

adequacy findings of the budgets in Maryland's revised Phase II plan. You may obtain a copy of this guidance from EPA's conformity web site: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq> (once there, click on the "Conformity" button) or by calling the contact name listed in "For Further Information Contact" section of this notice.

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

Dated: March 29, 2001.

William C. Early,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region III.

[FR Doc. 01-9058 Filed 4-11-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-U

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6965-7]

Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter (External Review Draft)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of a draft for public review and comment.

SUMMARY: On or about April 12, 2001, the National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA), within EPA's Office of Research and Development, will make available for public review and comment a second external review draft of the Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter. Required under sections 108 and 109 of the Clean Air Act, the purpose of this document is to provide an assessment of the latest scientific information on the effects of airborne particulate matter (PM) on the public health and welfare for use in the next periodic review of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM.

DATES: Comments on the draft document must be submitted in writing no later than July 12, 2001. Send the written comments to the Project Manager for Particulate Matter, National Center for Environmental Assessment-RTP (MD-52), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter (Second External Review Draft) will be available on CD ROM from NCEA-RTP. Contact Ms. Diane Ray by phone (919-541-3637), fax (919-541-1818), or email (ray.diane@epa.gov) to request the document. Please provide the document's title, Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter (Second External Review Draft), as well as your name and address to properly process your request. Internet users will be able to

download a copy from the NCEA home page. The URL is <http://www.epa.gov/ncea/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Dennis Kotchmar, National Center for Environmental Assessment-RTP (MD-52), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711; telephone: 919-541-4158; fax: 919-541-1818; e-mail: kotchmar.dennis@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EPA is updating and revising, where appropriate, the EPA's Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter. Sections 108 and 109 of the Clean Air Act require that the EPA carry out a periodic review and revision, where appropriate, of the scientific criteria and the NAAQS for "criteria" air pollutants such as particulate matter. Details of the EPA's plans for the review of the NAAQS for PM were announced in a previous **Federal Register** notice (62 FR 55201, October 23, 1997). The first external review draft of the Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter was made available for public review in October 1999 (64 FR 57884, October 27, 1999). Following that public review period and the ensuing Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) meeting in December 1999 (64 FR 61875, November 15, 1999), the document has undergone revision to incorporate comments from the public review and the CASAC meeting, as well as many recently completed studies on the health effects of particulate matter. After the end of the comment period on the second external review draft, the EPA will again present the draft document for review by the CASAC in a public meeting. A subsequent **Federal Register** notice will inform the public of the exact date and time of that meeting. Following the CASAC meeting, the EPA will again incorporate revisions to the document in response to public comments and CASAC review.

The EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards will prepare a Staff Paper (SP) for the Administrator, drawing on information in the criteria document. The SP will evaluate the policy implications of the key studies and scientific information contained in the criteria document and identify critical elements that EPA staff believes should be considered in reviewing the standards. The SP is intended to bridge the gap between the scientific review in the criteria document and the public health and welfare policy judgments required of the Administrator in reviewing the NAAQS for PM.

Dated: March 30, 2001.

Arthur F. Payne,

Acting Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. 01-9057 Filed 4-11-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-00713; FRL-6779-3]

Notice of Availability of Regional Environmental Stewardship Program Grants

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA is announcing the availability of approximately \$497 thousand in fiscal year 2001 grant/cooperative agreement funds under section 20 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) as amended, for grants to States and federally recognized Native American Tribes for research, public education, training, monitoring, demonstrations, and studies.

DATES: Applications must be received by the appropriate EPA Regional Office on or before June 11, 2001. EPA will make its award decisions by July 2, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Your EPA Regional Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program (PESP) Coordinator listed under Unit V. of this notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may, however, be of interest to eligible applicants for purposes of funding under this grant program to include the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, any territory or possession of the United States, any agency or instrumentality of a State including State universities, and all federally recognized Native American tribes.

II. Availability of FY'01 Funds

With this publication, EPA is announcing the availability of approximately \$497 thousand in grant/cooperative agreement funds for fiscal year 2001. The Agency has delegated grant making authority to the EPA Regional Offices.

III. Eligible Applicants

In accordance with the Act “. . . Federal agencies, universities, or others as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the act, . . .” are eligible to receive a grant; however, because of restrictions associated with the funds appropriated for this program, the eligible applicants are limited. Eligible applicants for purposes of funding under this grant program include the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, any territory or possession of the United States, any agency or instrumentality of a State including State universities, and all federally recognized Native American Tribes. For convenience, the term “State” in this notice refers to all eligible applicants. Local governments, private universities, private nonprofit entities, private businesses, and individuals are not eligible. The organizations excluded from applying directly are encouraged to work with eligible applicants in developing proposals that include them as participants in the projects. Contact your EPA Regional PESP Coordinator for assistance in identifying and contacting eligible applicants. EPA strongly encourages this type of cooperative arrangement.

IV. Activities and Criteria

A. General

The goal of PESP is to reduce the risks associated with pesticide use in agricultural and non-agricultural settings in the United States. The purpose of the grant program is to support the establishment and expansion of integrated pest management (IPM) as a tool to be used to accomplish the goals of PESP. Projects that address the risk reduction goals of the PESP, pesticide pollution prevention, IPM, IPM in schools, children's health issues related to pesticides, or those research methods for documenting the trends toward the adoption of IPM or the reduction of risks associated with pesticide use will receive priority consideration. Other projects will be considered as they complement these goals through public education, training monitoring, demonstrations and studies and other activities.

EPA specifically seeks to build State and local IPM capacities or to evaluate the economic feasibility of new IPM approaches at the State level (*i.e.*, innovative approaches and methodologies that use application or other strategies to reduce the risks associated with pesticide use). Funds awarded under the grant program

should be used to support the goal of reducing the risk/use of pesticides. State projects might focus on, for example:

- Researching the effectiveness of multimedia communication activities for, including but not limited to: promoting local IPM activities, providing technical assistance to pesticide users; collecting and analyzing data to target outreach and technical assistance opportunities; developing measures to determine and document progress in pollution prevention; and identifying regulatory and non-regulatory barriers or incentives to pollution prevention.

- Researching methods for establishing IPM as an environmental management priority, establishing prevention goals, developing strategies to meet those goals, and integrating the ethic within both governmental and non-governmental institutions of the State or region.

- Initiating research or other projects that test and support: innovative techniques for reducing pesticide risk or using pesticides in a way to reduce risk, innovative application techniques to reduce worker and environmental exposure.

A list of projects funded in fiscal year 2000 may be obtained at http://www.epa.gov/oppbppd1/PESP/regional_grants.htm or from your Regional PESP Coordinator.

B. Criteria

EPA Regional Offices are responsible for the solicitation of interest, screening of proposals, and selection of projects. A generic request for proposal will be available on EPA's PESP web site on or before April 19, 2001, at http://www.epa.gov/oppbppd1/PESP/regional_grants.htm. Interested applicants must contact the appropriate EPA Regional PESP Coordinator to obtain specific instructions, Regional criteria, guidance, and format for submitting proposals.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications and experience of the applicant relative to the proposed project.

- Does the applicant demonstrate experience in the field of the proposed activity?

- Does the applicant have the properly trained staff, facilities, or infrastructure in place to conduct the project?

2. Consistency of applicant's proposed project with the risk reduction goals of the PESP.

3. Does the project provide for a quantitative or qualitative evaluation of the project's success at achieving the stated goals.

- Is the project designed in such a way that it is possible to measure and document the results quantitatively and qualitatively?

- Does the applicant identify the method that will be used to measure and document the project's results quantitatively and qualitatively?

4. Likelihood the project can be replicated to benefit other communities or the product may have broad utility to a widespread audience. Can this project, taking into account typical staff and financial restraints, be replicated by similar organizations in different locations to address the same or similar problem?

C. Program Management

Awards of fiscal year 2001 funds will be managed through the EPA Regional Offices.

V. Regional Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program Contacts

Region I: (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont), Robert Koethe, (CPT), 1 Congress St., Suite 1100, Boston, MA 02114–2023; telephone: (617) 918–1535; e-mail address: koethe.robert@epa.gov.

Region II: (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands), Audrey Moore, (MS-500), Raritan Depot, 2890 Woodbridge Ave., Edison, NJ 08837–3679; telephone: (732) 906–6809; e-mail address: moore.audrey@epa.gov.

Region III: (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia), Racine Davis, (3WC32), 1650 Arch St., Philadelphia, PA 19103–2029; telephone: (215) 814–5797; e-mail address: davis.racine@epa.gov.

Region IV: (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee), Lora Schroeder, 61 Forsyth St., SW, Atlanta, GA 30303–8960; telephone: (404) 562–9015; e-mail address: schroeder.lora@epa.gov.

Region V: (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin), Heather McDonald, (DT-8J), 77 W Jackson Blvd, Chicago, IL 60604–3507; telephone: (312) 886–3572; e-mail address: mcdonald.heather@epa.gov.

Region VI: (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas), Jerry Collins, (6PD-P), 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200, Dallas, TX 75202–2733; telephone: (214) 665–7562; e-mail address: collins.jerry@epa.gov.

Region VII: (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska), John Tice, (WWPD-PEST), 901 N 5th St., Kansas City, KS 66101; telephone: (402) 437–5080; e-mail address: tice.john@epa.gov.

Region VIII: (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming), Debbie Kovacs, (8P2-TX), 999 18th St., Suite 300 Denver, CO 80202-2466; telephone: (303) 312-6417; e-mail address: kovacs.debbie@epa.gov.

Region IX: (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam), Karen Heisler, (CMD-4-3), 75 Hawthorne St., San Francisco, CA 94105; telephone: (415) 744-1100; e-mail address: heisler.karen@epa.gov.

Region X: (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington), Karl Arne, (ECO-084), 1200 6th Ave., Seattle, WA 98101; telephone: (206) 553-2576; e-mail address: arne.karl@epa.gov.

VI. Submission to Congress and the Comptroller General

Under the Agency's current interpretation of the definition of a "rule," grant solicitations such as this which are competitively awarded on the basis of selection criteria, are considered rules for the purpose of the Congressional Review Act (CRA). The CRA, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (SBREFA), generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. EPA will submit a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the **Federal Register**. This rule is not a "major rule" as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: March 28, 2001.

Phil Hutton,

Acting Director, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 01-9059 Filed 4-11-01; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6966-6]

Gulf of Mexico Program Policy Review Board Meeting; Change of Location

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Change of location of meeting.

SUMMARY: On April 3, 2001 (66 FR 17706), EPA gave notice of a meeting of the Gulf of Mexico Program (GMP) Policy Review Board (PRB). The location for the meeting has changed.

DATES: The PRB meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 2, 2001, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Victoria Room at the Marriott Houston Airport Hotel, 18700 Kennedy Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77032 (at Bush Intercontinental Airport), (281) 443-2310.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gloria D. Car, Designated Federal Officer, Gulf of Mexico Program Office, Building 1103, Room 202, Stennis Space Center, MS 39529-6000 at (228) 688-2421.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Proposed agenda items will include: Review PRB Recommendations.

The meeting is open to the public.

Dated: April 5, 2001.

Gloria D. Car,

Designated Federal Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-9055 Filed 4-11-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6966-1]

Office of Research and Development; Board of Scientific Counselors, Executive Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended (5 U.S.C., App. 2) notification is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development (ORD), Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC), will hold an Executive Committee Meeting.

DATES: The Meeting will be held on May 7-8, 2001. On Monday, May 7, the Meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m., and will recess at 4:30 p.m. On Tuesday, May 8, the Meeting will reconvene at 9:00 a.m. and will adjourn at approximately 4:30 p.m. All times noted are Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The Meeting will be held at the Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Meridian D&E Conference Room, Washington, D.C. 20004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda items will include, but not be limited to: BOSC upcoming activities, including

Laboratory/Center Sub-Committee appointments and agenda for site visits, BOSC's work plan for the Communications Sub-Committee, and presentations of ORD's Laboratory/Center Strategic Plans.

Anyone desiring a draft agenda may fax their request to Shirley R. Hamilton at (202) 565-2444. The meeting is open to the public. Any member of the public wishing to make a presentation at the meeting should contact Shirley Hamilton, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Scientific Counselors, Office of Research and Development (8701R), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20460; or by telephone at (202) 564-6853. In general each individual making an oral presentation will be limited to a total of three minutes.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shirley R. Hamilton, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, (8701R), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 564-6853.

Dated: April 4, 2001.

Peter W. Preuss,

Director, National Center for Environmental Research.

[FR Doc. 01-9053 Filed 4-11-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF-1014; FRL-6776-9]

Notice of Filing a Pesticide Petition to Establish a Tolerance for a Certain Pesticide Chemical in or on Food

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initial filing of a pesticide petition proposing the establishment of regulations for residues of a certain pesticide chemical in or on various food commodities.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket control number PF-1014, must be received on or before May 14, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit I.C. of the

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number PF-1014 in the subject line on the first page of your response.