

of whether the proposed reclamation of the site will meet the standards necessary to protect an endangered fish species from the leaching of contaminants into the Colorado River.

Dated: August 10, 1999.

William D. Dickerson,

Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-34161B; FRL-6093-4]

Organophosphate Pesticide: Methyl Parathion; Availability of Revised Risk Assessments and Public Participation on Risk Management

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of the revised risk assessments and related documents for one organophosphate pesticide, methyl parathion. In addition, this notice starts a 60-day public participation period during which the public is encouraged to submit risk management ideas. These actions are in response to a joint initiative between EPA and the Department of Agriculture to increase transparency in the tolerance reassessment process for organophosphate pesticides. Although methyl parathion is beginning the 60-public participation process, to address dietary risk from food, the Agency has accepted voluntary cancellation of uses on crops that contributed most to children's diet. These canceled uses represent 90% of the dietary risk to children. Removal of these crops brings the acute dietary risk from food to below levels of concern (78% of the population adjusted dose). The agreement was signed and became effective August 2, 1999, with the basic producers of methyl parathion.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket control number OPP-34161B, must be received by EPA on or before October 12, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit III. of the "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION" section. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP-34161B in

the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karen Angulo, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 308-8004; e-mail address: angulo.karen@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general, nevertheless, a wide range of stakeholders will be interested in obtaining the revised risk assessments and submitting risk management comments on methyl parathion, including environmental, human health, and agricultural advocates; the chemical industry; pesticide users; and members of the public interested in the use of pesticides on food. As such, the Agency has not attempted to specifically describe all the entities potentially affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

II. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document or Other Related Documents?

A. Electronically

You may obtain electronic copies of this document and other related documents from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. To access this document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations" and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register—Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

To access information about organophosphate pesticides and obtain electronic copies of the revised risk assessments and related documents mentioned in this notice, you can also go directly to the Home Page for the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/op/>.

B. In Person

The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPP-34161B. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received during an applicable comment period, and other information related to this action, including any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). This official record includes the

documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. The public version of the official record does not include any information claimed as CBI. The public version of the official record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments submitted during an applicable comment period, is available for inspection in Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB) telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

III. How Can I Respond to this Action?

A. How and to Whom Do I Submit Comments?

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, you must identify docket control number OPP-34161B in the subject line on the first page of your response.

1. *By mail.* Submit comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. The Document Control Office (DCO) is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

3. *Electronically.* Submit electronic comments by e-mail to: "opp-docket@epa.gov," or you may mail or deliver your standard computer disk using the addresses in this unit. Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. 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 standard computer disks in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number OPP-34161B. Electronic comments may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

B. How Should I Handle CBI Information that I Want to Submit to the Agency?

Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. You may claim information that you submit to EPA in response to this document as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes any 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 version of the official record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public version of the official record without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult the person listed in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

IV. What Action is EPA Taking in this Notice?

EPA is making available for public viewing the revised risk assessments and related documents for one organophosphate, methyl parathion. These documents have been developed as part of the pilot public participation process that EPA and USDA are now using for involving the public in the reassessment of pesticide tolerances under the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), and the reregistration of individual organophosphate pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). The pilot public participation process was developed as part of the EPA-USDA Tolerance Reassessment Advisory Committee (TRAC), which was established in April 1998, as a subcommittee under the auspices of EPA's National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology. A goal of the pilot public participation process is to find a more effective way for the public to participate at critical junctures in the Agency's development of organophosphate risk assessments and risk management decisions. EPA and USDA began implementing this pilot process in August 1998, to increase transparency and opportunities for stakeholder consultation. The documents being released to the public through this notice provide information on the revisions that were made to the methyl parathion preliminary risk assessments, which were released to the public August 10, 1998 (63 FR

43175) (FRL-6024-3), December 18, 1998 (63 FR 70126) (FRL-6052-6), and January 15, 1999 (64 FR 2644) (FRL-6056-9), through notices in the **Federal Register**.

To address dietary risk from food, the Agency has accepted voluntary cancellation of uses on crops that contributed most to children's diet. These canceled uses represent 90% of the dietary risk to children. Removal of these crops brings the acute dietary risk from food to below levels of concern (78% of the population adjusted dose). The agreement was signed August 2, 1999, with the basic producers of methyl parathion. Specific terms of the agreement include:

Canceled uses—children's food: All fruit uses (apples, cherries, grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, and plums); carrots, succulent beans, succulent peas, and tomatoes;

Other canceled food uses: Artichokes, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cauliflower, celery, collards, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, mustard greens, rutabagas, spinach, and turnips;

Canceled non-food uses: Ornamental plants, grasses grown for seed, mosquito use, and nursery stock.

Uses remaining: Alfalfa, almonds, barley, beets, cabbage, corn, cotton, dried beans, dried peas, grass, hops, lentils, oats, onions, pecans, rape seed, sugar (canola), rice, rye, soybeans, sunflower, sweet potato, walnuts, wheat, and white potato.

The cancellation of uses will take effect prior to the next growing season. Methyl parathion application for the canceled uses will be prohibited for the 2000 growing season.

Also, risk to handlers and re-entry workers exceed the Agency's level of concern. Cancellation of all fruits and many vegetables will reduce risks to workers. For many of the remaining uses, methyl parathion is applied aerially and these crops are typically not hand-harvested. Also, per the agreement, all non-agricultural uses of methyl parathion will be canceled. Prior to the next growing season, registrants have agreed to increase the reentry intervals to 4–5 days from 2 days.

For the 2001 growing season, the registrants have agreed to use enclosed cabs and cockpits, and closed mixing and loading systems. Registrants will also generate data to address uncertainties in the Agency's occupational risk assessment.

In addition, this notice starts a 60-day public participation period during which the public is encouraged to comment on risk management for methyl parathion. The Agency is providing an opportunity, through this

notice, for interested parties to provide written risk management ideas to the Agency on the chemical specified in this notice. The public may comment on the Agency's risk management position, which will be reflected in the documents associated with the revised risk assessments.

EPA will provide other opportunities for public participation and comment on issues associated with the organophosphate tolerance reassessment program. Failure to participate or comment as part of this opportunity will in no way prejudice or limit a commentator's opportunity to participate fully in later notice and comment processes. All comments and proposals must be received by EPA on or before October 12, 1999 at the addresses given under the "ADDRESSES" section. Comments and proposals will become part of the Agency record for the organophosphate specified in this notice.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: August 6, 1999.

Lois Rossi,

Director, Special Review and Reregistration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6421-2]

Petroleum Products Superfund Site; Notice of Proposed De Minimis Settlement

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of proposed de minimis settlement.

SUMMARY: Under Section 122(g)(4) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has offered a de minimis settlement at the Petroleum Products Superfund Site (Site) under an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) to settle claims for past and future response costs at the Site. Approximately 300 parties have returned signature pages accepting EPA's settlement offer. Of these parties, eight major oil companies are also settling on behalf of approximately 1120 of their branded service stations that sent waste oil to the Site. EPA will