are interested in attending a meeting at any of these locations, please contact one of the persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** to schedule the meeting and to obtain the address. If we do not receive a request for a meeting at a particular location, we will not hold the meeting.

You may request an additional meeting by contacting one of the persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.** If you require special accommodation to attend a meeting, also contact one of the persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ervin Barchenger, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Mid-Continent Regional Coordinating Center, Alton Federal Building, 501 Belle Street, Alton, IL 62002, Telephone (618) 463–6463, extension 129, e-mail: ebarchen@osmre.gov; or

Robert Postle, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Western Regional Coordinating Center, 1999 Broadway, Suite 3320, Denver, CO 80202, Telephone (303) 844–1400, ext. 1469, e-mail: bpostle@osmre.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: You will find the standards for revegetation success in Section 515(19) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). Section 515(19) requires a ''diverse, effective, and permanent vegetative cover that is equal in extent of cover to pre-mining vegetation and is capable of self-regeneration and plant succession.'' SMCRA also requires that the operator assume responsibility for successful vegetation (as defined above) for either 5 or 10 years (depending on rainfall) after completing efforts to establish the vegetation to assure those efforts are successful. See 30 CFR 816/817.116 for the implementing regulations.

Congress apparently recognized the value of vegetative diversity as well as the transitional nature of reestablished vegetative communities that exist after 5 or 10 years. It understood that neither mature hardwood forests nor stable climax prairie or desert shrub communities can develop within just a few years. Therefore, Congress created a revegetation success standard that is based, in part, on establishing a vegetation cover that is a diverse community of native perennial species and that has the potential for regeneration and plant succession into the plant community ultimately sought. Thus, revegetation efforts must contain the appropriate mix of species to establish a transitional community capable of developing into the desired plant community through natural succession.

Our revegetation success regulations, intended to implement the statutory performance standard requirements, focus on cover, production, and stocking, and require statistically valid sampling of vegetation (and statistical analysis with a confidence interval) for bond release. For some areas of reclamation, such as agricultural cropland, hayland, commercial forest land, etc., a focus on cover, production or stocking may be the most appropriate way of determining success. However, concerns have developed over the appropriateness and effectiveness of the current regulations for judging vegetation success for land uses involving establishment of permanent vegetation, such as grazingland, fish and wildlife habitat, and non-commercial forest.

We are conducting this outreach effort to determine if there is a more effective way to evaluate achievement of the statutory revegetation success standard that also encourages the diversity objective contained in SMCRA. That is, has an effective and diverse community, including appropriate native species, been established that will be able to, through natural succession, develop into the mature plant community appropriate for the designated land use. Increased diversity should result in enhancing fish and wildlife uses, as well as improving the resiliency of the reestablished plant community.

We are seeking to involve the public in advance of developing any modifications to our position on these issues. To initiate discussions, we prepared a concept paper that contains ideas and questions that may assist those interested in commenting or preparing for the meetings. The concepts presented are not an indication of any preconceived direction that new policies or rules should take, but rather represent a compilation of ideas and questions that have been raised. However, you are not limited to those ideas or questions. We encourage you to bring forward new concepts or ideas for consideration. If we determine that the input we receive indicates a need for a revision of the regulations, we will follow standard procedures by publishing a proposal in the **Federal Register** and holding public hearings to seek comments.

Dated: May 10, 1999.

Brent Wahlquist,

Regional Director, Mid-Continent Regional Coordinating Center.

[FR Doc. 99–12359 Filed 5–14–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

Notice is hereby given that a partial Consent Decree in *United States* v. *Agway, Inc., et. al,* Civil Action No.99–CV–0708 (N.D.N.Y.) was lodged with the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York on May 6, 1999.

The proposed partial consent decree resolves claims asserted by the United States, on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (''EPA''), against Agway, Inc., General Electric Co., Metalworking Lubricants Co., and Nycomed, Inc. (''Settling Defendants'') under Section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (''CERCLA''), 42 U.S.C. § 9607. The proposed partial consent decree would not resolve any claims against the remaining defendant, Schenectady International, Inc., under Section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (''CERCLA''), 42 U.S.C. § 9607. The claims sought to recover past response costs incurred at the Friedrichsohn's Cooperate (''Site'') in the Town of Waterford, New York. The United States alleged that the four setting defendants are liable as the generators of the hazardous waste disposed of at the Site under Section 107(a)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9607(a)(1). The Complaint states claims against the Settling Defendants under Section 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607, for reimbursement of response costs. The proposed partial Consent Decree requires the Settling Defendants to reimburse the United States $490,000 in past response costs.

The Department of Justice will accept written comments relating to the proposed consent decree for thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice. Please address comments to the Assistant Attorney General, Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, P.O. Box 7611, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044 and refer to *United States* v. *Agway, Inc., et al.,* Civil Action No. 99–C–0708 (N.D.N.Y.), DJ #90–11–2–1335.

Copies of the proposed consent decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, 45 Broadway, Room 231, Albany, NY 12207; at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II, 290 Broadway, New York, NY 10007–1866; and at the Consent Decree

Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 3rd Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 624–0892. A copy of the consent decree may also be obtained in person or by mail at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 3rd Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005. When requesting a copy of the consent decree by mail, please enclose a check in the amount of $5.50 (twenty-five cents per page reproduction costs) payable to the ''Consent Decree Library.''

Joel M. Gross,

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 99–12376 Filed 5–14–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–15–M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

Under 28 CFR 50.7, and section 122 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9622, notice is hereby given that on April 28, 1999, a proposed Consent Decree in *United States* versus *Cannelton Industries, Inc.*, Civil Action No. 2:99cv92, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan, Northern Division.

In this action the United States sought the reimbursement of response costs in connection with the Cannelton Industries Site in Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Michigan (''the Site'') pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.* The Consent Decree settles the United States claims against Cannelton Industries, Inc. for response costs incurred as a result of the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at the Site. According to the terms of the Consent Decree, Cannelton Industries, Inc. will pay the United States $1,700,000.00.

The Department of Justice will receive for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication comments relating to the Consent Decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General of the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530, and should refer to *United States* versus *Cannelton Industries, Inc.*, D.J. Ref. 90–11–3–06360.

The Consent Decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, Western District of Michigan, 330 Ionia Avenue, NW, Suite 501, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503, at the Region 5 Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 77 West Jackson Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604–3590, and at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, NW., 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 624–0892. A copy of the Consent Decree may be obtained in person or by mail from the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, NW., 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20005. In requesting a copy, please enclose a check in the amount of $5.00 (20 pages at 25 cents per page reproduction cost) payable to the Consent Decree Library.

Joel M. Gross,

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 99–12336 Filed 5–14–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–15–M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Clean Air Act

In accordance with 28 CFR 50.7, notice is hereby given that on April 29, 1999, a proposed consent decree in *United States* v. *City of Chicago, Illinois*, Civil Action No. 1:97–CV–06897, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

In this action, the United States sought civil penalties for alleged violations of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*, and the Illinois State Implementation Plan resulting from emissions into the atmosphere from ''Waste-To-Energy'' trash incineration facility located at 700 North Kilbourn Avenue in Chicago, Illinois. Under the terms of the proposed consent decree, the City of Chicago will pay a civil penalty of $200,000 and perform four supplemental environmental projects at a cost of $700,000 to resolve the United States' claims. The first two projects require the City to spend $450,000 to remove and dispose of contaminated soils at two abandoned sites near the incinerator. The third project requires the City to spend $100,000 to construct a Lead Safe House. The Lead Safe House will serve as a temporary residence for low-income Chicagoans while lead abatement work is being undertaken in their homes. The fourth project requires the City to spend $150,000 on a lead abatement projects in Northwest Chicago.

The Department of Justice will receive comments relating to the proposed consent decree for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530, and should refer to *United States* v. *City of Chicago, Illinois*, Civil Action No. 1:97–CV–06897, and Department of Justice Reference No. 90–5–2–1–1930.

The proposed consent decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, Northern District of Illinois, 219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604; the Region 5 Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604–3590; and at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, NW, 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20005, 202–624–0892. A copy of the proposed consent decree may be obtained in person or by mail from the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, NW, 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20005. In requesting a copy, please refer to the referenced case and enclose a check in the amount of $6.59 (25 cents per page reproduction costs), payable to the Consent Decree Library.

Joel M. Gross,

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environmental and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 99–12337 Filed 5–14–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–15–M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act

Notice is hereby given that on April 2, 1999 a proposed Consent Decree (''Decree'') in *United States* v. *Thomas Plating Company, Inc. et al.*, Civil Action No. 98–N–1536, was lodged with the United States District Court for the District of Colorado. The United States filed this action pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, as amended (''CERCLA''), 42 U.S.C. 9601, *et seq.*, to recover the past response costs incurred at or in connection with the Thomas Plating facility in Englewood, Colorado.

The proposed Consent Decree resolves claims against Thomas Plating Company, Inc., and F. Jerome Thomas. Under the terms of the proposed Consent Decree the United States will recover response costs in the amount of $270,000 and the settling defendants are obligated to sell, recycle, or arrange for the proper transport and disposal of fourteen drums of plating chemicals and plating equipment remaining at the now abandoned Thomas Plating facility.