

mailed to the Internet address
KarenF.Lee@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Director of OMB provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. ED invites public comment. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: March 29, 2002.

John D. Tressler,

*Leader, Regulatory Information Management,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

Office of Educational Research and Improvement

Type of Review: New.

Title: Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program—Phase I—Grant Application Package.

Abstract: This application package invites small business concerns to submit a Phase I research application for the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. This is in response to Pub. L. 106-554, the "Small Business Reauthorization Act of 2000, H.R. 5667"

(the "Act") enacted on December 21, 2000. The Act requires certain agencies, including the Department of Education (ED), to establish a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program by reserving a statutory percentage of their extramural research and development budgets to be awarded to small business concerns for research or R&D through a uniform, highly competitive, three-phase process each fiscal year.

Additional Information: The Act further requires the Small Business Administration (SBA) to issue policy directives for the general conduct of the SBIR programs within the Federal Government. In order to avoid public harm and comply with the law and SBA Policy Directives, the Department is requesting an emergency clearance by April 10, 2002. This is the only way to assure that applicants have an adequate response time, that their applications receive an expert peer review, and that their awards are made before the end of the fiscal year.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 250.

Burden Hours: 10,000.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting "Browse Pending Collections" and clicking on link number. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address vivian.reese@ed.gov. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Kathy Axt at (540) 776-7742 or via her Internet address Kathy.Axt@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL -7167-6]

EPA Science Advisory Board Metals Assessment Panel; Request for Nominations; EPA Science Advisory Board MARLAP Review Panel; Correction to Meeting Location; EPA Science Advisory Board Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee; Advance Meeting Notification

1. Metals Assessment Panel; Request for Nominations

ACTION: Notice; request for nominations to serve on the Metals Assessment Panel of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's Science Advisory Board.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (Agency, EPA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) is announcing the formation of a Metals Assessment Panel and is soliciting nominations of qualified individuals to serve on this Panel. The SAB was established to provide independent scientific and technical advice to the EPA Administrator on Agency positions; in this case advice on development of cross-Agency guidance for assessing certain hazards and risks for metals and metal compounds.

Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals for membership on the Panel. Nominations (preferably in electronic format) should include the individual's name, occupation, position, qualifications to address the issue, and contact information (i.e., telephone number, fax number, mailing address, email, and/or Website). To be considered, all nominations must include a current resume (preferably electronic) providing information on the nominee's background, experience, and qualifications for this Panel.

Background

There has been considerable interest in the scientific assessments that the Agency conducts on metals and metal compounds. Discussions between the Agency and external stakeholders, as well as concerns expressed formally as part of the recent Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) lead rulemaking, have demonstrated the need for a more comprehensive, cross-Agency approach to metals assessments that can be applied to human health and ecological assessments. Therefore, the Agency is developing a Framework that will offer guidance for EPA programs to use when considering the various environmental properties of metals, such as

persistence, bioaccumulation and toxicity, in assessing the hazards and risks of metals and metal compounds. As a first step in accomplishing this goal, the Agency is developing an Action Plan that

(a) Identifies the primary elements to be addressed in the assessment Framework,

(b) Proposes a structure for the Framework, and

(c) Sets out a process that will culminate in the production of the Framework, per se.

The Agency has asked the SAB to form a Panel to provide advice (i.e., generate an SAB Advisory) on the Action Plan and subsequently to review (i.e., generate an SAB Review) the Framework that will be developed over the coming year.

The SAB is negotiating a specific Charge to guide the Metals Assessment Panel consideration of the Action Plan. The specific questions that constitute the Charge provide general guidance to the nominators about the technical qualifications of individuals who are being sought to carry out the work of the Panel. It is anticipated that the Panel will contain experts who have proven knowledge of the toxicology of metals in humans and the environment, the transport and fate of metals in the environment, computer modeling of the behavior of metals in the environment, risk assessment of metals, and the technical issues that arise in applying these principles in a decision-making context.

The current version of the Charge follows, although details of the Charge may change as a result of ongoing discussions between the Agency and the Panel. Updates will be posted on the SAB Website: www.epa.gov/sab.

Tentative Charge to the Metals Assessment Panel of the SAB

Please comment on the soundness of the Action Plan, specifically focus on the following:

1. Please comment on the soundness of the proposed organizing principles for the Framework.

2. EPA has attempted to capture the major, cross-cutting scientific issues that are specific to assessing the hazard and risk of metals and metal compounds. Please comment on the scientific issues presented in the Action Plan. In particular, does the SAB concur that these are the major, cross-cutting issues of concern with respect to assessing hazard and risks of metals and metal compounds? If not, which issues would you add or delete from this list and why?

3. Has EPA adequately characterized the issues and does the SAB concur with the steps proposed for addressing these issues? Why or why not?

4. Can the SAB suggest priorities within the list of issues based on the state-of-the-science and the feasibility of developing guidance in the near term. Which issues should be the focus of longer-term research efforts?

5. Are there specific recommendations (including methods and models) for addressing these issues that are not captured by EPA's Action Plan?

6. Please comment on the feasibility of the proposed process for drafting the Framework. Do you consider the time line to be realistic? Are the measures being taken to involve the public adequate?

7. Please comment on the structure for the Framework. Is it clear and all inclusive?

Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals for membership on the Panel. Nominations should include the individual's name, occupation, position, qualifications to address the issue, and contact information (i.e., telephone number, fax number, mailing address, email address, and/or Website). To be considered, all nominations must include a current resume (preferably electronic), providing the nominee's background, experience, and qualifications.

Nominations should be submitted (preferably in electronic format) to Ms. Stephanie Sanzone, Designated Federal Officer, EPA Science Advisory Board, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1400A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460, telephone (202) 564-4561; FAX (202) 501-0323; e-mail at sanzone.stephanie@epa.gov no later than April 13, 2002. The Agency will not necessarily formally acknowledge or respond to nominations.

The nominations received through this solicitation will be combined with nominations obtained through other sources; e.g., the Agency, SAB members, and particular organizations. From this larger group of nominees (termed the "WIDECAST"), a smaller subset of candidates (the "Short List") will be identified for more detailed consideration. The names of the Short List individuals, along with a short biosketch of each, will be posted on the SAB Website (www.epa.gov/sab). The public will have the opportunity to provide any information, analysis, and documentation—related to expertise, knowledge, scientific credibility, conflict-of-interest, possible lack of impartiality, experience, and skills

working in committees and advisory panels—that they feel should be considered in the final Panel selection process. The public will also be asked to provide information, analysis, and documentation on their views of the Short List as it relates to questions of whether all necessary domains of knowledge are represented to conduct the review, whether all relevant scientific perspectives are included, and whether there is a sufficient range of experience to conduct a fully informed, credible technical review. Such data provided by the public will be considered, along with information collected by the SAB Staff (e.g., review of the candidates' resumes and confidential conflict of interest statements (OGE form 450) and conversation with the candidates), when the SAB Staff Director makes the final decisions on Panel membership from the Short List, in consultation with SAB leadership, as needed.

Panel members will be asked to attend at least one public meeting, possibly followed by a public teleconference meeting over the anticipated 3-month course of the activity. The Executive Committee (EC) of the SAB will critically review the Panel's report and reach a judgment about its transmittal to the Administrator.

2. MARLAP Review Panel; Correction to Meeting Location

The Multi-Agency Radiological Laboratory Analytical Protocols (MARLAP) Review Panel of the Radiation Advisory Committee (RAC) of the US EPA Science Advisory Board announced a meeting for April 23–25, 2002 (see 67 FR 11328–11330, March 13, 2002). The meeting location was given as EPA Hearing Room 1153 in the EPA East Headquarters Building, 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004. The street address should read 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW, not 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. The other information given in the previous FR is correct.

3. Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee; Advance Notification of Meetings

The Particulate Matter Review Panel of the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) will hold two meetings to review Agency draft documents concerned with the Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The first meeting will be held on July 18–19, 2002 to review the draft Particulate Matter Criteria Document. The second meeting will be held on September 18–19, 2002 to review the Particulate Matter

Staff Paper. Both meetings will be held in Research Triangle Park, NC. Details about these meetings will appear in a FR Notice approximately one month prior to each meeting. Availability of review documents will be posted separately in the FR approximately two months prior to each meeting. These FR Notices will contain contact information and information concerning how to provide comments to either EPA or to CASAC. For further information concerning these two planned meetings, please contact Mr. Robert Flaak, CASAC Designated Federal Officer at (202) 564-4546, flaak.robert@epa.gov or at US EPA Science Advisory Board, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1400A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460.

General Information

Additional information concerning the EPA Science Advisory Board, its structure, function, and composition, may be found on the SAB Website (<http://www.epa.gov/sab>) and in the *Science Advisory Board FY2000 Annual Staff Report* which is available from the SAB Publications Staff at (202) 564-4533 or via fax at (202) 501-0256.

Dated: March 26, 2002.

Donald G. Barnes,

Staff Director, Science Advisory Board.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-2002-0004; FRL-6831-7]

FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: There will be a 2-day meeting of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) to review a set of issues being considered by the Agency pertaining to review of the Cumulative and Aggregate Risk Evaluation System (CARES)TM Model used as a tool for dietary and residential pesticide exposure and risk assessments. The meeting is open to the public. Seating at the meeting will be on a first-come basis. Individuals requiring special accommodations at this meeting, including wheelchair access, should contact Olga Odiott at the address listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** at least 5 business days prior

to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

DATES: The meeting will be held on April 30 – May 1, 2002 from 8:30 a.m. to approximately 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. The telephone number for the Sheraton Hotel is (703) 486-1111. Requests to participate may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit I. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, your request must identify docket control number OPP-2002-0004 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Olga Odiott, Designated Federal Official, Office of Science Coordination and Policy (7201M), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564-8450; fax number: (202) 564-8382; e-mail address: odiott.olga@epa.gov.

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 those persons who are or may be required to conduct testing of chemical substances under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), and the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA). Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be 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**.

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

1. *Electronically.* A meeting agenda and copies of EPA primary background documents for the meeting will be available by the end of March. You may obtain electronic copies of these documents, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the FIFRA/SAP Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/scipoly/sap/>. To access this document, on the Home Page, select “**Federal Register** Notice Announcing

This Meeting.” You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedregstr/>.

2. *In person.* The Agency has established an administrative record for this meeting under docket control number OPP-2002-0004. The administrative record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this notice, any public comments received during an applicable comment period, and other information related to the review of key features of the CARESTM model, including any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). This administrative 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 administrative record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments that may be 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.

C. How Can I Request to Participate in this Meeting?

You may submit a request to participate in this meeting through the mail, in person, or electronically. Do not submit any information in your request that is considered CBI. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP-2002-0004 in the subject line on the first page of your request. Members of the public wishing to submit comments should contact the persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** to confirm that the meeting date and agenda have not been modified. Interested persons are permitted to file written statements before the meeting. To the extent that time permits, and upon advance written request to the persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, interested persons may be permitted by the Chair of the FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel to present oral statements at the meeting. The request should identify the name of the individual making the presentation, the organization (if any) the individual will represent, and any requirements for audiovisual equipment (e.g., overhead projector, 35 mm projector, chalkboard, etc.). There is no limit on the extent of written comments for consideration by the Panel, but oral statements before the panel are limited to approximately 5 minutes. The