

Charge Question #5: What additional IHEC advice is offered for strengthening the immediate and long-term utility of NHEXAS and studies like it?

Background

At its November Strategic Planning Retreat, the Executive Committee of the Science Advisory Board concluded that new directions taken by EPA demand new directions for the SAB if the Board is going to continue to make a positive difference in the way that science is developed and used in environmental decision-making. In particular, the Executive Committee decided that the SAB needs to spend much more of its energy providing strategic, forward-looking advice. Consequently, the IHEC identified NHEXAS as the topic for its strategic activity for Fiscal Year 1998 and 1999. The Committee plans to have a followup meeting on NHEXAS within the next 12 months following this advisory meeting.

Three field studies are being conducted under the National Human Exposure Assessment Survey. In these studies, exposures in three study regions are being measured using data on pollutant concentrations in environmental and biological media and estimates of the frequency and durations of exposure-related human activities. In these studies, (1) pollutant concentrations in air, water, soil, dust, food, blood, and urine as well as on surfaces and human skin are being measured using various sampling and analytical techniques; (2) direct exposure is being determined using personal exposure monitors; and (3) human activity patterns are being estimated using a series of questionnaires and diaries. These data are being used to estimate human exposures among the sampled populations and to test a series of hypotheses related to these exposures. The target chemicals include: volatile organic compounds (VOCs), pesticides, metals and polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

The EPA Office of Research and Development has entered into three Cooperative Agreements with three different Consortia to conduct a series of field studies including: (1) A consortium made up of the University of Arizona, Battelle Memorial Institute and the Illinois Institute of Technology; (2) A consortium from the Research Triangle Institute (RTI) and the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute (EOHSI); and (3) A consortium of Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, Emory University, and Westat. The Office of Research and Development has entered in Inter-

agency Agreements with (1) the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to analyze blood and urine samples; (2) the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to analyze food and beverage samples; (3) the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) to provide quality assurance support; and (4) the General Services Administration (GSA) to provide data management support. During the meeting, the IHEC will be briefed by the CDC on the National Health and Nutrition Evaluation Survey (NHANES) and its value to improving understanding of human exposure.

For Further Information—Single copies of the relevant background documents and the agenda may be obtained from Ms. Wanda Fields by telephone (202) 260-5510, by fax (202) 260-7118 or via E-mail at: fields.wanda@epa.gov Technical questions on these materials should be directed to Mr. Dale Pahl by telephone at (919) 541-1851 or via E-mail at pahl.dale@epamail.epa.gov

Public Comments

Anyone wishing to make an oral presentation at the meeting must contact Ms. Roslyn Edson, Designated Federal Officer for the IHEC, *in writing*, no later than 5 p.m. Eastern Time on September 22, by fax (202) 260-7118, or via E-mail: edson.roslyn@epa.gov. The request should identify the name of the individual who will make the presentation and an outline of the issues to be addressed. At least 35 copies of any written comments to the Committee are to be given to Ms. Edson no later than the time of the presentation for distribution to the Committee and the interested public.

Providing Oral or Written Comments at SAB Meetings

The Science Advisory Board expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not repeat previously submitted oral or written statements. In general, each individual or group making an oral presentation will be limited to a total time of ten minutes. This time may be reduced at the discretion of the SAB, depending on meeting circumstances. Written comments (at least 35 copies) received in the SAB Staff Office sufficiently prior to a meeting date, may be mailed to the relevant SAB committee or subcommittee prior to its meeting; comments received too close to the meeting date will normally be provided to the committee at its meeting. Written comments, which may be of any length, may be provided to the relevant committee or subcommittee up until the time of the meeting.

The Science Advisory Board

Information concerning the Science Advisory Board, its structure, function, and composition, may be found in The FY1997 Annual Report of the Staff Director which is available from the SAB Committee Evaluation and Support Staff (CESS) by contacting US EPA, Science Advisory Board (1400), Attention: CESS, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460 or via fax (202) 260-1889. Additional information concerning the SAB can be found on the SAB Home Page at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>.

Copies of SAB prepared final reports mentioned in this **Federal Register** Notice may be obtained immediately from the SAB Home Page or by mail/fax from the SAB's Committee Evaluation and Support Staff at (202) 260-4126, or via fax at (202) 260-1889. Please provide the SAB report number when making a request.

Meeting Access

Individuals requiring special accommodation at this meeting, including wheelchair access, should contact Ms. Roslyn Edson at 202-260-3823, via fax at 202-260-7118 or via E-mail at edson.roslyn@epa.gov at least five business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Dated: September 2, 1998.

Donald G. Barnes,

Staff Director, Science Advisory Board.

[FR Doc. 98-24336 Filed 9-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6158-3]

Notice of Proposed Withdrawal of CERCLA Section 122(h)(1) Administrative Cost Recovery Settlement

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Proposed withdrawal of CERCLA Section 122(h)(1) administrative cost recovery settlement for the Automatic Die Casting Site.

SUMMARY: U.S. EPA proposes to withdraw its proposed settlement of the potential liability of Rauckis Investment Company and Construction Management, Inc. ("Settling Parties") under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*, for past costs

incurred in response to the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at or from the Automatic Die Casting Site ("the Site") located in St. Clair Shores, Michigan. U.S. EPA proposed to address the potential liability of the Settling Parties by execution of a CERCLA Section 122(h)(1) Administrative Order on Consent ("AOC") prepared pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 9622(h)(1). The Site is not on the NPL, and no further response activities at the Site are anticipated at this time.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Hedi Bogda-Cleveland of the Office of Regional Counsel, U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604 or contact Ms. Bogda at (312) 886-5825.

William E. Munro,

Director, Superfund Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5.
[FR Doc. 98-24145 Filed 9-9-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6158-2]

Proposed 42 U.S.C. Section 9622(h) Settlement Dixie Auto Salvage Site, Danville, IL

ACTION: Proposed section 122(h) settlement.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 122(i) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended ("CERCLA"), notice is hereby given of a proposed administrative cost recovery settlement under section 122(h)(1) of CERCLA concerning the Dixie Auto Salvage Superfund Site near Danville, Illinois, which was signed by the Director of the Superfund Division, EPA, Region V. The settlement resolves an EPA claim under section 107(a) of CERCLA against the General Electric Company. The settlement requires the General Electric Company to complete the required removal action at the Site and to pay the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA's) past and future oversight costs that exceed \$900,000.00.

DATES: Comments must be submitted to U.S. EPA, Region V, on or before October 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The proposed settlement and additional background information relating to the settlement are available for public inspection at the Region V Records Center identified below. A copy of the proposed settlement may be

obtained from Gloria Carvajal, U.S. EPA, Region V, (312)886-5312. Comments should reference the Dixie Auto Salvage Superfund Site and should be addressed to Richard J. Clarizio, U.S. EPA, Region V, Office of Regional Counsel, 77 West Jackson, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard J. Clarizio, EPA, Region V, Office of Regional Counsel, 77 West Jackson, Chicago, Illinois 60604, (312) 886-0559.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The site is located on a semi-rural, partially-wooded lot adjacent to the North Fork of the Vermilion River. During the 1960's and 1970's ravine portions of the site were filled with waste by the former owner. The hazardous constituents of concern found at the site consist of lead and polychlorinated biphenyls. The site was identified as a removal site and has not been listed on the National Priorities List (NPL). The General Electric Company (GE) removed approximately 800 tons of contaminated soil, capacitors and other debris in 1995 under an Administrative Order on Consent with U.S. EPA. In June of 1998 EPA issued a proposed plan for completion of removal activities at this Site. Consistent with that proposed plan, GE in the settlement agreement will, among other things, excavate and consolidate on-site certain areas of contamination, construct a cap over the on-site consolidation area, perform leachate monitoring and collection, monitor groundwater and restrict the use of the property. It is estimated that these activities will cost approximately \$4,000,000.00. As part of the settlement U.S. EPA agrees to not seek reimbursement for up to \$900,000.00 in oversight costs it has or will incur at this Site. GE agrees to pay oversight costs that exceed \$900,000.00.

Pursuant to section 122(i) of CERCLA, the 30-day period for comments on the proposed settlement with this Respondent begins on the date of publication of today's notice.

James Mayka,

Acting Director, Superfund Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region V.
[FR Doc. 98-24146 Filed 9-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6158-7]

Notice of Proposed Administrative Cost Recovery Settlement Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 122(i) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended ("CERCLA"), notice is hereby given of a proposed administrative cost recovery settlement under section 122(h)(1) of CERCLA concerning the Sauget Area 2, Site Q site in Sauget and Cahokia, Illinois which was signed by the EPA Regional Administrator, Region 5, on August 20, 1998. The settlement resolves an EPA claim under section 107(a) of CERCLA against Eagle Marine Industries, Inc., Monsanto Company, and Solutia Inc. The settlement requires the settling parties to pay \$180,000 to the Hazardous Substances Superfund.

For thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this document, the Agency will receive written comments relating to the settlement. The Agency will consider all comments received and may modify or withdraw its consent to the settlement if comments received disclose facts or considerations which indicate that the settlement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. The Agency's response to any comments received will be available for public inspection at Cahokia Public Library, 140 Cahokis Park Dr., Cahokia, Illinois, 62206 and U.S. EPA's Region 5, Record Center, 77 W. Jackson Ave., 7th floor, Chicago, Illinois.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before October 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The proposed settlement and additional background information relating to the settlement are available for public inspection at U.S. EPA's Region 5, Record Center, 77 W. Jackson Ave., 7th floor, Chicago, Illinois. A copy of the proposed settlement may be obtained from Leslie A. Kirby, Assistant Regional Counsel, U.S. EPA, 77 W. Jackson Ave., C-14J, Chicago, Illinois or by telephone at (312) 886-7166. Comments should reference Sauget Area 2, Site Q and EPA Docket No. V-W-98-C-494 and should be addressed to Leslie A. Kirby, Assistant Regional Counsel, 77 W. Jackson Blvd., C-14J, Chicago, Illinois 60604.