

the SAMP; project construction could begin upon receipt of required permits.

The regulatory products proposed for SAMP-consistent projects are intended to provide a high degree of certainty to the affected public concerning future regulatory decisions. As such, the parties to this notice acknowledge that, upon completion of the SAMP and in the absence of new information (i.e., information unavailable at the time of the final SAMP), there will be a heavy presumption against adverse agency comment and/or action (including but not limited to elevation or veto of section 404 permits pursuant to sections 404(q) or 404(c) of the Clean Water Act, respectively, or referral to CEQ under NEPA) for SAMP-consistent projects. This presumption will not limit the parties' to this notice right to comment (either through the MIMAC or as individual agencies) on site-specific minimization and/or mitigation aspects of individual section 404 authorizations.

Effect of this Notice: In this proposal, the parties to this notice have taken a more comprehensive approach in evaluating the scale and distribution of further acreage reductions, as is appropriate for a comprehensive plan for the Meadowlands resource base, and consequently their conclusions may differ from the conclusions that might be reached in the context of an individual regulatory decision, such as a decision on an individual permit application. Therefore, nothing in this **Federal Register** notice shall be construed to affect any agency's discretion to evaluate all reasonable alternatives and to render final regulatory decisions including, without limitation, the USACE decisions pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act and section 10 of the River and Harbors Act if the SAMP is not timely completed. If the SAMP is not completed, the USACE and other agencies will continue to render final permit decisions based on applicable criteria. Those permit decisions may not comport with statements in this notice or prior drafts of the SAMP.

Coordination with Stakeholders: The federal agencies intend to hold meetings with stakeholders, including the Citizens Advisory Committee, to keep the stakeholders informed of the status of activities.

Schedule for Completion of SAMP/EIS

April/May 1999—Conduct public outreach on the SAMP/EIS, including Congressional briefings, constituent meetings, and public information sessions

July 15, 1999—Issue Final EIS

August 15, 1999—Close Final EIS comment period

September 15, 1999—Issue SAMP Record of Decision

July 1, 2000—HMDC completes revisions to Master Plan and zoning regulations; NJDEP submits these documents to NOAA for approval as a Coastal Management Plan revision

September 1, 2000—NOAA acts on New Jersey Coastal Management Plan revision

Dated: March 25, 1999.

Jeanne M. Fox,

Regional Administrator, EPA—Region 2.

William H. Pearce,

District Engineer, USACE—New York District.

Jane M. Kenny,

Chairperson, Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission.

Robert C. Shinn, Jr.,

Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Jon C. Ritters,

Acting Regional Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service Northeast Region.

Ralph C. Pisapia,

Acting, Regional Director, USFWS—Region 5.

Bradley M. Campbell,

Associate Director for Toxic and Environmental Protection, White House Council on Environmental Quality.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[WH-FRL-6330-1]

Peer Review Workshop and Public Stakeholder Meetings on the Draft Water Quality Criteria Methodology Revisions: Human Health

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of peer review workshop and public stakeholder meetings on revisions to the methodology for deriving ambient water quality criteria for the protection of human health.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is holding a peer review workshop and subsequent public stakeholder meeting between May 17 and May 20, 1999 for the purpose of conducting an external expert peer review of the Draft Methodology Revisions and a subsequent information exchange with stakeholders on issues related to the changes or additions in the Revisions.

DATES: The peer review workshop will start at 9:00 AM on May 17 and will

adjourn on May 19 at 12:00 PM. The public stakeholder meeting will start at 9:00 AM and adjourn at 5:30 PM on May 20, the day following the conclusion of the peer review workshop.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denis Borum (4304), U.S. EPA, 401 M St. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460 (Telephone: (202) 260-8996).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Both the peer review workshop and subsequent public stakeholder meeting will be held at the Hilton Springfield, 6550 Loisdale Road, Springfield, VA for the purpose of conducting an external expert peer review of the Draft Methodology Revisions and a subsequent information exchange with stakeholders on issues related to the changes or additions that, when finalized, will supersede the existing Guidelines and Methodology Used in the Preparation of Health Effect Assessment Chapters of the Consent Decree Water Criteria Documents ("1980 AWQC National Guidelines"), published by EPA in November 1980. The purpose of the peer review workshop is to have the methodology reviewed in its entirety, even though many components of it have been peer reviewed in separate efforts. This is intentionally being conducted in a public forum, so that interested persons will be able to watch and listen while the peer reviewers discuss the recommended methodology revisions and draft their peer review report. Observers at the workshop will have an opportunity during a 30-minute period set aside at the end of the first and second day to make brief statements of opinion. Observers will not be allowed to ask questions of the reviewers or engage in the discussion. Observers who wish to make any statements should provide an advance written request to Pat Wood, Versar, Inc. at (703) 750-3000. There will also be an opportunity to sign up at the Workshop (on the first day) to make comments at the end of the second day, as time allows.

The public stakeholder meeting is to provide an opportunity for interested persons to discuss the issues and process for developing criteria and implementing the methodology. The stakeholder meeting will be the opportunity for substantive input and dialogue with the primary authors of the Draft Methodology Revisions. As with the peer review workshop, participants for the stakeholders meeting who wish to make comments or ask questions are strongly encouraged to provide an advance written request due to potential time limitations. Requests to speak at the stakeholder meeting should be made to Robert Noecker, ICF, Inc. at (703)

218-2700 or by e-mail at: rnoecker@icfkaiser.com.

EPA is inviting all interested members of the public to observe the workshop and participate in the stakeholder meeting. To the extent that is available, EPA is instituting an open door policy to allow any member of the public to attend either event for any length of time. Approximately 150 seats will be available for the public. Seats will be available on a first-come, first served basis. On-site registration for both will begin at 8:00 AM.

For additional information about the meeting, please contact Denis Borum of EPA's Office of Science and Technology at (202) 260-8996 or by e-mail at borum.denis@epa.gov.

Dated: April 14, 1999.

Tudor T. Davies,

Director, Office of Science and Technology.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6329-9]

Notice of Proposed Administrative Settlement Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act: Odessa Drum Superfund Site

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 122(i) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. 9622(i), notice is hereby given of a proposed administrative settlement concerning the Odessa Drum Superfund Site with Alpha Intermediates, Inc.

The settlement requires the settling party to pay a total of \$155,259.15 as payment of past response costs to the Hazardous Substances Superfund. The settlement includes a covenant not to sue pursuant to section 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9607.

For thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this document, the Agency will receive written comments relating to the settlement. The Agency will consider all comments received and may modify or withdraw its consent to the settlement if comments received disclose facts or considerations which indicate that the settlement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. The Agency's response to any comments

received will be available for public inspection at 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas, 75202-2733.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before May 24, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The proposed settlement and additional background information relating to the settlement are available for public inspection at 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas, 75202-2733. A copy of the proposed settlement may be obtained from Carl Bolden, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas, 75202-2733 at (214) 665-6713. Comments should reference the Odessa Drum Superfund Site, Ector County, Texas and EPA Docket Number 6-02-99, and should be addressed to Carl Bolden at the address listed above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Boydston, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas, 75202-2733 at (214) 665-7376.

Dated: April 13, 1999.

Myron O. Knudson,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 6.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6329-6]

Oil Pollution Act Class II: Proposed Administrative Penalty Assessment and Opportunity To Comment Regarding GTE Midwest, Inc.

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA").

ACTION: Notice of proposed administrative penalty assessment and opportunity to comment regarding GTE Midwest, Inc.

SUMMARY: EPA is providing notice of opportunity to comment on the proposed assessment of an administrative penalty against GTE Midwest, Inc. Under 33 U.S.C. 1321(b)(6), EPA is authorized to issue orders assessing administrative penalties for violations of the Act. EPA may issue such orders after filing a Complaint commencing a Class II penalty proceeding. EPA provides public notice of the proposed assessment pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1321(b)(6)(C).

Class II proceedings are conducted under EPA's Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation or Suspension of Permits, 40 C.F.R. part 22. The procedures by which the public may submit written comments on a proposed Class II order

or participate in a Class II proceeding, and the procedures by which a respondent may request a hearing, are set forth in the Consolidated Rules. The deadline for submitting public comment on a proposed Class II order is thirty (30) days after issuance of public notice.

On March 31, 1999, EPA commenced the following Class II proceeding for the assessment of penalties by filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 726 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66101, (913) 551-7630, the following complaint: In the Matter of GTE Midwest incorporated; EPA Docket No, VII-99-0010.

The Complaint proposes a penalty of Nineteen Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty Dollar (\$19,730) for the discharge of diesel fuel to waters of the U.S. and failure to timely prepare a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan, in violation of sections 311 of the Clean Water Act.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Persons wishing to receive a copy of EPA's Consolidated Rules, review the Complaint or other documents filed in this proceeding, comment upon the proposed penalty assessment, or otherwise participate in the proceeding should contact the Regional Hearing Clerk identified above.

The administrative record for the proceeding is located in the EPA Regional Office at the address stated above, and the file will be open for public inspection during normal business hours. All information submitted by GTE Midwest, Inc. is available as part of the administrative record subject to provisions of law restricting public disclosure of confidential information. In order to provide opportunity for public comment, EPA will issue no final order assessing a penalty in this proceeding prior to thirty (30) days from the date of this Document.

Dated: April 8, 1999.

Dennis Grams,

Regional Administrator, Region 7.

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