

of particular interest to those persons who conduct or sponsor research on pesticides, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action.

*B. What should I consider as I prepare my comments for EPA?*

1. *Submitting CBI.* Do not submit this information to EPA through [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov) or email. Clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. For CBI information in a disk or CD-ROM that you mail to EPA, mark the outside of the disk or CD-ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD-ROM the specific information that is claimed as CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

2. *Tips for preparing your comments.* When preparing and submitting your comments, see the commenting tips at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets/comments.html>.

3. *Environmental justice.* EPA seeks to achieve environmental justice, the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of any group, including minority and/or low income populations, in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. To help address potential environmental justice issues, the Agency seeks information on any groups or segments of the population who, as a result of their location, cultural practices, or other factors, may have atypical or disproportionately high and adverse human health impacts or environmental effects from exposure to the pesticides discussed in this document, compared to the general population.

**II. What action is the Agency taking?**

Under section 5 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. 136c, EPA can allow manufacturers to field test pesticides under development. Manufacturers are required to obtain an EUP before testing new pesticides or new uses of pesticides if they conduct experimental field tests on 10 acres or more of land or one acre or more of water.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 172.11(a), the Agency has determined that the following EUP application may be of

regional and national significance, and therefore is seeking public comment on the EUP application:

*Submitter:* Oxitec Ltd., (93167-EUP-R).

*Pesticide Chemical:* OX513A *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes expressing tTAV protein.

*Summary of Request:* Oxitec Ltd. is proposing to test OX513A *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes expressing tTAV protein in the states of Florida and Texas on up to 1125 total acres at a maximum rate of 0.0017 g active ingredient (tTAV), equivalent to 45,000 male OX513A mosquitoes, per acre per week. The proposed experiments are to evaluate the efficacy of OX513A mosquitoes as a tool for suppression of wild *Aedes aegypti* mosquito populations.

Following the review of the application and any comments and data received in response to this solicitation, EPA will decide whether to issue or deny the EUP request, and if issued, the conditions under which it is to be conducted. Any issuance of an EUP will be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 136 *et seq.*

Dated: February 26, 2018.

**Robert McNally,**

*Director, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2018-04705 Filed 3-8-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[ER-FRL-9038-1]

**Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability**

*Responsible Agency:* Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7156 or <http://www2.epa.gov/nepa>. Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements filed 02/26/2018 Through 03/02/2018 pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

**Notice**

Section 309(a) of the Clean Air Act requires that EPA make public its comments on EISs issued by other Federal agencies. EPA's comment letters on EISs are available at: <https://cdxnodengn.epa.gov/cdx-nepa-public/action/eis/search>.

*EIS No. 20180031, Draft, BLM, UT, Greater Chapita Wells Natural Gas Infill Project, comment period ends: 04/23/2018, Contact: Stephanie Howard 435-781-4469.*

*EIS No. 20180032, Final, FTA, IN, West Lake Corridor Project Final*

Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision and Section 4(f) Evaluation. Under 23 U.S.C. 139(n)(2), FTA has issued a single document that consists of a final environmental impact statement and record of decision. Therefore, the 30-day wait/review period under NEPA does not apply to this action. Contact: Mark Assam 206-220-4465.

*EIS No. 20180033, Final, USFS, OR, Hwy 46, review period ends: 04/23/2018, Contact: Lynise Medley 503-854-4228.*

*EIS No. 20180034, Draft, USFS, ID, Hungry Ridge Restoration Project, comment period ends: 04/23/2018, Contact: Jennie Fischer 208-983-4048.*

*EIS No. 20180035, Final, DC, AK, Mertarvik Infrastructure Development Final EIS, review period ends: 04/09/2018, Contact: Don Antrobus 907-271-3500.*

**Amended Notices**

*EIS No. 20180028, Final, Caltrans, CA, ~VOIDED~ State Route 269 Bridge Project, review period ends: 09/03/2018, Contact: Jeff Sorensen 559-445-5329.* This final environmental assessment was inadvertently filed and published in 03/02/2018 FR.

Dated: March 7, 2018.

**Kelly Knight,**

*Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.*

[FR Doc. 2018-04884 Filed 3-8-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[EPA-HQ-OPPT-2017-0141; FRL-9974-91]

**Certain New Chemicals or Significant New Uses; Statements of Findings for December 2017**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Section 5(g) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) requires EPA to publish in the **Federal Register** a statement of its findings after its review of TSCA section 5(a) notices when EPA makes a finding that a new chemical substance or significant new use is not likely to present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. Such statements apply to premanufacture notices (PMNs), microbial commercial activity notices (MCANs), and significant new use notices (SNUNs) submitted to EPA under TSCA section 5. This document

presents statements of findings made by EPA on TSCA section 5(a) notices during the period from December 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

*For technical information contact:* Greg Schweer, Chemical Control Division (7405M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: 202-564-8469; email address: [schweer.greg@epa.gov](mailto:schweer.greg@epa.gov).

*For general information contact:* The TSCA-Hotline, ABVI-Goodwill, 422 South Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14620; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; email address: [TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov](mailto:TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. General Information

###### A. Does this action apply to me?

This action is directed to the public in general. As such, the Agency has not attempted to describe the specific entities that this action may apply to. Although others may be affected, this action applies directly to the submitters of the PMNs addressed in this action.

###### B. How can I get copies of this document and other related information?

The docket for this action, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPPT-2017-0141, is available at <http://www.regulations.gov> or at the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics Docket (OPPT Docket), Environmental Protection Agency Docket Center (EPA/DC), West William Jefferson Clinton Bldg., Rm. 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the OPPT Docket is (202) 566-0280. Please review the visitor instructions and additional information about the docket available at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

##### II. What action is the Agency taking?

This document lists the statements of findings made by EPA after review of notices submitted under TSCA section 5(a) that certain new chemical substances or significant new uses are not likely to present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. This document presents statements of findings made by EPA during the period from December 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

##### III. What is the Agency's authority for taking this action?

TSCA section 5(a)(3) requires EPA to review a TSCA section 5(a) notice and make one of the following specific findings:

- The chemical substance or significant new use presents an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment;
- The information available to EPA is insufficient to permit a reasoned evaluation of the health and environmental effects of the chemical substance or significant new use;
- The information available to EPA is insufficient to permit a reasoned evaluation of the health and environmental effects and the chemical substance or significant new use may present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment;
- The chemical substance is or will be produced in substantial quantities, and such substance either enters or may reasonably be anticipated to enter the environment in substantial quantities or there is or may be significant or substantial human exposure to the substance; or
- The chemical substance or significant new use is not likely to present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment.

Unreasonable risk findings must be made without consideration of costs or other non-risk factors, including an unreasonable risk to a potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulation identified as relevant under the conditions of use. The term "conditions of use" is defined in TSCA section 3 to mean "the circumstances, as determined by the Administrator, under which a chemical substance is intended, known, or reasonably foreseen to be manufactured, processed, distributed in commerce, used, or disposed of."

EPA is required under TSCA section 5(g) to publish in the **Federal Register** a statement of its findings after its review of a TSCA section 5(a) notice when EPA makes a finding that a new chemical substance or significant new use is not likely to present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. Such statements apply to PMNs, MCANs, and SNUNs submitted to EPA under TSCA section 5.

Anyone who plans to manufacture (which includes import) a new chemical substance for a non-exempt commercial purpose and any manufacturer or processor wishing to engage in a use of a chemical substance designated by EPA as a significant new use must submit a notice to EPA at least 90 days before

commencing manufacture of the new chemical substance or before engaging in the significant new use.

The submitter of a notice to EPA for which EPA has made a finding of "not likely to present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment" may commence manufacture of the chemical substance or manufacture or processing for the significant new use notwithstanding any remaining portion of the applicable review period.

##### IV. Statements of Administrator Findings Under TSCA Section 5(a)(3)(C)

In this unit, EPA provides the following information (to the extent that such information is not claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI)) on the PMNs, MCANs and SNUNs for which, during this period, EPA has made findings under TSCA section 5(a)(3)(C) that the new chemical substances or significant new uses are not likely to present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment:

- EPA case number assigned to the TSCA section 5(a) notice.
- Chemical identity (generic name, if the specific name is claimed as CBI).
- Website link to EPA's decision document describing the basis of the "not likely to present an unreasonable risk" finding made by EPA under TSCA section 5(a)(3)(C).

*EPA Case Number:* P-17-0153;  
*Chemical identity:* D-Glucitol, 1-deoxy-1-(dimethylamino)- (CASRN: 76326-99-3); *website link:* <https://www.epa.gov/reviewing-new-chemicals-under-toxic-substances-control-act-tsca/tsca-section-5a3c-determination-78>.

*EPA Case Number:* P-18-0026;  
*Chemical identity:* Silsesquioxanes, 2,4,4-trimethylpentyl, hydroxy-terminated (CASRN: 217654-68-7); *website link:* <https://www.epa.gov/reviewing-new-chemicals-under-toxic-substances-control-act-tsca/tsca-section-5a3c-determination-80>.

*EPA Case Number:* P-18-0032;  
*Chemical identity:* Alkyl alkenoic acid, alkyl ester, polymer with alkyl alkenoate, dialkyl alkanediol, substituted carbomonocycle, disubstituted heteromonocycle, disubstituted heteropolycyclic, alkanediol, substituted alkyl alkyl alkenoate and substituted heteromonocycle, dialkyl peroxide initiated (generic name); *website link:* <https://www.epa.gov/reviewing-new-chemicals-under-toxic-substances-control-act-tsca/tsca-section-5a3c-determination-79>.

**Authority:** 15 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*

Dated: March 1, 2018.

**Greg Schweer,**

Chief, New Chemicals Management Branch,  
Chemical Control Division, Office of Pollution  
Prevention and Toxics.

[FR Doc. 2018-04704 Filed 3-8-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0216; FRL-9975-31-  
OAR]

RIN 2060-AT76

### Notice of Proposed Withdrawal of the Control Techniques Guidelines for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection  
Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed withdrawal;  
request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requesting public comment on a potential withdrawal of the Control Techniques Guidelines (CTG) for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry. The final CTG provided recommendations for reducing volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from existing oil and natural gas industry emission sources in ozone nonattainment (NA) areas classified as Moderate or higher and states in the Ozone Transport Region (OTR). The CTG relied upon underlying data and conclusions made in the final rule titled “Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources,” published in the *Federal Register* on June 3, 2016 (2016 New Source Performance Standards (NSPS)). On June 5, 2017, the EPA granted reconsideration in regard to additional provisions of the 2016 NSPS. Pursuant to those actions, the EPA is currently looking broadly at the 2016 NSPS. In light of the fact that the EPA is reconsidering the 2016 NSPS and because the recommendations made in the CTG are fundamentally linked to the conclusions in the 2016 NSPS, the EPA believes it is prudent to withdraw the CTG in its entirety. The EPA also believes that the withdrawal will be more efficient for states in revising their state implementation plans (SIPs). The EPA is seeking comment on a potential withdrawal of the CTG.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before April 23, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0216, at: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from *Regulations.gov*. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <http://www2.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Jonathan Witt, Sector Policies and Programs Division, Fuels and Incineration Group (E143-05), Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711; telephone number: (919) 541-5645; email address: [witt.jon@epa.gov](mailto:witt.jon@epa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

On October 27, 2016, the EPA published in the *Federal Register* the “Release of Final Control Techniques Guidelines for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry.” 81 FR 74798. The CTG provided information to state, local, and tribal air agencies to assist them in determining reasonably available control technology (RACT) for VOC emissions from select oil and natural gas industry emission sources. Section 182(b)(2)(A) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) requires that for ozone NA areas classified as Moderate, states must revise their SIPs to include provisions to implement RACT for each category of VOC sources covered by a CTG document issued between November 15, 1990, and the date of attainment. CAA section 182(c) through (e) extends this requirement to states with ozone NA areas classified as Serious, Severe, and Extreme. CAA section 184(b) further extends this requirement to states in the OTR.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The states/areas in the OTR are: CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT and the Washington, DC consolidated metropolitan statistical area, which includes a portion of northern VA (see CAA section 184(a)).

Section 182(b)(2) of the CAA requires that a CTG document issued between November 15, 1990, and the date of attainment include the date by which states must submit their SIP revisions. In the final action issuing the CTG, the EPA established a SIP submission deadline of October 27, 2018, for addressing sources covered by the CTG. 81 FR 74799. According to the CTG implementation memo issued on October 20, 2016, “[t]he emissions controls determined by the state to be RACT for sources covered by the Oil and Gas CTG must be implemented as soon as practicable, but in no case later than January 1, 2021.”<sup>2</sup> This implementation period includes the 2-year period between the publication of the CTG in the *Federal Register*<sup>3</sup> document and the SIP submission date of October 27, 2018. Because the October 27, 2018, deadline is not imminent, no state has an impending RACT SIP deadline associated with the CTG.

The CTG relied upon underlying data and conclusions from the 2016 NSPS, as well as the final rule titled “Oil and Natural Gas Sector: New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants Reviews,” published in the *Federal Register* on August 16, 2012 (2012 NSPS). 77 FR 49490. The RACT recommendations for VOC emission reductions contained in the final CTG were based on a review of the 2012 NSPS and the 2016 NSPS. 81 FR 74799. In the final CTG, the EPA states, “[s]everal of the technical support documents (TSDs) prepared in support of the NSPS actions for the oil and natural gas industry include data and analyses considered in developing RACT recommendations in this CTG.”<sup>4</sup> RACT recommendations for storage vessels, compressors, pneumatic controllers, and equipment leaks from natural gas processing plants were based on the 2012 NSPS TSDs, and RACT recommendations for pneumatic pumps and fugitive emissions from well sites and compressor stations were based on the 2016 NSPS TSDs. It should be noted that facilities throughout the oil and natural gas sector (*e.g.*, well sites,

<sup>2</sup> *Implementing Reasonably Available Control Technology Requirements for Sources Covered by the 2016 Control Techniques Guidelines for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry*. Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0216-0238.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> *Control Techniques Guidelines for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry*. October 2016. Final. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Office of Air and Radiation. Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards. Sector Policies and Programs Division. EPA-453/B-16-001. Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0216-0236.