filed 6–2–09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (NCEH/ATSDR); Notice of National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures Kick-Off Meeting

Time and Date: 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Friday, June 26, 2009.

Location: Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20004.

Status: Open to the public, limited only by the space available. The meeting room accommodates approximately 600 people.

Purpose: This meeting will launch the National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures, a collaborative initiative to identify and prioritize actions for revitalizing the nation's public health approach to chemical exposures.

Meeting Agenda: The meeting will include a plenary session featuring Dr. Howard Frumkin, Director of NCEH/ATSDR as well as other guests. The plenary will provide an overview of this stakeholder and public involvement initiative. Breakout sessions will provide participants with opportunities to discuss specific issues related to public health and chemical exposures.

National Conversation Project: The 18 month long National Conversation will offer many opportunities for involvement, including: Expert working groups, regional and local face-to-face public meetings, and Web-based discussions. The resulting action agenda will outline steps for NCEH/ATSDR and other institutions to take to better protect public health from harmful chemical exposures. NCEH/ATSDR is sponsoring this project.

Contact for Additional Information: If you would like to receive additional information on this meeting and initiative, please send your contact information to: *nationalconversation@cdc.gov.*

Dated: May 26, 2009.

James R. Seligman,

Chief Information Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[FR Doc. E9–12900 Filed 6–2–09; 8:45 am]

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