

were not adequate and that the ROP budgets were adequate. The December 22, 1999 letter also clearly indicated that it superseded any final actions which had occurred on October 26, 1999, and that the withdrawal of the findings made on October 26, 1999 was effective immediately (December 22, 1999).

As stated above, on December 22, 1999, we informed the Commonwealth of our finding that the motor vehicle emission budgets in the Phase II SIP submitted by the Commonwealth are not adequate for the purposes of transportation conformity. Among other things, the attainment budgets, when considered together with all other emission reductions, must be consistent with applicable requirements for attainment as required in 40 CFR Part 93, § 93.118(e)(4)(iv). In making our finding that the attainment budgets are not adequate, we have preliminarily determined that the submitted Phase II attainment SIP does not fully provide for attainment. This preliminary determination is not a final agency action and is rather one of the issues in our December 16, 1999 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (64 FR 70428).

On December 22, 1999, we also informed the Commonwealth that we found the motor vehicle emission budgets in the 1999, 2002, and 2005 ROP plan adequate since they met the review criteria in 40 CFR Part 93, § 93.118(e)(4)(i) through (e)(4)(vi) of the conformity rule.

This is an announcement of adequacy findings that we already made on December 22, 1999. The effective date of these findings is February 4, 2000. These findings will also be announced on EPA's website: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq> (once there, click on the "Conformity" button, then look for "Adequacy Review of SIP Submissions for Conformity"). Transportation conformity is required by section 176(c) 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 described our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP budgets in a guidance memorandum dated May 14, 1999 titled "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 "SIP for Rate of Progress Emission Reductions and for Attainment of the NAAQS for Ozone Meeting the Requirements of the Alternative Ozone Attainment Demonstration Policy—Phase II" submitted on April 30, 1998 by PADEP. You may obtain a copy of this guidance from EPA's conformity web site 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: January 10, 2000.

Bradley M. Campbell,

Regional Administrator, Region III.

[FR Doc. 00-1362 Filed 1-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6526-7]

Contractor Access to Confidential Business Information Under the Clean Air Act

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The EPA has authorized the following contractor and subcontractors for access to information that has been, or will be, submitted to EPA under sections 108-112, 114, 129 and 183 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) as amended: Research Triangle Institute, 3040 Cornwallis Road, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709; Pechan-Avanti Group, 5537-C Hempstead Way, Springfield, Virginia 22151; Stratus Consulting, Inc., Suite 201, 1881 Ninth Street, Boulder, Colorado 80302; Mathtech, Inc., Suite 111, 202 Carnegie Center, Princeton, New Jersey 08540; The Kevric Company, Inc., Suite 610, 8401 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 under contract number 68-D-99-024.

Some of the information may be claimed to be confidential business information (CBI) by the submitter.

DATES: Access to confidential data submitted to EPA under the CAA will occur no sooner than 10 days after issuance of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melva Toomer, Document Control Officer, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (MD-11), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711, (919) 541-0880.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EPA is issuing this notice to inform all submitters of information under sections 108-112, 114, 129 and 183 of the CAA that EPA may provide the above mentioned contractor and subcontractors access to these materials on a need-to-know basis. This contractor and subcontractors will provide technical support to the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) in the analyses of cost and benefits of actual or potential EPA action taken under the CAA.

In accordance with 40 CFR, part 2, subparts B and other EPA regulations and policies, EPA has determined that this contractor and subcontractors require access to CBI, submitted to EPA under sections 108-112, 114, 129 and 183 of the CAA, in order to perform work satisfactorily under the above noted contract. The contractor and subcontractor personnel will be given access to information submitted under the above mentioned section of the CAA. Some of the information may be claimed or determined to be CBI. The contractor and subcontractor personnel will be required to sign nondisclosure agreements and will be briefed on appropriate security procedures before they are permitted access to CAA CBI. All access to CAA CBI will take place at the prime contractor's facility. This prime contractor has appropriate procedures and facilities in place to safeguard the CAA CBI to which the contractor has access.

Clearance for access to CAA CBI is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2004 under contract 68-D-99-024.

Dated: January 11, 2000.

Robert Brenner,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation.

[FR Doc. 00-1363 Filed 1-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-34217; FRL-6489-2]

Acephate, Disulfoton, and Methamidophos, Revised Pesticide Risk Assessment; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA will hold a public meeting to present the revised risk assessments for three organophosphate pesticides: Acephate, disulfoton, and methamidophos, to interested stakeholders. This public meeting, called a "Technical Briefing," will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to learn about the data, information, and methodologies that the Agency used in revising its risk assessments for acephate, disulfoton, and methamidophos. In addition, representatives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will also provide ideas on possible risk management for acephate, disulfoton, and methamidophos.

DATES: The technical briefing will be held on Thursday, February 3, 2000. The disulfoton technical briefing is scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and the acephate and methamidophos (concurrent) technical briefing is scheduled from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The technical briefing will be held at the Radisson Hotel, 901 North Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA, (703) 683-6000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Karen Angulo, Special Review and Registration 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. General Information****A. Does this Action Apply to Me?**

This action applies to the public in general. As such, the Agency has not attempted to specifically describe all the entities potentially affected by this action. The Agency believes that a wide range of stakeholders will be interested in technical briefings on organophosphate pesticides, 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. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT."

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

1. *Electronically.* You may obtain electronic copies of this document, and certain other related documents that

might be available electronically, 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, you can also go directly to the Home Page for the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/op/>. In addition, brief summaries of the acephate, disulfoton, and methamidophos revised risk assessments are now available at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/op/status.htm/>, as well as in paper as part of the public version of the official record as described in Unit I.B.2.

2. *In person.* The Agency has established an official record for the organophosphate pesticides: Acephate, disulfoton, and methamidophos under docket control numbers OPP-34164A for acephate, OPP-34165A for disulfoton, and OPP-34166A for methamidophos. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, 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 the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), 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.

II. What Action is the Agency Taking?

This document announces the Agency's intention to hold a technical briefing for the organophosphate pesticides: Acephate, disulfoton, and methamidophos. The Agency is presenting the revised risk assessments for acephate, disulfoton, and methamidophos to interested stakeholders. This technical briefing is designed to provide stakeholders with an opportunity to become even more informed about an organophosphate's risk assessment. EPA will describe in

detail the revised risk assessments: Including the major points (e.g., contributors to risk estimates); how public comment on the preliminary risk assessment affected the revised risk assessment; and the pesticide use information/data that was used in developing the revised risk assessment. Stakeholders will have an opportunity to ask clarifying questions. In addition, representatives of the USDA will provide ideas on possible risk management.

The technical briefing is 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 assessment and risk management decisions. EPA and USDA began implementing this pilot process in August 1998 in response to Vice President Gore's directive to increase transparency and opportunities for stakeholder consultation.

The Agency will issue a **Federal Register** notice to provide an opportunity for public viewing of the acephate, disulfoton, and methamidophos revised risk assessments and related documents to the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch and the OPP Internet web site that are described in Unit I.B.1, and to provide an opportunity for a 60-day public participation period during which the public may submit risk management and mitigation ideas, and recommendations and proposals for transition.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: January 13, 2000.

Lois A. Rossi,

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

[FR Doc. 00-1365 Filed 1-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F