

operates in accordance with requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The FIFRA SAP is composed of a permanent panel consisting of seven members who are appointed by the EPA Administrator from nominees provided by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. FIFRA, as amended by FQPA, established a Science Review Board consisting of at least 60 scientists who are available to the Scientific Advisory Panel on an ad hoc basis to assist in reviews conducted by the Scientific Advisory Panel. As a peer review mechanism, the FIFRA SAP provides comments, evaluations and recommendations to improve the effectiveness and quality of analyses made by Agency scientists. Members of the FIFRA SAP are scientists who have sufficient professional qualifications, including training and experience, to provide expert advice and recommendation to the Agency.

#### B. Public Meeting

This Scientific Advisory Panel meeting will address selected scientific issues associated with assessing the potential ecological risks resulting from use of a pesticide active ingredient which has persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBT) characteristics. EPA will pose specific charge questions to the SAP on issues involving:

- The range and combination of characteristics of persistence, bioaccumulation, and toxicity that should employ a modified approach to ecological risk assessment;
- The need for changes to the conceptual model used to evaluate the potential ecological effects of pesticides with varying P and B characteristics;
- Toxicity endpoints and methods OPP should consider when assessing pesticides with varying P and B characteristics;
- Pathways of potential exposure that should be considered in assessing the ecological risks of a pesticide with varying P and B characteristics;
- Data and model(s) appropriate for estimating and characterizing bioaccumulation and estimating steady and non-steady state pesticide residue concentrations in biota;
- Data and model(s) appropriate for estimating and characterizing environmental fate in soil, water and sediment; and Data and model(s) most appropriate for assessing exposure to biota through multiple pathways.

Office of Pesticides Programs (OPP) has recently completed ecological risk assessments on several pesticides with varying P and B characteristics. OPP will draw on information and analyses

from these assessments to illustrate the evolving approach OPP is using to address selected issues and how differences across chemicals – for example, in terms of data, characteristics, and available models – influence OPP's approaches. This meeting with the SAP is the first of what OPP anticipates will be several meetings over the next few years to improve OPP's evolving approach to evaluating pesticides with varying P and B characteristics.

#### C. FIFRA SAP Documents and Meeting Minutes

EPA's background paper, related supporting materials, charge/questions to the FIFRA SAP, FIFRA SAP composition (i.e., members and ad hoc members for this meeting), and the meeting agenda will be available by mid-October 2008. In addition, the Agency may provide additional background documents as the materials become available. You may obtain electronic copies of these documents, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, at <http://www.regulations.gov> and the FIFRA SAP homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/scipoly/sap>.

The FIFRA SAP will prepare meeting minutes summarizing its recommendations to the Agency approximately 90 days after the meeting. The meeting minutes will be posted on the FIFRA SAP website or may be obtained from the OPP Regulatory Public Docket at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: July 16, 2008.

**Elizabeth Resek,**

*Acting Director, Office of Science Coordination and Policy.*

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**BILLING CODE 6560-50-S**

#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**[EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0522; FRL-8373-3]**

#### North American Free Trade Agreement Technical Working Group on Pesticides; Proposed Five-Year Strategy, 2008–2013; Notice of Availability

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is releasing for public comment the proposed Five-Year Strategy, 2008–2013, of the North American Free Trade Agreement Technical Working Group on Pesticides. In this document, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Technical Working Group (TWG) on Pesticides states its goal to create an aligned North American registration system for pesticides and products treated with pesticides and make work-sharing a way of doing business. The strategic objectives are to: provide U.S., Canadian and Mexican growers with equal access to—and at the same time introduction of—pest management tools, including safer alternatives; work cooperatively to re-evaluate and reregister older pesticides using each country's re-evaluation programs to the fullest extent possible to increase efficiency; and integrate smart business approaches and practices into NAFTA TWG work.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before August 18, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0522, by one of the following methods:

• **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

• **Mail:** Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) Regulatory Public Docket (7502P), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001.

• **Delivery:** OPP Regulatory Public Docket (7502P), Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. S-4400, One Potomac Yard (South Bldg.), 2777 S. Crystal Dr., Arlington, VA. Deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation (8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays). Special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information. The Docket Facility telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

**Instructions:** Direct your comments to docket ID number EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0522. EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the docket without change and may be made available on-line at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or e-mail. The [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) website is an

“anonymous access” system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to EPA without going through [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses.

**Docket:** All documents in the docket are listed in the docket index available in [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). To access the electronic docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, select “Advanced Search,” then “Docket Search.” Insert the docket ID number where indicated and select the “Submit” button. Follow the instructions on the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) website to view the docket index or access available documents. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the Internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available either in the electronic docket at <http://www.regulations.gov>, or, if only available in hard copy, at the OPP Regulatory Public Docket in Rm. S-4400, One Potomac Yard (South Bldg.), 2777 S. Crystal Dr., Arlington, VA. The hours of operation of this Docket Facility are from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The Docket Facility telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lorry Frigerio, Field and External Affairs Division, Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: 703-605-0654; fax number: 703-308-1850; e-mail address: [frigerio.lorry@epa.gov](mailto:frigerio.lorry@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. General Information**

*A. Does this Action Apply to Me?*

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are a U.S., Canadian or Mexican grower, registrant, researcher, manufacturer, operator, distributor or government regulator of pesticide products in one of the NAFTA countries, as well as an public group or member of the public interested in their use.

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. What Should I Consider as I Prepare My Comments for EPA?*

1. **Submitting CBI.** Do not submit this information to EPA through [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or e-mail. Clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. For CBI information in a disk or CD-ROM that you mail to EPA, mark the outside of the disk or CD-ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD-ROM the specific information that is claimed as CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes 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 docket. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

2. **Tips for preparing your comments.** When submitting comments, remember to:

- i. Identify the document by docket ID number and other identifying information (subject heading, **Federal Register** date and page number).
- ii. Follow directions. The Agency may ask you to respond to specific questions or organize comments by referencing a Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part or section number.
- iii. Explain why you agree or disagree; suggest alternatives and substitute language for your requested changes.
- iv. Describe any assumptions and provide any technical information and/or data that you used.
- v. If you estimate potential costs or burdens, explain how you arrived at your estimate in sufficient detail to allow for it to be reproduced.
- vi. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns and suggest alternatives.
- vii. Explain your views as clearly as possible, avoiding the use of profanity or personal threats.

viii. Make sure to submit your comments by the comment period deadline identified.

**II. What Action is the Agency Taking?**

The Agency is releasing for public comment the proposed Five-Year Strategy, 2008–2013, of the North American Free Trade Agreement Technical Working Group on Pesticides. It can be found in docket ID number EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0522. EPA and its North American counterparts, Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) of Canada and Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, Desarrollo Rural, Pesca y Alimentación (SAGARPA) of Mexico, provide overall guidance and policy direction in developing easier and less expensive pesticide regulation and trade among the three countries and in meeting the environmental, ecological and human health objectives of NAFTA.

The Five-Year Strategy will guide the TWG's future work and direction. It reflects the collective goal of creating an aligned North American registration system for pesticides and for products treated with pesticides as well as a commitment to partners. It also presents the NAFTA TWG governance structure. The environment within which the TWG operates is constantly changing. A number of drivers, both external and internal, are critical in influencing TWG's strategic directions. They define the work that the TWG must deliver to meet stakeholder needs and improve overall outcomes. The TWG aims to ensure it is well positioned to take advantage of opportunities, monitor trends and assess implications.

**List of Subjects**

Environmental protection, harmonization of data requirements, human safety and science issues, effective communication and planning, maintaining high international standards, performance measurement and evaluation.

Dated: July 11, 2008.

**Debra Edwards,**

*Director, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0401; FRL-8365-4]

**Pesticide Products; Registration Applications**

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