

households and urban settings. It is mobile and moderately persistent in the environment. Due to its chemical properties and widespread use, diazinon is frequently found in effluents from wastewater treatment plants and in storm water runoff in both urban and agricultural areas. Diazinon is known to be extremely toxic to birds and aquatic life, particularly invertebrates. For these reasons, EPA has developed the following water quality criteria:

C. What Are the Draft National Recommended Water Quality Criteria?

Freshwater:

Aquatic life should not be affected unacceptably if the:

One hour average concentration of diazinon does not exceed 0.10 ug/L more than once every three years on the average (Acute Criterion) and if the four-day average concentration of diazinon does not exceed 0.10 ug/L more than once every three years on the average (chronic criterion).

Saltwater:

Aquatic life should not be affected unacceptably if the:

One-hour average concentration of diazinon does not exceed 0.82 ug/L more than once every three years on the average (acute criterion) and if the four-day average concentration of diazinon does not exceed 0.40 ug/L more than once every three years on the average (chronic criterion).

D. What Specific Questions of Science Does EPA Want Views On?

Though the public is welcome to submit scientific views on any component of the diazinon aquatic life criteria document, EPA is specifically interested in scientific views on the following issues of science:

- The derivation of final chronic values (FCVs) as protective of chronic effects to freshwater and saltwater aquatic life using the available acute and chronic data;
- Scientific information or data made available since the literature search was completed in 1997. For example, information regarding the sub-lethal effects of diazinon (e.g., olfactory or predator-prey response).

E. Where Can I Find More Information on EPA's Revised Process for Developing New or Revised Draft Criteria?

The Agency published detailed information about its revised process for developing and revising criteria in the **Federal Register** on December 10, 1998 (63 FR 68354) and in the EPA document entitled, *National Recommended Water Quality—Correction* (EPA 822-Z-99-001, April 1999). The purpose of the

revised process is to provide expanded opportunities for public input, and to make the criteria development process more efficient. Also, EPA notified the public of its intent to develop aquatic life criteria for diazinon in the **Federal Register** on October 29, 1999 (64 FR 58409). At that time, EPA solicited any pertinent data or scientific views that would be useful in developing the draft aquatic life criteria for diazinon.

Dated: December 23, 2003.

Geoffrey H. Grubbs,

Director, Office of Science and Technology.

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FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2004–2009

AGENCY: Farm Credit Administration.

ACTION: Notice of approval and availability.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the approval and availability of the Farm Credit Administration's (FCA or agency) Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2004–2009 (revised Strategic Plan). The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 requires that Federal agencies update their strategic plans at least every 3 years and, in doing so, solicit the views and suggestions of those entities potentially affected by or interested in the plan. In formulating the revised Strategic Plan, the agency solicited input from various constituent groups. Additionally, a draft of the Strategic Plan was made available for comment in October 2003.

DATES: December 11, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The revised Strategic Plan is available on the agency's Web site at <http://www.fca.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Walker, Executive Assistant, Office of the Chief Operating Officer, Farm Credit Administration, McLean, VA 22102–5090, (703) 883–4271; TTY (703) 883–4056.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Farm Credit Administration (FCA or agency) is charged by Congress, as established in Title V of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended, with the mandate of overseeing the agricultural Government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs) serving rural America. These include the Farm Credit System (System) and the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation. FCA also has statutory responsibility to examine the National Consumer Cooperative Bank, a non-System entity

operating as a federally chartered, privately owned banking corporation.

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA) requires that each Federal agency establish a strategic plan that covers a period of not less than 5 years. It also mandates that these plans be updated and revised at least every 3 years. In accordance with GPRA, FCA issued its first strategic plan in 1997. A revised plan was approved in 2000. Thus, the Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2004–2009 represents the second update to the agency's original Strategic Plan completed under GPRA. The revised Strategic Plan describes our mission, our strategic goals, and strategies to achieve those goals over the next 5 years.

The Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2004–2009 is the culmination of an extensive outreach effort. The FCA Board began its work on this plan in April 2003 by initiating a series of strategic planning sessions to seek input from farmers, the Farm Credit Council and other Farm Credit System representatives, academics and economists, the American Bankers Association, the Independent Community Bankers of America, former FCA Board chairmen and FCA senior management. Subsequent planning sessions held by the Board and the Office of the Chief Operating Officer over the next several months were used to establish specific direction for formulation of a draft Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2004–2009, which the agency released for comment in October 2003 for a 30-day period.

The agency received 24 comment letters on the draft Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2004–2009. Most of the comment letters (22 of 24) came from the agency's staff. To the extent practicable, applicable comments recommending revisions to specific sections of the draft Strategic Plan were incorporated in the revised Strategic Plan. Most of the revisions made were in the interest of providing clarification and did not represent material changes to the draft Strategic Plan. The most substantive revision was the decision to identify Goal 3 in the Plan, Implementation of the President's Management Agenda, as the third strategic goal rather than an operational goal, as it was defined in the draft Strategic Plan. One commenter felt this goal was also strategic in nature, just as Goals 1 and 2, and the FCA Board ultimately agreed.