

"Conformity" button, then look for "Adequacy Review of SIP Submissions for Conformity"). The website will contain a detailed analysis of our adequacy finding and our responses to the public comments received from the University of Maryland School of Law on behalf of its client, the 1000 Friends of Maryland. Transportation conformity is required by section 176 of the Clean Air Act. EPA's conformity rule requires that transportation plans, programs, and projects conform to SIPs and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they do so. Conformity to a SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the NAAQS. The criteria by which we determine whether a SIP's budgets are adequate for conformity purposes are outlined in 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4).

Please note that an adequacy finding is separate from EPA's completeness finding, and separate from EPA's finding whether or not the SIP is approvable. Even if we find a budget adequate, the SIP could later be disapproved. We describe our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP budgets in a guidance memorandum dated May 14, 1999 entitled "Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999 Conformity Court Decision". We followed this guidance in making our adequacy findings for the budgets contained in the revised Phase II submitted on December 3, 1999 and December 21, 1999 by MDE. You may obtain a copy of this guidance from EPA's conformity website referred to above or by calling the contact name listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Dated: February 15, 2000.

**Bradley M. Campbell,**

*Regional Administrator, Region III.*

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**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-34218; FRL-6492-2]

### Organophosphate Pesticides; Availability of Revised Risk Assessments

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of the revised risk assessments and related documents for two organophosphate pesticides, acephate and methamidophos. In addition, this notice starts a 60-day public participation period during which the public is encouraged to submit risk management ideas or proposals. These actions are in response to a joint initiative between EPA and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to increase transparency in the tolerance reassessment process for organophosphate pesticides.

**DATES:** Comments, identified by docket control numbers OPP-34164B for acephate and OPP-34166B for methamidophos, must be received by EPA on or before April 24, 2000.

**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." To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control numbers OPP-34164B for acephate and OPP-34166B for methamidophos 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, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., 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 acephate and methamidophos, 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 under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

#### 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 numbers OPP-34164B for acephate and OPP-34166B for methamidophos. 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 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 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, it is imperative that you identify docket control numbers OPP-34164B for acephate and OPP-34166B for methamidophos 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, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division, Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. The PIRIB is open from 8:30 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: "opdocket@epa.gov," or you can submit a computer disk as described 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 6.1/8.0 or ASCII file format. All comments in electronic form must be identified by the docket control numbers OPP-34164B for acephate and OPP-34166B for methamidophos. 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 under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT."

#### **IV. What Action is EPA Taking in this Notice?**

EPA is making available for public viewing the revised risk assessments and related documents for two organophosphate pesticides, acephate

and methamidophos. 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 pesticide 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 acephate and methamidophos preliminary risk assessments, which were released to the public, January 8, 1999 (64 FR 1199) (FRL-6055-9), through a notice in the **Federal Register**.

In addition, this notice starts a 60-day public participation period during which the public is encouraged to submit risk management proposals or otherwise comment on risk managements for acephate and methamidophos. The Agency is providing an opportunity, through this notice, for interested parties to provide written risk management proposals or ideas to the Agency on the chemical specified in this notice. Such comments and proposals could address ideas about how to manage dietary, occupational, or ecological risks on specific acephate and methamidophos use sites or crops across the United States or in a particular geographic region of the country. To address dietary risk, for example, commenters may choose to discuss the feasibility of lower application rates, increasing the time interval between application and harvest ("pre-harvest intervals"), modifications in use, or suggest alternative measures to reduce residues contributing to dietary exposure. For occupational risks, commenters may suggest personal protective equipment or technologies to reduce exposure to

workers and pesticide handlers. For ecological risks, commenters may suggest ways to reduce environmental exposure, e.g., exposure to birds, fish, mammals, and other non-target organisms. EPA will provide other opportunities for public participation and comment on issues associated with the organophosphate pesticide tolerance reassessment program. Failure to participate or comment as part of this opportunity will in no way prejudice or limit a commenter's opportunity to participate fully in later notice and comment processes. All comments and proposals must be received by EPA on or before April 24, 2000, at the addresses given under the "ADDRESSES" section. Comments and proposals will become part of the Agency's official record for the organophosphate pesticides specified in this notice.

#### **List of Subjects**

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: February 9, 2000.

**Jack E. Housenger,**

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

[FR Doc. 00-4051 Filed 2-18-00; 8:45 am]

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#### **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-6540-2]

#### **Guidance Memoranda Relating to the One-Hour Ozone Attainment Demonstrations**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the EPA has issued two guidance memoranda for public review on requirements for one-hour ozone attainment demonstration State implementation plans (SIPs). The guidance memoranda are entitled: "Guidance on Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets in One-Hour Ozone Attainment Demonstrations" dated November 3, 1999, and "Guidance on the Reasonably Available Control Measures (RACM) Requirement and Attainment Demonstration Submissions for Ozone Nonattainment Areas" dated November 30, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** These documents are available for public inspection at EPA's website at: [www.epa.gov/oms/traq](http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq) (under conformity) and [www.epa.gov/](http://www.epa.gov/)