TABLE 1—REGISTRATIONS WITH PENDING REQUESTS FOR CANCELLATION—Continued

Registration No.	Product Name	Chemical Name
056473–00002	Amerstat 10	Methylenebis(thiocyanate)
065229 WA–90–0026	Vinco Formaldehyde Solution	Formaldehyde
071176–00001	Cyfly Technical	*N*-Cyclopropyl-1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triamine
071176–00002	Cyfly 1% Premix	*N*-Cyclopropyl-1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triamine
071240–00003	Zerepel 2	3-Iodo-2-propynyl butylcarbamate

Unless a request is withdrawn by the registrant within 180 days of publication of this notice, orders will be issued cancelling all of these registrations. Users of these pesticides or anyone else desiring the retention of a registration should contact the applicable registrant directly during this 180–day period. The following Table 2, includes the names and addresses of record for all registrants of the products in Table 1, in sequence by EPA Company Number.

TABLE 2—REGISTRANTS REQUESTING VOLUNTARY CANCELLATION

EPA Company No.	Company Name and Address
000279	FMC Corp., Agricultural Products Group, 1735 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19103.
000499	Whitmire Micro-Gen Research Laboratories Inc., 3568 Tree Ct Industrial Blvd, St Louis, MO 63122.
002393	HACO, Inc., Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707.
010182	Zeneca Ag Products, Box 15458, Wilmington, DE 19850.
041878	LJB Laboratories, 1001 E Cass, St Johns, MI 48879.
042519	Luxembourg-Pamol, Inc., 5100 Poplar Ave., Suite 2746, Memphis, TN 38137.
045639	Agrevo USA Co., Little Falls Centre One, 2711 Centerville Rd., Wilmington, DE 19808.
056473	Drew Ameroid Marine Division, Ashland Chemical, Division of Ashland Inn, One Drew Plaza, Boonton, NJ 07005.
065229	John G. Gardner, Dba/West Shore Acres, 956 Downey Rd., Mount Vernon, WA 98273.
071176	Blue Ridge Pharmaceuticals Inc., 212 B Burgess Rd., Greensboro, NC 27409.
071240	William Zinsser & Co., Inc., 173 Belmont Drive, Somerset, NJ 08873.

III. Procedures for Withdrawal of Requests

Registrants who choose to withdraw a request for cancellation must submit such withdrawal in writing to James A. Hollins, at the address given above, postmarked before August 2, 1999. This written withdrawal of the request for cancellation will apply only to the applicable 6(f)(1) request listed in this notice. If the product(s) have been subject to a previous cancellation action, the effective date of cancellation and all other provisions of any earlier cancellation action are controlling. The withdrawal request must also include a commitment to pay any reregistration fees due, and to fulfill any applicable unsatisfied data requirements.

IV. Provisions for Disposition of Existing Stocks

The effective date of cancellation will be the date of the cancellation order. The orders effecting these requested cancellations will generally permit a registrant to sell or distribute existing stocks for 1 year after the date the cancellation request was received. This policy is in accordance with the Agency's statement of policy as prescribed in **Federal Register** June 26, 1991, (56 FR 29362) (FRL 3846–4). Exceptions to this general rule will be made if a product poses a risk concern, or is in noncompliance with reregistration requirements, or is subject to a data call-in. In all cases, product-specific disposition dates will be given in the cancellation orders.

Existing stocks are those stocks of registered pesticide products which are currently in the United States and which have been packaged, labeled, and released for shipment prior to the effective date of the cancellation action. Unless the provisions of an earlier order apply, existing stocks already in the hands of dealers or users can be distributed, sold or used legally until they are exhausted, provided that such further sale and use comply with the EPA-approved label and labeling of the affected product(s). Exceptions to these general rules will be made in specific cases when more stringent restrictions on sale, distribution, or use of the products or their ingredients have already been imposed, as in Special Review actions, or where the Agency has identified significant potential risk concerns associated with a particular chemical.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests, Product registrations.

Dated: January 25, 1999.

Richard D. Schmitt,

Acting Director, Information Resources and Services Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 99–2552 Filed 2–2–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF–851; FRL–6052–1]

Notice of Filing; Pesticide Petitions

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initial filing of pesticide petitions proposing the establishment of regulations for residues of certain

pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities.

DATES: Comments, identified by the docket control number PF–851, must be received on or before March 5, 1999.

ADDRESSES: By mail submit written comments to: Information and Records Integrity Branch, Public Information and Services Divison (7502C), Office of Pesticides Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person bring comments to: Rm. 119, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by following the instructions under ''SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.'' No confidential business information should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as ''Confidential Business Information'' (CBI). CBI should not be submitted through e-mail. Information marked as CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. All written comments will be available for public inspection in Rm. 119 at the address given above, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marshall Swindell, Antimicrobial Division (7510C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW, Washington, DC 20460. Office location, telephone number, and e-mail address:, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, (703) 308–6411; e-mail:swindell.marshall @epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has received pesticide petitions as follows proposing the establishment and/or amendment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities under section 408 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Comestic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a. EPA has determined that this petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2); however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

The official record for this notice of filing, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice of filing under docket control number [PF–851] (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 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located at the address in ''ADDRESSES'' at the beginning of this document.

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. Comment and data will also be accepted on disks in Wordperfect 5.1/6.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number (PF–851) and appropriate petition number. Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Agricultural commodities, Food additives, Feed additives, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: January 13, 1999.

Frank Sanders,

Director, Antimicrobial Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Summary of Petition

The petitioner's summary of the pesticide petition is printed below as required by section 408(d)(3) of the FFDCA. The summary of the petition was prepared by the petitioner and represents the views of the petitioner. EPA is publishing the petition summaries verbatim without editing them in any way. The petition summary announces the availability of a description of the analytical methods available to EPA for the detection and measurement of the pesticide chemical residues or an explanation of why no such method is needed.

1. Ecolab Inc.

9F5038

EPA has received a pesticide petition (9F5038) from Ecolab Inc., 370 Wabasha Street N., St. Paul, MN 55102, proposing pursuant to section 408(d) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a(d), to amend 40 CFR part 180 to establish an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for the residues of hydrogen peroxide in or on all foods when the residues are the result of the lawful application of a food contact surface sanitizer containing hydrogen peroxide up to 1,100 ppm as a sanitizing solution in food handling establishments.

Pursuant to section 408(d)(2)(A)(i) of the FFDCA, as amended, Ecolab Inc. has submitted the following summary of information, data, and arguments in support of their pesticide petition. This summary was prepared by Ecolab Inc. and EPA has not fully evaluated the merits of the pesticide petition. The summary may have been edited by EPA if the terminology used was unclear, the summary contained extraneous material, or the summary unintentionally made the reader conclude that the findings reflected EPA's position and not the position of the petitioner.

A. Product Name and Proposed Use Practices

The request is to exempt from the requirement of a tolerance, residues of hydrogen peroxide in or on all food when such residues result from the lawful use of hydrogen peroxide as a component in a food contact surface sanitizer.

The residues which do remain are not of toxicological significance.

B. Product Identity/Chemistry

1. *Identity of the pesticide and corresponding residues.* Residues of hydrogen peroxide are not expected because hydrogen peroxide reacts immediately on contact with materials such as food, reducing agents and catalysts and is degraded to moieties which present no toxicological concern (Reregistration Eligibility Decision, Peroxy Compounds, U.S. EPA. EPA 738-R-93-030, the ''1993 RED''). The ultimate degradation products of hydrogen peroxide are water and oxygen (1993 RED). The degradation products of hydrogen peroxide are not of toxicological concern.

2. *Magnitude of residue and method used to determine the hydrogen peroxide residue.* Not applicable.

3. *A statement of why an analytical method for detecting and measuring the hydrogen peroxide levels of the pesticide residue are not needed.* Because this petition is a request for an exemption and residues are not expected on food from use of hydrogen peroxide as a component of a food

contact surface sanitizer on food contact surfaces.

C. Mammalian Toxicological Profile

Based on the current body of toxicological literature available, adverse effects are not expected when used in the proposed manner.

D. Aggregate Exposure

1. *Dietary exposure*—i. *Food*. There are no established U.S. food tolerances for hydrogen peroxide. The U.S. EPA established an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of the antimicrobial pesticide hydrogen peroxide, in or on raw agricultural commodities, in processed commodities, when such residues result from the lawful use of hydrogen peroxide as an antimicrobial agent on fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, cereal grains, herbs, and spices up to 120 ppm. According to the 1993 RED, hydrogen peroxide is used in dairy/cheese processing plants, on food-processing equipment and in pasteurizers in breweries, wineries and beverage plants. While some contact may occur between treated equipment and food, no residues are expected since only trace amounts would come in contact with food having contacted treated equipment and the compound degrades rapidly in air and in contact with organic materials to oxygen and water. In addition, hydrogen peroxide may be safely used on food-processing equipment, utensils, and other food-contact articles according to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (21 CFR 178.1010, Sanitizing Solutions).

Dietary exposure from these uses is possible; however, hydrogen peroxide reacts instantly upon contact with materials such as food and degrades to moieties which present no toxicological concern. The addition to dietary aggregate exposure of hydrogen peroxide as described in this petition is expected to be zero.

ii. *Drinking water*. There is no concern about the potential for transfer of hydrogen peroxide residues (both the parent compound and any degradates) to human drinking water because the use sites for hydrogen peroxide listed in the 1993 RED include indoor food, indoor non-food, indoor medical, and indoor residential. Hydrogen peroxide is approved for use as an antimicrobial agent on fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, cereal grain, herbs, and spices. It is unlikely that residues from these uses or the proposed use will transfer hydrogen peroxide residues (both the parent and any degradates) to any sources of human drinking water. In addition, the degradation products of hydrogen peroxide in aqueous solutions are water and oxygen. These degradation products are not of toxicological concern.

Because of the physical chemistry of this pesticide, it is unlikely that any States are conducting water monitoring programs for hydrogen peroxide.

iii. *Non-dietary exposure*. The estimated non-occupational exposure to hydrogen peroxide has been evaluated based on its proposed use pattern.

According to the 1993 RED, the compound, in the form of a soluble concentrate/liquid, is used in industrial and commercial settings.

Hydrogen peroxide use in homes is medicinal and exposures are expected to be infrequent and at extremely short duration as a topical antimicrobial agent or a mouthwash.

Hydrogen peroxide is highly reactive and short-lived because of the inherent instability of the peroxide bond (O-O bond) and, because the peroxide bond is weak, transformation to water and oxygen is very highly favored thermodynamically (1993 RED). The degradation products of hydrogen peroxide in aqueous solutions are water and oxygen. The degradation products of hydrogen peroxide are not of toxicological concern.

The potential for significant non-occupational exposure under the use proposed in this petition to the general population (including infants and children) is unlikely. Hydrogen peroxide is proposed in this petition to be used only at commercial establishments (including farms) and is not to be used in or around the home.

E. Cumulative Exposure

When used as proposed, hydrogen peroxide decomposes quickly; there is no reasonable expectation that residues of these compounds will remain in human food items in accordance with 40 CFR 180.3. The mode of action of this pesticide is oxidation. Other chemicals that may share a similar mode of action are peroxyacetic acid and potassium peroxymonosulfate sulfate as listed in the 1993 RED. Combining exposures to these compounds could be appropriate; however, each degrades rapidly (due to the peroxy bond, the O-O bond) into compounds that are not toxicologically significant (including water, oxygen, and carbon dioxide).

F. Safety Determination

1. *U.S. population*. Hydrogen peroxide naturally degrades to water and oxygen which would not pose a health risk to the U.S. general population. These degradation products are not of toxicological concern.

2. *Infants and children*. Hydrogen peroxide naturally degrades to water and oxygen which would not pose a health risk to the U.S. population subgroup of infants and children. These degradation products are not of toxicological concern. Residues are not expected on food from use of hydrogen peroxide as a component of a food contact surface sanitizer on food contact surfaces. The residues do not bioaccumulate in livestock and/or poultry that consume treated feedstuffs because hydrogen peroxide is highly reactive and short-lived due to the inherent instability of the peroxide bond (O-O bond). Because the peroxide bond is weak, transformation to water and oxygen is very highly favored thermodynamically (1993 RED). The degradation products of hydrogen peroxide are water and oxygen. Therefore, exposure of the pesticide chemical (from the use proposed in this petition) to the U.S. general population should not occur.

G. Effects on the Immune and Endocrine Systems

Hydrogen peroxide is not structurally similar to any known chemical capable of producing adverse effect on the endocrine system.

H. International Tolerances

The petitioner understands that there are no current established Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for hydrogen peroxide.

2. Ecolab Inc.

PP 9F5039

EPA has received a pesticide petition (9F5039) from Ecolab Inc., 370 Wabasha Street, N., St. Paul, MN 55102, proposing pursuant to section 408(d) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a(d), to amend 40 CFR part 180 to establish an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for the residues of peroxyacetic acid in or on all foods when the residues are the results of the lawful application of a foods contact surface sanitizer containing peroxyacetic acid up to 500 ppm as a sanitizing solution in food handling establishments.

Pursuant to section 408(d)(2)(A)(i) of the FFDCA, as amended, Ecolab Inc. has submitted the following summary of information, data, and arguments in support of their pesticide petition. This summary was prepared by Ecolab Inc. and EPA has not fully evaluated the merits of the pesticide petition. The summary may have been edited by EPA if the terminology used was unclear, the

summary contained extraneous material, or the summary unintentionally made the reader conclude that the findings reflected EPA's position and not the position of the petitioner.

A. Product Name and Proposed Use Practices

The request is to exempt from the requirement of a tolerance, residues of peroxyacetic acid in or on all food when such residues result from the lawful use of peroxyacetic acid as a component in a food contact surface sanitizer.

The residues which do remain are not of toxicological significance.

B. Product Identity/Chemistry

1. *Identity of the pesticide and corresponding residues.* Residues of peroxyacetic acid are not expected on food because peroxyacetic acid reacts immediately on contact with materials such as food, reducing agents and catalysts and is degraded to moieties which present no toxicological concern (Reregistration Eligibility Decision, Peroxy Compounds, U.S. EPA. EPA 738-R-93-030). The ultimate degradation products of peroxyacetic acid are acetic acid (which is generally regarded as safe in food up 0.15 %, 21 CFR 184.1,005), water and oxygen. The degradation products of peroxyacetic acid are not of toxicological concern.

2. *Magnitude of residue and method used to determine the peroxyacetic acid residue.* Not Applicable.

3. *A statement of why an analytical method for detecting and measuring the peroxyacetic acid levels of the pesticide residue are not needed.* Because this petition is a request for an exemption and residues are not expected on food from use of peroxyacetic acid as a component of a food contact surface sanitizer on food contact surfaces.

C. Mammalian Toxicological Profile

Based on the current body of toxicological literature available, adverse effects are not expected when used in the proposed manner.

D. Aggregate Exposure

Dietary exposure—i. Food. There are no established U.S. food tolerances for peroxyacetic acid. The U.S. EPA established an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of the antimicrobial pesticide peroxyacetic acid, in or on raw agricultural commodities, in processed commodities, when such residues result from the lawful use of peroxyacetic acid as an antimicrobial agent on fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, cereal grains, herbs, and spices up to 100 ppm. According to the 1993 RED, peroxyacetic acid is used in dairy/cheese processing plants, on food-processing equipment and in pasteurizers in breweries, wineries and beverage plants. While some contact may occur between treated equipment and food, no residues are expected since only trace amounts would come in contact with food having contacted treated equipment and the compound degrades rapidly in air and in contact with organic materials to acetic acid (which is generally regarded as safe in food up 0.15 %, see 21 CFR 184.1005), oxygen and water. In addition, peroxyacetic acid may be safely used on food-processing equipment, utensils, and other food-contact articles according to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (21 CFR 178.1010, Sanitizing Solutions).

Dietary exposure from these uses is possible; however, peroxyacetic acid reacts immediately upon contact with materials such as food and degrades to moieties which present no toxicological concern. The addition to dietary aggregate exposure of peroxyacetic acid as described in this petition is expected to be zero.

ii. *Drinking water.* There is no concern about the potential for transfer of peroxyacetic acid residues (both the parent compound any degradates) to human drinking water because the use sites for peroxyacetic acid listed in the 1993 RED include indoor food, indoor non-food, indoor medical,and indoor residential. Peroxyacetic acid is approved for use as an antimicrobial agent on fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, cereal grain, herbs, and spices. It is essentially impossible that residues from these uses or the proposed use will transfer peroxyacetic acid residues (both the parent and any degradates) to any sources of human drinking water. In addition, the degradation products of peroxyacetic acid in aqueous solutions are acetic acid (which is generally regarded as safe in food up 0.15%, see 21 CFR 184.1005), water and oxygen. These degradation products are not of toxicological concern.

Because of the physical chemistry of this pesticide, it is unlikely that any States are conducting water monitoring programs for peroxyacetic acid.

iii. *Non-dietary exposure.* The estimated non-occupational exposure to peroxyacetic acid has been evaluated based on its proposed use pattern.

According to the 1993 RED, the compound, in the form of a soluble concentrate/liquid, is used in industrial and commercial settings.

Peroxyacetic acid is highly reactive and short-lived because of the inherent instability of the peroxide bond (O-O bond) and, because the peroxide bond is weak, transformation to acetic acid, water and oxygen is very highly favored thermodynamically (1993 RED). The degradation products of peroxyacetic acid in aqueous solutions are acetic acid (which is generally regarded as safe in food up 0.15%, see 21 CFR 184.1005), water and oxygen. The degradation products of peroxyacetic acid are not of toxicological concern.

The potential for any non-occupational exposure under the use proposed in this petition to the general population (including children) is unlikely. Peroxyacetic acid is proposed in this petition to be used only at commercial establishments (including farms) and is not proposed for use in or around the home.

E. Cumulative Exposure

When used as proposed, peroxyacetic acid decomposes quickly; there is no reasonable expectation that residues of these compounds will remain in human food items in accordance with 40 CFR 180.3. The mode of action of this pesticide is oxidation. Other chemicals that may share a similar mode of action are peroxyacetic acid and potassium peroxymonosulfate sulfate as listed in the 1993 RED. Combining exposures to these compounds could be appropriate; however, each degrades rapidly (due to the peroxy bond, the O-O bond) into compounds that are not toxicologically significant (including water, oxygen, and carbon dioxide).

F. Safety Determination

1. *U.S. population.* Peroxyacetic acid naturally degrades to acetic acid (which is generally regarded as safe in food up 0.15%, see 21 CFR 184.1005), water and oxygen which would not pose a health risk to the U.S. general population. These degradation products are not of toxicological concern.

2. *Infants and children.* Peroxyacetic acid naturally degrades to acetic acid (which is generally regarded as safe in food up 0.15%, see 21 CFR 184.1005), water and oxygen which would not pose a health risk to the U.S. population subgroup of infants and children. These degradation products are not of toxicological concern. Residues of peroxyacetic acid are not expected on food from use of peroxyacetic acid as a component of a food contact surface sanitizer on food contact surfaces. The residues do not bioaccumulate in livestock and/or poultry that consume treated feedstuffs because peroxyacetic acid is highly reactive and short-lived due to the inherent instability of the peroxide bond (O-O bond). Because the

peroxide bond is weak, transformation to acetic acid, water and oxygen is very highly favored thermodynamically (1993 RED). The degradation products of peroxyacetic acid are acetic acid (which is generally regarded as safe in food up 0.15%, see 21 CFR 184.1005), water and oxygen. Therefore, exposure of the pesticide chemical (from the use proposed in this petition) to the U.S. general population should not occur.

G. Effects on the Immune and Endocrine Systems

Peroxyacetic acid is not structurally similar to any known chemical capable of producing adverse effect on the endocrine system.

H. International Tolerances

The petitioner understands that there are no current established Maximum Residue Levels (MRL) for peroxyacetic acid.

[FR Doc. 99–2553 Filed 2–2–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6228–7]

Response to Recommendations from the Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee Regarding Evaluation of Existing Environmental Standards

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA asked the federal Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee (CHPAC) to recommend five existing standards that may merit reevaluation in order to further protect children's environmental health. This document includes EPA's response to the CHPAC recommendations. EPA will reevaluate the chloralkali National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (mercury); the implementation and enforcement of the (Farm) Worker Protection Standards; pesticide tolerances for organophosphates (chlorpyrifos, dimethoate, methyl parathion); atrazine pesticide tolerances and Maximum Contaminant Level in drinking water; and will review indoor and ambient air quality as they relate to asthma. EPA's decision to reevaluate is based in large part on recommendations from the Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee and public comments in response to a **Federal Register** document of October 3, 1997.

In September 1996, EPA issued a report on Environmental Health Threats to Children (EPA 175–F–96–001) that described how and why children are affected by an array of complex environmental threats to their health. The report included a National Agenda to Protect Children's Health from Environmental Threats in which EPA called for a national commitment to ensure a healthy future for our children. We called on national, state and local policy makers—as well as each community and family—to learn about the environmental threats our children face; to participate in an informed national policy debate on how together we can best reduce health risks for children; and to take action to protect our Nations's future by protecting our children.

The first element of the National Agenda committed the Administration to ''. . . ensure, as a matter of national policy, that all standards EPA sets are protective enough to address the potentially heightened risks faced by children—so as to prevent environmental health threats wherever possible—and that the most significant current standards be reevaluated as we learn more.'' We further state that '' . . . EPA will select—with public input and scientific peer review—five of its most significant public health and environmental standards to reissue on an expedited basis under this new policy.''

Background

In order to meet our commitment to public input, EPA sought advice through two channels: formal notice and comment, and the formation of a Federal Advisory Committee composed of individuals representing diverse viewpoints. On October 3, 1997, EPA issued a document and request for comments from the public as to existing EPA standards that, if revised as a result of review and evaluation, would strengthen and increase children's environmental health protection. EPA received comments from 18 individuals and organizations. (Attachment A to this document includes the list of submitters, a summary of the comments, and EPA's response to the public comments.) Further, on September 9, 1997, EPA issued a document in the **Federal Register** that it had established a Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee (CHPAC) under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92–463, to advise the Administrator on various issues of children's environmental health protection.

One of the first actions undertaken by the CHPAC, at the request of EPA, was to develop a set of recommendations to the Administrator concerning which existing rules EPA should reevaluate. They started by reviewing the public comments that were submitted in response to the October 3, 1997, **Federal Register** document. Based on extensive deliberations the CHPAC submitted their recommendations in a consensus report dated May 28, 1998. (See Attachment B for the selection criteria used by the CHPAC in their deliberations.) The following section lists the CHPAC recommendations, excerpts the discussion that accompanied the recommendations in the report (in italics), and outlines EPA's response.

We congratulate the Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee for their success in deliberating and recommending actions to improve EPA's regulations. We believe that EPA's response to these recommendations advances our goal to better protect our Nation's children.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have a need for further information you may write to Meg Kelly, Office of Children's Health Protection, USEPA (MS1107), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460; (kelly.margaret@epa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

CHPAC Recommendation: Reevaluate the National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Chloralkali Plants

CHPAC Report Discussion: ''The CHPAC recommends that EPA take a holistic approach to evaluate all sources of mercury emissions. Mercury is a relevant issue to more than one media (air, water), which contributes to its entry into the environment, for example, by electricity (coal-burning) generation, incineration and discharge into water sources. Human exposure occurs primarily through fish consumption. Mercury exposure is associated with adverse health effects in humans. Depending on dose, the effects can range from severe to less severe, most notably, neurological, developmental, and reproductive effects.

By the end of 1998, EPA is scheduled to complete a multimedia strategy addressing mercury. We support EPA's multimedia approach and schedule for the issuance of this strategy.

We encourage EPA to proceed diligently with implementation to protect children from mercury emissions, including those from municipal, medical, and hazardous waste combustion.

Although the CHPAC selected the National Emission Standard for