Section 202(a)(1) directs the Administrator to:

* * * by regulation prescribe (and from time to time revise) in accordance with the provisions of this section, standards applicable to the emission of any air pollutant from any class or classes of new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines, which in his judgment cause, or contribute to, air pollution which may be reasonably anticipated to endanger public health or welfare.

Section 302(g) of the Act defines ''air pollutant'' as ''any air pollution agent or combination of such agents, including any physical, chemical, biological, radioactive * * * substance or matter which is emitted into or otherwise enters the ambient air.''

Petitioners state that the four greenhouse gases identified in their petition have been determined to accelerate global warming. In addition, they argue that CO2 has already been determined by EPA to be an air pollutant.[2] Thus, they conclude that all four greenhouse gases meet the definition of ''air pollutant'' under section 302(g).

Further, petitioners assert that EPA must regulate these greenhouse gas emissions from new motor vehicles and engines because they endanger public health or welfare. Petitioners state that when determining what constitutes an endangerment to public health or welfare, the CAA allows the Administrator to make a precautionary decision to regulate a pollutant that ''may reasonably be anticipated'' to endanger public health or welfare. The petitioners point to statements by EPA and other Federal agencies as a basis for findings that global warming caused by these emissions may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health and welfare. The threats to public health listed by the petitioners include increased occurrence of infectious, vector-borne and water-borne diseases, as well as direct effects on human health from heat stress, increased skin cancer, cataracts and immune system suppression.

The petitioners also seek EPA regulation of these greenhouse gases on the basis that they may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public welfare, as defined in the Clean Air Act. Section 302(h) provides:

All language referring to effects on welfare includes, but is not limited to, effects on soils, water, crops, vegetation, man-made materials, animals, wildlife, weather, visibility, and climate, damage to and deterioration of property, and hazards to transportation, as well as effects on economic values and on personal comfort and well-being, whether caused by transformation, conversion, or combination with other air pollutants.

Petitioners anticipate environmental harm from global warming to water resources, rangelands, forests, wetlands, fisheries, and bird populations. Petitioners also anticipate harm to human welfare in the form of reduced food production, in part due to increased pest populations, extreme weather, rising sea levels, reduced fresh water quality and quantity, and increased air pollution and allergens.

Petitioners next argue that it is technically feasible to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from new motor vehicles and engines. They conclude that technology exists to reduce CO2 through increasing the fuel efficiency of new vehicles. They also maintain that setting standards would lead to rapid market introduction of hybrid-electric and zero-emission vehicles.

Finally, petitioners maintain that the Administrator has a mandatory duty to regulate greenhouse gas emissions, given EPA findings to date. They further argue that ''the precautionary purpose of the CAA supports'' regulating these gases even if the Agency believes there is some scientific uncertainty regarding these issues. Petitioners cite *Lead Industries Assoc. Inc.* v. *EPA* and *Ethyl Corp* v. *EPA* in support of this principle (647 F.2d 1130 (DC Cir. 1980); 541 F.2d 1 (DC Cir.) (en banc) *cert. denied* 426 U.S. 941 (1976).

II. Request for Comment

EPA requests comment on all the issues raised in CTA's petition for regulation of emissions of greenhouse gases from new motor vehicles and engines under CAA section 202(a)(1). In particular, EPA requests comment on any scientific, technical, legal, economic or other aspect of these issues that may be relevant to EPA's consideration of this petition. EPA has not yet made any decisions on how to respond to this petition, apart from the decision to request public comment. A full copy of the CTA Petition and all supporting materials can be found in the docket for this action.

Dated: January 12, 2001.

Robert Perciasepe,

Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation.

[FR Doc. 01–1979 Filed 1–22–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–U

[2] Petitioners cite the memorandum from Jonathan Z. Cannon, General Counsel to Carol Browner, Administrator, entitle ''EPA's Authority to Regulate Pollutants Emitted by Electric Power gneraltion Sources,'' April 10, 1998. EPA prepared this opinion in response to a Congressional request. The opinion states that each of four substances emitted from electric power generating units, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, mercury, and carbon dioxide, falls within the definition of ''air pollutant'' under section 302(g) of the CAA.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6936–1]

Meeting of the Local Government Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Local Government Advisory Committee will meet on February 8–9, 2001, in San Diego, CA. At this meeting, members of the LGAC's Resolution Session Team will present to the full Committee the agreements reached at the Resolution Session on December 8, 2000, for the consideration and acceptance by the full Committee. The Resolution Session was a meeting between an LGAC team and a Small Community Advisory Subcommittee (SCAS) team to resolve issues regarding how the two groups work together—intra-committee management issues. The Issues and Process Subcommittees of the LGAC will update the full Committee on their progress since the previous meeting and continue to work on their recommendations under development, including Total Maximum Daily Load, Ozone/PM 2.5, Land Use Credits and EPA's Public Involvement Policy. The full Committee also will consider for adoption recommendations developed by SCAS concerning sustainability and the EPA small town enforcement policy.

The Committee will hear comments from the public between 2:00 p.m. and 2:15 p.m. on February 8. Each individual or organization wishing to address the Committee will be allowed a minimum of three minutes. Please contact the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) at the number listed below to schedule agenda time. Time will be allotted on a first come, first served basis.

This is an open meeting and all interested persons are invited to attend. Meeting minutes will be available after the meeting and can be obtained by written request from the DFO. Members of the public are requested to call the DFO at the number listed below if planning to attend so that arrangements can be made to comfortably accommodate attendees as much as

possible. However, seating will be on a first come, first served basis.

DATES: The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 8 and conclude at 4:00 p.m. on February 9, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held in San Diego, California at the City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department located at 9601 Ridgehaven Court in the auditorium.

Requests for Minutes and other information can be obtained by writing the DFO at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (1306A), Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The DFO for this Committee is Denise Zabinski Ney. She is the point of contact for information concerning any Committee matters and can be reached by calling (202) 564–3684 or by email at ney.denise@epa.gov.

Dated: January 12, 2001.

Denise Zabinski Ney,

Designated Federal Officer, Local Government Advisory Committee.

[FR Doc. 01–1978 Filed 1–22–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS–51957A; FRL–6766–1]

Premanufacture Notice for Certain New Chemicals; Extension of Review Period

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces EPA's extension of the review periods for an additional 90–days for the consolidated premanufacture notice (PMN) P–01–46 through P–01–51, under the authority of section 5(c) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The review periods will now expire on April 10, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *For general information contact*: Barbara Cunningham, Director, Environmental Assistance Division, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (7401), Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 554–1404; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

For technical information contact: Darlene Jones, New Chemicals Notice Management Branch, Chemical Control Division (7405), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 260–2279; e–mail address: Darlene Jones@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On October 13, 2000, EPA received the consolidated PMN P–01–46 through P–01–51 for new chemical substances, identified as modified alkyl esters. The submitter claimed the company name, specific chemical identity, production volume, use information, process information, and other information to be confidential business information. Notice of receipt was published in the **Federal Register** on November 9, 2000, (65 FR 67367) (FRL–6754–8). Prior to this extension, the 90–day review periods were scheduled to expire on January 10, 2001.

II. What Action is the Agency Taking?

Pursuant to section 5(c) of TSCA, EPA is extending the review periods for PMN P–01–46 through P–01–51 an additional 90 days. As extended, the review periods for this consolidated PMN will now expire on April 10, 2001.

III. What is the Agency's Authority for Taking this Action?

EPA finds that there is good cause to extend the consolidated PMN review periods. Based on its analysis, EPA may need to regulate the substances submitted for review in this consolidated PMN under section 5 of TSCA. The Agency requires an extension of the review periods, as authorized by section 5(c) of TSCA, to investigate further potential risk, to examine its regulatory options, and to prepare the necessary documents, should regulatory action be required.

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

1. *Electronically*. You may obtain electronic copies of this document from the EPA Internet Home Page at http://www.epa.gov/. To access this document, on the Home Page select ''Laws and Regulations,'' ''Regulations and Proposed Rules,'' and then look up the entry for this document under the ''**FEDERAL REGISTER**–Environmental Documents.'' You can also go directly to the **FEDERAL REGISTER** listings at http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/.

2. *In person*. The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPPTS–51957A. PMNs are available for public inspection in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, North East Mall Rm. B–607, Waterside Mall, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC. The Center is open from noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number of the Center is (202) 260–7099.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, extension of premanufacture notice review periods.

Dated: January 10, 2001.

Flora Chow,

Chief New Chemicals Notice Management Branch, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

[FR Doc. 01–2048 Filed 1–22–01; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–S

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6936–5]

Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFQ) for Modeling, GIS, Data Analysis and Information Management Support to the Chesapeake Bay Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing a request for statement of qualifications for organizations interested in assisting the Chesapeake Bay Program in its effort to provide the Modeling, GIS, Data Analysis and Information Management support for the Bay Program partnership. Applicants must be a local, state, interstate agencies, academic institution, or other nonprofit organizations. Note, this is a request for qualifications for the benefit of the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership and not for direct benefit to EPA. Funding will be provided to an organization under the authority of the Clean Water Act, Section 117.

The RFQ is available at the following web-site: *http://www.epa.gov/r3chespk/* You may also request a copy by calling Robert Shewack at 410–267–9856 or by E-mail at: shewack.robert@epa.gov. Statement of qualifications (an original and eight (8) copies) must be postmarked no later than February 20, 2001. Any late, incomplete or fax proposals will not be considered.

William Matuszeski,

Director, Chesapeake Bay Program.

[FR Doc. 01–1977 Filed 1–22–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–M