As part of this request, the Applicant asserts that the state of Arkansas is likely to experience a non-routine infestation of aphids during the 1996 cotton growing season. The applicant further claims that, without a specific exemption of FIFRA for the use of flowable carbofuran on cotton to control cotton aphids, cotton growers in much of the state will suffer significant economic losses. The applicant also details a use program designed to minimize risks to pesticide handlers and applicators, non-target organisms (both Federally-listed endangered species, and non-listed species), and to reduce the possibility of drift and runoff.

The applicant proposes to make no more than two applications at the rate of 0.25 lb. active ingredient [(a.i.,)] (8 fluid oz.) in a minimum of 2 gallons of finished spray per acre by air, or 10 gallons of finished spray per acre by ground application. The total maximum proposed use during the 1996 growing season (June 1, 1996 until September 30, 1996) would be 0.5 lb. a.i. (16 fluid oz.) per acre. The applicant proposes that the maximum acreage which could be treated under the requested exemption would be 1 million acres. If all acres were treated at the maximum proposed rates, then 500,000 lbs. a.i. would be used.

This notice does not constitute a decision by EPA on the application itself. The regulations governing section 18 require publication of a notice of receipt of an application for a specific exemption proposing use of a chemical (i.e., an active ingredient) which has been the subject of a Special Review within EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs, and the proposed use could pose a risk similar the risk assessed by EPA under the previous Special Review. Such notice provides for opportunity for public comment on the application.

A record has been established for this notice under docket number [OPP–181005] (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI is available for inspection from 8 a.m to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in Room 1132 of the Public Response and Program Resource Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

The official record for this notice, as well as the public version, as described above will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into printed, paper form as they are received and will place the paper copies in the official record which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing. The official record is the paper record maintained at the address in ''ADDRESSES'' at the beginning of this document. Accordingly, interested persons may submit written views on this subject to the Field Operations Division at the address above.

The Agency, accordingly, will review and consider all comments received during the comment period in determining whether to issue the emergency exemption requested by the Arkansas State Plant Board.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests, Emergency exemptions.

Dated: March 18, 1996.

Peter Caulkins,

Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 96–7446 Filed 3–26–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2323–012 and 2334–001]

New England Power Company, Western Massachusetts Electric Company; Notice of Intention To Hold a Public Meeting for Discussion of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Deerfield River

March 21, 1996.

On February 29, 1996, the Commission staff mailed the Deerfield River Projects DEIS to the Environmental Protection Agency, resource and land management agencies, and interested organizations and individuals. This document evaluates the environmental consequences of the ''Deerfield River Project, Offer of Settlement'' and continuing the operation and maintenance of the existing Deerfield and Garners Falls Projects, in Massachusetts and Vermont.

The DEIS also evaluates the environmental effects of implementing the Deerfield River Project, Offer of Settlement; applicants' proposals supplemented with staff's recommended enhancement measures; and the no-action alternative.

A public meeting which will be recorded by an official stenographer, is scheduled on Tuesday April 9, 1996, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Mohawk Trail Regional High School at 26 Ashfield Road, Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts, and Wednesday, April 10, 1996, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Wilmington High School in Wilmington, Vermont.

At the meetings, all interested person will have an opportunity to provide oral and written comments regarding the Deerfield River Projects DEIS for the Commission's public record.

For further information, please contact Mr. R. Feller (Telephone 202–219–2796), or Mr. Bob Bell (Telephone 202 219–2806), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of Hydropower Licensing, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC, 20426.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–7349 Filed 3–26–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP–181004; FRL 5356–8]

Dimethomorph; Receipt of Applications for Emergency Exemptions, Solicitation of Public Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has received specific exemption requests from the North Carolina and Kentucky Departments of Agriculture (hereafter referred to as the ''Applicants'') to use the pesticide dimethomorph (CAS 110488–70–5) to treat up to 85,500 (NC) and 167,500 (KY) acres of tobacco to control metalaxyl - resistant blue mold. The Applicants propose the use of a new (unregistered) chemical; therefore, in accordance with 40 CFR 166.24, EPA is soliciting public comment before making the decision whether or not to grant the exemptions.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 11, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Three copies of written comments, bearing the identification notation ''OPP–181004,'' should be submitted by mail to: Public Response