

practice as an active ingredient in pesticide formulations applied to growing crops. EPA has determined that the petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2) of the FFDCA; however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

A. Residue Chemistry

1. *Plant metabolism.* No plant metabolism studies have been submitted in support of this tolerance exemption petition since copper ammonium complex forms, upon aqueous dilution, copper hydroxide. Accordingly, the actual plant residue is copper, which is an essential trace element critical for the propagation of plants.

2. *Analytical method.* Since the petitioner has requested a tolerance exemption, a residue analytical method is not required.

3. *Magnitude of residues.* No crop residue studies were conducted since copper is naturally found at significant levels (> 1 ppm) in many different types of food. In addition, residue trials are not practical since it is very difficult to distinguish copper residues from naturally occurring copper versus copper residues from copper ammonium complex.

B. Toxicological Profile

Acute toxicity. The acute oral LD_{50} for a 31.4% solution of copper ammonium complex is approximately than 2,200 milligrams/kilogram (mg/kg). Accordingly, copper ammonium complex is relatively non-toxic by the oral route.

The petitioner has requested that the Agency waive all sub-chronic, chronic/ oncogenicity, mutagenicity, developmental and reproductive toxicity study requirements for copper ammonium complex. The basis for this request is that the dietary residue is copper and the Agency has previously concluded (refer to the Toxicology Chapter for Group II Copper Compounds) that:

1. Copper is essential for well-being in humans.

2. Humans possess a natural efficient homeostatic mechanism for regulating copper body levels over a wide range of dietary intake.

3. There is an overwhelming lack of evidence for any chronic effects induced by dietary ingestion of copper unless the intake is of such enormous magnitude that there is a disruption of the natural

homeostatic mechanism for controlling body levels.

C. Aggregate Exposure

1. *Dietary exposure.* Twelve FDA total diet studies, conducted from mid 1982–1984, examined dietary intake of copper for age groups 14–16, 25–30 and 60–65 years. The copper intake ranged from 0.77 (14–16 year old females) to 1.24 mg/day (25–30 year old males).

2. *Food.* Copper is naturally found in several types of foods, such as fruits and vegetables, at levels ranging from 0.3–3.9 ppm.

3. *Drinking water.* A 1987 EPA report noted that the average copper concentration in drinking water is approximately 130 ppb and a little over 1% of drinking water exceeds the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 1 ppm.

4. *Non-dietary exposure.* Air concentrations of copper, based on several thousand samples assembled by EPA's Environmental Monitoring Systems Laboratory, ranges from 0.003–7.32 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Using the above exposure values, the petitioner estimates that the aggregate exposure to copper from food, drinking water and air ranges from < 1 to 3 mg/day. Consequently, the petitioner anticipates that the use of copper ammonium complex as a pre-harvest fungicide on established crops will, at most, make a negligible contribution to existing aggregate copper exposure.

D. Cumulative Effects

No cumulative adverse effects are expected from long-term exposure to copper ammonium copper.

E. Safety Determination

1. *U.S. population.* Several copper compounds, such as copper sulfate, are currently approved for use on food crops (40 CFR 180.1001(b)(1)). Since copper ammonium complex is a substitute for these copper compounds, and, under use-conditions, releases equivalent amounts of copper, approval of this petition will not increase dietary exposure to copper. Moreover, copper is an essential trace element for which the National Academy of Sciences has issued a recommended daily allowance of up to 3 mg/day for adults.

Accordingly, there is reasonable certainty that no harm will result from aggregate exposure of the U.S. population to copper.

2. *Infants and children.* Since copper is also an essential trace element for infants and children and the contribution to daily copper exposure from the use of copper ammonium complex is anticipated to be trivial, no

adverse effects on infants or children are expected.

F. International Tolerances

There are no approved CODEX maximum residue levels (MRLs) established for residues of copper ammonium complex.

[FR Doc. 98–15596 Filed 6–11–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6110–6]

Research Strategy for Oxygenates in Water

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability of external review draft.

SUMMARY: This document announces the availability of an external review draft of a document, Research Strategy for Oxygenates in Water, EPA/600/R–98/048, prepared by the Office of Research and Development of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The purpose of this document is to identify key issues related to assessing and managing the potential health and environmental risks of water contamination by oxygenates. The term oxygenates refers to chemicals added to fuels (which then may be known as “oxyfuels”) to increase the oxygen content and thereby reduce certain emissions from use of the fuel. This research strategy builds on and extends an earlier document, Oxyfuels Information Needs (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1996, EPA/600/R–96/069), which included water issues but tended to focus more on inhalation health risk issues. As a research strategy, the present document focuses on those gaps and limitations in current information that constitute the most critical and immediate needs to be addressed. The document is primarily intended to serve as a starting point and general guide to planning needed research. It is not a comprehensive review of issues related to oxygenates in water, and it does not attempt to specify in detail the specific studies and projects that may be needed. An earlier draft of this document was peer reviewed in a workshop held on October 7, 1997, in Washington, DC. Comments received on the workshop draft were considered in preparing the current external review draft.

DATES: Anyone who wishes to comment on this document may do so in writing

by August 28, 1998. Send the written comments to the Project Manager for Fuel Oxygenates, National Center for Environmental Assessment-RTP Office (MD-52), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711.

ADDRESSES: To obtain a copy of the Research Strategy for Oxygenates in Water (External Review Draft) 1998, EPA/600/R-98/048, contact Diane H. Ray, National Center for Environmental Assessment-RTP Office (MD-52), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711; telephone: 919-541-3637; facsimile: 919-541-1818; E-mail: ray.diane@epa.gov. Internet users may obtain a copy from the EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) home page. The URL is <http://www.epa.gov/ncea/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. J. Michael Davis, National Center for Environmental Assessment-RTP Office (MD-52), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711; telephone: 919-541-4162; facsimile: 919-541-0245; E-mail: davis.jmichael@epa.gov.

Dated: June 4, 1998.

William H. Farland,

Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. 98-15740 Filed 6-11-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6110-5]

Notice of Proposed Prospective Purchaser Agreement Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as Amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, Triggs Trailer-Kanawha Superfund Site

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: Notification is hereby given that a proposed prospective purchaser agreement associated with the Triggs Trailer-Kanawha Superfund Site located in Kanawha, Iowa was executed by the Agency on April 23, 1998 and executed by the United States Department of Justice on May 25, 1998. This agreement is subject to final approval after the comment period. The Prospective Purchaser Agreement would resolve certain potential EPA claims under

sections 106 and 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 ("CERCLA"), against Timothy Johnson d/b/a Johnson Trucking and Brownfield, Inc., the prospective purchasers ("the purchasers").

The settlement would require the purchasers to pay the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \$25,400. The purchasers intend to use the purchased property for truck/tractor/trailer storage and maintenance. The purchasers agreed to not use the property for vehicle painting except spot-painting of frames and fenders for maintenance purposes. They also agreed to not use the property for engine rebuilding. The purchasers must comply with the institutional controls notice by deed, contract for sale or any other instrument conveying an interest in the property that no on-site wells are to be dug and the property is subject to the Prospective Purchaser Agreement. The purchasers must also provide EPA and the state of Iowa access to the site.

For thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this document, the Agency will receive written comments relating to the proposed settlement. The Agency's response to any comments received will be available for public inspection at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII 726 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66101.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before July 13, 1998.

AVAILABILITY: The proposed settlement is available for public inspection at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 726 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66101. A copy of the proposed agreement may be obtained from Jeffrey Weatherford, On-Scene Coordinator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 726 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66101. Comments should reference the "Triggs Trailer-Kanawha Superfund Site Prospective Purchaser Agreement" and should be forwarded to Jeffrey Weatherford, On-Scene Coordinator, at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Denise L. Roberts, Assistant Regional Counsel, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 726 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66101, (913) 551-7559.

Dated: June 2, 1998.

William Rice,

Acting Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-15739 Filed 6-11-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that at 10:01 a.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 1998, the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation met in closed session to consider (1) matters relating to the Corporation's supervisory activities, (2) reports of the Office of Inspector General, and (3) personnel matters.

In calling the meeting, the Board determined, on motion of Vice Chairman Andrew C. Hove, Jr., seconded by Director Joseph H. Neely (Appointive), concurred in by Mr. Richard M. Riccobono, acting in the place and stead of Director Ellen S. Seidman (Director, Office of Thrift Supervision), Director Julie L. Williams (Acting Comptroller of the Currency), and Chairman Donna A. Tanoue, that Corporation business required its consideration of the matters on less than seven days' notice to the public; that no earlier notice of the meeting was practicable; that the public interest did not require consideration of the matters in a meeting open to public observation; and that the matters could be considered in a closed meeting by authority of subsections (c)(2), (c)(40), (c)(6), (c)(8), (c)(9)(A)(ii), and (c)(9)(B) of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2), (c)(4), (c)(6), (c)(8), (c)(9)(A)(ii), and (c)(9)(B)).

The meeting was held in the Board Room of the FDIC Building located at 550-17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Dated: June 9, 1998.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

James D. LaPierre,

Deputy Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-15797 Filed 6-9-98; 4:45 pm]

BILLING CODE 6714-01-M

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Ocean Freight Forwarder License Applicants

Notice is hereby given that the following applicants have filed with the Federal Maritime Commission applications for licenses as ocean freight