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Respondents/Affected Entities: 105.

Frequency of Response: One per year.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 52.5 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: \$0.

Send Comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 0994.06 and OMB Control No. 2090-0003 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OPPE, Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460 and

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503

Dated: July 25, 1996.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 96-19431 Filed 7-30-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

[OPPTS-00190; FRL-5380-1]

Notice of Availability of Contractor Reports, Request for Public Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that EPA is making available reports

generated by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources describing the utility of information directed to EPA through the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), including confidential business information (CBI), to state environmental protection and public health efforts. EPA is also requesting public comment on the reports and the overall issue of state access to TSCA data, including CBI information.

DATES: Comments must be received by September 30, 1996. The reports are available as of July 31, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Submit three copies of all written comments to: TSCA Document Receipts (7407), Rm. NE-G99, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Attention: Docket No. 00190, Telephone 202-260-7099.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: ncic@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect in 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number "OPPTS-00190." No CBI should be submitted through e-mail. Electronic comments on this proposed rule may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION unit of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan B. Hazen, Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. E-545, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 554-1404, TDD: (202) 554-0551, e-mail: TSCA-Hotline@epamail.epa.gov. Additional general information may be secured from Scott M. Sherlock at (202) 260-1536; e-mail: sherlock.scott@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Toxic Substances Control Act was enacted in 1976 to facilitate the development of data on the effect of chemical substances and mixtures on health and the environment and to regulate those substances and mixtures which present

an unreasonable risk of injury to health and the environment.

Since 1977, EPA has collected through its TSCA authority a vast amount of information on chemicals in commerce. This information includes specific chemical health and safety studies, environmental exposure information, and company and manufacturing facility-specific data. This information is used throughout the Federal government for a wide variety of activities associated with protecting the public health and the environment.

Section 14 TSCA provides that certain information which is considered proprietary and confidential may be claimed as CBI. TSCA requires that EPA strictly limit access to CBI information, except under very limited circumstances, to the Federal government and its contractors who are performing work for the Federal government. The Federal government is required to and committed to protecting that information claimed as confidential.

Since the early 1980's, it has been recognized by many persons from industry, labor, states, and the Federal government that state public health and environmental organizations might benefit from access to TSCA derived data. This has been recognized because state public health and environmental programs in many ways mirror Federal ones: states also do chemical risk assessments and management and prepare for and address chemical emergencies. Yet states access to TSCA CBI data for their own use is barred by statute, irrespective of the level of security the states might provide or the need and utility of the information. In the past, numerous letters have been generated, and statements have been made in Congressional and other public hearings supporting the need for states to gain access to this data. However, no actions have taken place which resulted in states being able to access TSCA data claimed as CBI to address state public health and environmental concerns.

In the early 1990's with the widespread recognition and appreciation of the critical role states have in protecting public health and the environment, the issue of state access to TSCA data again was raised. EPA determined it was of programmatic importance to determine how states might benefit from access to TSCA data, including CBI. The Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA) provided an important and supportive role in developing the strategy for exploring the issue. Subsequently in the fall of 1995, EPA, as permitted under TSCA section 14, entered into contracts

with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to determine the value of TSCA data, including CBI, to state programs.

By the terms of the contracts, the sole purpose of the project was to determine the value of TSCA data, including CBI, to state programs. Access to CBI was permitted only for the very limited purposes identified in the contracts. No CBI information utilized in this project could be used for any other purpose. Participating states had to adhere to modified TSCA security procedures. All personnel were thoroughly briefed on responsibilities associated with TSCA CBI access and procedures for protection of CBI.

In late May and early June 1996, reports were received from Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. In summary, the reports reflect that the state participants believed access to TSCA data, including CBI, would benefit state health and environmental protection programs. The extent of the benefit was determined significantly by the nature of the particular state's environmental protection program. The reports reflect that the TSCA data:

1. Provided new information on environmental and health effects of chemicals manufactured, processed, and used in the states.
2. Provided useful insights on manufacturing facilities and processes.
3. Provided information on how chemicals are used in specific manufacturing processes.
4. Provided information on exposure scenarios.
5. Provided information on the synergetic effects of complex mixtures of chemicals.

The state reports noted that access to TSCA information, including CBI, has the potential to:

1. Facilitate improved risk assessment and risk management decisions.
2. Be useful in the air and water permit process.
3. Identify specific situations where regulatory relief may be appropriate.
4. Foster greater state government to state government, Federal government to state government environmental protection and public health cooperation.

Over the next several months, EPA shall be carefully considering the papers

and any public comment it receives on the issue of state access to TSCA data, including CBI, to determine appropriate next steps. EPA invites the interested public to review the submitted papers and any other publicly available information pertaining to the subject.

A record has been established for this action under docket number "OPPTS-00190" (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, Rm. NE-B607, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

ncic@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

The official record for this action, as well as the public version, as described above will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into printed, paper form as they are received and will place the paper copies in the official record which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing. The official record is the paper record maintained at the address in ADDRESSES at the beginning of this document.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection and Access to confidential business information.

Dated: July 24, 1996.

Lynn R. Goldman,
Assistant Administrator, Office of Prevention,
Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 96-19460 Filed 7-30-96; 8:45 am]

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[FRL-5545-5]

Meeting of the Local Government Advisory Committee

The Local Government Advisory Committee will conduct its next meeting on August 15-16, 1996. Members will hear presentations on local environmental issues from two panels plans, one presenting the view of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Region I Office and one presenting the views of New England local government officials. The Roles

and Responsibilities Subcommittee will continue to work on their matrix of Federal, State, and local government environmental responsibilities and their resource guide for local officials. The Tools for Local Decision-Makers Subcommittee will examine existing resources and materials and suggest additional tools needed by local officials to implement environmental protection at the community level.

The meeting will be held at EPA's Region I Office located at 1 Congress Street in Boston, Massachusetts. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 15th and conclude at 4:00 p.m. on the 16th. From 9:00-9:15 a.m. on the 15th, the Committee will hear comments from the public. Each individual or organization wishing to address the Committee will be allowed three minutes. Please contact the Designated Federal Officer at the number listed below to schedule agenda time. Time will be allotted on a first come, first serve basis.

The Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for this Committee is Denise Zabinski Ney. She is the point of contact for information concerning any Committee matters and can be reached by calling (202) 260-0419 or by writing to 401 M Street, S.W. (1502), Washington, DC 20460.

This is an open meeting and all interested persons are invited to attend. Meeting minutes will be available after the meeting and can be obtained by written request from the DFO. Members of the public are requested to call the DFO at the above number if planning to attend so that arrangements can be made to comfortably accommodate attendees as much as possible. However, seating will be on a first come, first serve basis.

Richard Brozen,

*Acting Associate Administrator, Office of
Regional Operations and State/Local
Relations.*

[FR Doc. 96-19433 Filed 7-30-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

[OPP-30415; FRL-5379-9]

DeKalb Genetics Corp.; Application to Register a Pesticide Product

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces receipt of an application to register the product Corn Borer-Resistant Corn Containing Insecticidal Bt Protein II, containing a plant pesticide active ingredient not included in any previously registered product pursuant to the provisions of section 3(c)(4) of the Federal Insecticide,