

evaluation of health effects associated with chronic exposures. Further, the notice asked whether or how EPA should work with external parties such as other government agencies, industries, or other organizations to develop health assessments that may be used as supporting documents for IRIS. The final "IRIS Needs Assessment" report will be made available on the IRIS web site when it is completed.

Stakeholder Workshop on Priority-Setting Criteria

EPA will be sponsoring a stakeholder workshop on the priority-setting criteria for selecting chemical substances for IRIS assessment. The purpose of the workshop is to get input from individuals and organizations outside of EPA on the criteria EPA uses to determine the annual IRIS agenda. Invited participants will include individuals or organizations that have previously expressed interest in the IRIS agenda through the IRIS Needs Assessment, the IRIS Submission Desk, other correspondence, or related activities. The workshop will be held March 4, 2003, from 1–5 pm at the Crystal City Marriott Hotel, 1999 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202. Versar, Inc., an EPA contractor, will convene and facilitate the workshop. To register to attend the workshop as an observer, contact Ms. Traci Bludis, Versar, Inc.; telephone: (703) 750–3000, extension 449;

facsimile: (703) 642–6954; or e-mail: bluditra@versar.com. Space for observers may be limited, therefore, registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Information Requested on New Assessments for FY 2003

EPA will continue building and updating the IRIS data base. The Agency recognizes that a number of the assessments on IRIS need updating to incorporate new scientific information and methodologies. Further, many additional substances are candidates to be added to the IRIS data base. However, due to limited resources in the Agency to address the spectrum of needs, EPA developed a list of priority substances for attention beginning in FY 2003. The substances listed below are priorities for IRIS due to one or more reasons: (1) Agency statutory, regulatory, or program implementation needs; (2) new scientific information or methodology is available that might significantly change current IRIS information; (3) interest to other levels of government or the public, including interest expressed via responses to 66 FR 37958; and (4) most of the scientific assessment work has been completed while meeting other Agency requirements, and only a modest additional effort will be needed to complete the review and documentation for IRIS. Additional criteria for prioritizing chemical substances are

currently under consideration for developing future IRIS agendas.

EPA may add resources to the IRIS program this year, and if so, may publish a supplement to this FY 2003 agenda with additional priority substances selected for assessment. EPA also plans to publish a solicitation later in the year for public nominations for substances to consider for assessment beginning in FY 2004.

The following IRIS health assessments have recently begun or will be started in FY 2003, with completion expected in FY 2004 or FY 2005. It is for these substances that the Agency is primarily requesting information from the public for consideration in the assessments. Unless otherwise noted, noncancer and cancer endpoints will be assessed for each substance. For all endpoints assessed, both qualitative and quantitative assessments are being developed where information is available. Substances denoted with a double asterisk (**) are being evaluated for effects from acute and/or subchronic exposure, in addition to chronic exposure. These substances, along with those similarly indicated on the previous list of assessments in progress, are part of a pilot test to evaluate the application of methods, procedures, and resource needs for adding less-than-lifetime exposure duration information to IRIS.

Substance name	CAS No.
Aldicarb/Aldicarb sulfoxide	116–06–3/1646–87–3
Aldicarb sulfone	1646–88–4
Arsenic, inorganic	7440–38–2
Bromobenzene	108–86–1
Bromodichloromethane	75–27–4
Bromoform	75–25–2
Cobalt	7440–48–4
Cryptosporidium	[N.A.]
Dibromochloromethane	124–48–1
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene*** (acute exposure only)	77–47–4
Kepone	143–50–0
Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs):	
Decabromodiphenyl ether (deBDE)	1163–19–5
Hexabromodiphenyl ether (hxBDE)	36483–60–0
Pentabromodiphenyl ether (PeBDE)	32534–81–9
Tetrabromodiphenyl ether (TeBDE)	40088–47–9
Propionaldehyde	123–38–6
2,2,4-Trimethylpentane	540–84–1

Submission of Information

As in previous **Federal Register** notices announcing the annual IRIS agenda, EPA is soliciting public involvement in new assessments starting in FY 2003. While EPA conducts a thorough literature search for each chemical substance, there may be unpublished studies or other primary

technical sources that we may not otherwise obtain through open literature searches. We would greatly appreciate receiving scientific information from the public during the information gathering stage for the list of "new assessments" listed above. Interested persons should provide scientific analyses, studies, and other pertinent scientific information.

Also note that if you have submitted certain information previously to the IRIS Submission Desk, then there is no need to resubmit that information. While EPA is primarily soliciting information on new assessments announced in this notice, the public may submit information on any chemical substance at any time.