

humans with agents that might be found in or released to the environment under different situations. The intent of these studies is to obtain data that can be used in evaluating the human health effects associated with such agents. These studies are often conducted by third parties (not the government itself) and can be used to support decision-making conducted pursuant to a variety of EPA legislative mandates. The SAB might be asked to advise on specific issues that arise in association with the use of such studies.

Request for Nominations

Background

The EPA SAB Staff Office requests nominations of individuals who are regarded as national level experts in the issues described in this notice. In soliciting these nominations, the SAB recognizes that in questions of ethical development and use of scientific information, relevant issues and expertise come from many disciplines and not just those disciplines associated with human health and environmental risk assessment. Examples of areas of expertise that reflect domains of knowledge possessed by individuals who have commonly been involved in the consideration of bioethics issues include at least the following: medicine in many specialties, human toxicology and pharmacology; ecology; risk assessment; statistics; clinical and epidemiology studies; genetics; occupational and public health; human subjects protection; ethics; religious studies; sociology; public policy; tribal health; health policy; law; psychology; technology studies; and animal welfare.

Process and Deadline for Submitting Nominations

Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals for the Committee who have expertise as discussed above.

The nominating form requests contact information about the person making the nomination; contact information about the nominee; the disciplinary and specific areas of expertise of the nominee; the nominee's resume; and a general biosketch of the nominee indicating education, expertise, past research, recent service on other advisory committees or with professional associations, and recent grant and/or contract support.

Anyone who is unable to submit nominations through the SAB Web site or has any question concerning any aspect of the nomination process may contact Mr. Thomas O. Miller as indicated above in this FR notice.

Nominations should be submitted in time to arrive no later than July 31, 2003.

The EPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office will acknowledge receipt of nominations. From the nominees identified by respondents to this **Federal Register** notice and through other sources (termed the "Widecast"), the SAB Staff Office will develop a smaller subset (known as the "Short List") for more detailed consideration. Criteria used by the SAB Staff in developing this Short List are given at the end of the following paragraph. The SAB Staff Office will contact individuals who are considered for inclusion on the Short List to determine whether they are willing to serve on the Committee. The Short List will be posted on the SAB Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab> and will include, for each candidate, the nominee's name and their biosketch. The Short List also will be available from Mr. Miller at the address listed above. Public comments will be accepted for 21 calendar days on the Short List. During this comment period, the public will be requested to provide information, analysis or other documentation on nominees that the SAB Staff should consider in evaluating candidates for the Committee.

For the EPA SAB, a balanced committee is characterized by inclusion of candidates who possess the necessary domains of knowledge, the relevant scientific perspectives (which, among other factors, can be influenced by work history and affiliation), and the collective breadth of experience to adequately address the charge. Public responses to the Short List candidates will be considered in the selection of the Committee members, along with information provided by candidates and information gathered by the EPA SAB Staff Office independently on the background of each candidate (e.g., financial disclosure information and computer searches to evaluate a nominee's prior involvement with and statements on the topic under review). Specific criteria to be used in evaluating an individual committee member include: (a) Scientific and/or technical expertise, knowledge, and experience (primary factors); (b) absence of financial conflicts of interest; (c) scientific credibility and impartiality; (d) availability and willingness to serve; and (e) ability to work constructively and effectively in committees.

Those Short List candidates ultimately chosen to serve on the Committee will be appointed as Special Government Employees. Therefore, all Short List candidates will also be required to fill-out the "Confidential

Financial Disclosure Form for Special Government Employees Serving on Federal Advisory Committees at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency" (EPA Form 3110-48). This confidential form allows Government officials to determine whether there is a statutory conflict between that person's public responsibilities as a Special Government Employee and private interests and activities, or the appearance of a lack of impartiality, as defined by Federal regulation. The blank form may be viewed and downloaded from the following URL address: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/epaform3110-48.pdf>. Committee members will likely be asked to attend two to three public meetings and public conferences per year over the anticipated course of the advisory activity.

Dated: July 2, 2003.

Vanessa T. Vu,

Director, EPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-2003-0247; FRL-7318-8]

Transition Work Group of the EPA-USDA Committee to Advise on Reassessment and Transition; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Transition Work Group of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-U.S. Department of Agriculture Committee to Advise on Reassessment and Transition (EPA-USDA CARAT) will hold a public meeting on July 17 and 18, 2003. This meeting will focus on recent case studies for the following selected commodities: Almonds, carrots, cranberries, peaches, potatoes, and walnuts. This first round of case studies was selected because of current pest management problems either from regulatory action, pest resistance, or a lack of adequate control measures. The Work Group intends to develop recommendations for EPA and USDA which will be presented to the full Committee to Advise on Reassessment and Transition at a future meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, July 17, 2003, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Friday, July 18, 2003, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hilton Crystal City, 2399 Jefferson