

other contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment.

ii. *E-mail.* Comments may be sent by e-mail to opp-docket@epa.gov, Attention: Docket ID Number OPP-2003-0337. In contrast to EPA's electronic public docket, EPA's e-mail system is not an "anonymous access" system. If you send an e-mail comment directly to the docket without going through EPA's electronic public docket, EPA's e-mail system automatically captures your e-mail address. E-mail addresses that are automatically captured by EPA's e-mail system are included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket, and made available in EPA's electronic public docket.

iii. *Disk or CD ROM.* You may submit comments on a disk or CD ROM that you hand deliver or send by courier to the address identified in Unit I.C.2. or mail to the mailing address identified in Unit I.C.3. These electronic submissions will be accepted in WordPerfect or ASCII file format. Avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

2. *By hand delivery or courier.* Deliver your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, Attention: Docket ID Number OPP-2003-0337. Such deliveries are only accepted during the docket's normal hours of operation as identified in Unit I.B.1.

3. *By mail.* Due to potential delays in EPA's receipt and processing of mail, respondents are strongly encouraged to submit comments either electronically or by hand delivery or courier. We cannot guarantee that comments sent via mail will be received prior to the close of the comment period. If mailed, please send your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB) (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001, Attention: Docket ID Number OPP-2003-0337. For questions about delivery options, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

II. Background

Amendments to FIFRA, enacted November 28, 1975, include a requirement under section 25(d) that notices of intent to cancel or reclassify pesticide registrations pursuant to section 6(b)(2), as well as proposed and final forms of rulemaking pursuant to section 25(a), be submitted to a

Scientific Advisory Panel prior to being made public or issued to a registrant. In accordance with section 25(d), the Scientific Advisory Panel is to have an opportunity to comment on the health and environmental impact of such actions. The Panel shall also make comments, evaluations, and recommendations for operating guidelines to improve the effectiveness and quality of analyses made by Agency scientists.

In accordance with the statute, the SAP is a permanent panel composed of seven members, selected and appointed by the Deputy Administrator of EPA from nominees submitted by both the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The Agency is, at this time, selecting three new members to serve on the panel as a result of membership terms that will expire this year. The Agency requested nominations of experts to be selected from the fields of ecological risk assessment (especially probabilistic ecological risk assessment), human health risk assessment methodology and uncertainty analysis, and veterinary pathology. Nominees should be well published and current in their fields of expertise. The statute further stipulates that we publish the name, address, professional affiliation, and a brief biographical sketch of each nominee in the **Federal Register** and solicit public comments regarding the candidates nominated.

III. Charter

A Charter for the FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel, dated October 25, 2002, was issued in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770 (5 U.S.C. App. I). The qualifications of members as provided by the Charter follow.

A. Qualifications of Members

Members are scientists who have sufficient professional qualifications, including training and experience, to be capable of providing expert comments as to the impact on health and the environment of regulatory actions under sections 6(b) and 25(a) of FIFRA. No persons shall be ineligible to serve on the Panel by reason of their membership on any other advisory committee to a Federal department or agency or their employment by a Federal department or agency (except the EPA). The Deputy Administrator appoints individuals to serve on the Panel for staggered terms of 4 years. Panel members are subject to the provisions of 40 CFR part 3, subpart F, Standards of Conduct for Special Government Employees, which include

rules regarding conflicts of interest. Each nominee selected by the Deputy Administrator, before being formally appointed, is required to submit a confidential statement of employment and financial interests, which shall fully disclose, among other financial interests, the nominee's sources of research support, if any.

In accordance with section 25(d) of FIFRA, the Deputy Administrator shall require all nominees to the Panel to furnish information concerning their professional qualifications, educational background, employment history, and scientific publications. The Agency is required to publish in the **Federal Register** the name, address, and professional affiliations of each nominee and to seek public comment on the nominees.

B. Applicability of Existing Regulations

With respect to the requirements of section 25(d) of FIFRA that the Administrator promulgate regulations regarding conflicts of interest, the Charter provides that EPA's existing regulations applicable to special government employees, which include advisory committee members, will apply to the members of the Scientific Advisory Panel. These regulations appear in 40 CFR part 3, subpart F. In addition, the Charter provides for open meetings with opportunities for public participation.

C. Process of Obtaining Nominees

In accordance with the provisions of section 25(d) of FIFRA, EPA in May 2003, requested NIH and NSF to nominate scientists to fill three vacancies occurring on the Panel. The Agency requested nomination of experts in the fields of ecological risk assessment (especially probabilistic ecological risk assessment), human health risk assessment methodology and uncertainty analysis, and veterinary pathology. NIH and NSF responded by letter, providing the Agency with a total of 29 nominees. Fifteen of the 29 nominees are interested and available to actively participate in SAP meetings.

IV. Nominees

The following are the names, addresses, professional affiliations, and selected biographical data of nominees being considered for membership on the FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel. The Agency seeks to fill three vacancies occurring this year.

A. Nominations for the Field of Ecological Risk Assessment

1. *Nominee.* Burger, Joanna, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Biology,