

EPA is releasing this draft document solely for the purpose of pre-dissemination peer review under applicable information quality guidelines. This document has not been formally disseminated by EPA. It does not represent and should not be construed to represent any Agency policy or determination.

The public will be given an opportunity to observe and provide oral comments at this teleconference by registering with Versar, Inc. (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, below). The draft document and the charge questions for EPA's external peer review are available primarily via the Internet on the Risk Assessment Forum's home page under the External Review Drafts menu at <http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/raf/index.cfm>. In preparing a final report, EPA will consider Versar Inc.'s report of the comments and recommendations from the external peer review meeting and any public comments that EPA receives in accordance with the February 15, 2006, notice (71 FR 7958).

DATES: The peer review teleconference will be held on June 14, 2006, from 9 a.m. to no later than 5 p.m., with a break for lunch. The teleconference may end earlier than 5 p.m. if less time is needed for the reviewers to complete their discussion. Time will be provided for public observers who wish to make comments on the document.

ADDRESSES: The draft "Harmonization in Interspecies Extrapolation: Use of $BW^{3/4}$ as Default Method in Derivation of the Oral RfD" is available primarily via the Internet on the Risk Assessment Forum's home page under the External Review Drafts menu at <http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/raf/index.cfm>. A limited number of paper copies are available from the Technical Information Staff, NCEA-W by telephone: 202-564-3261 or by facsimile: 202-565-0050. If you are requesting a paper copy, please provide your name, mailing address, and the document title, "Harmonization in Interspecies Extrapolation: Use of $BW^{3/4}$ as Default Method in Derivation of the Oral RfD." Copies are not available from Versar, Inc.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Members of the public may call into the teleconference as observers, and there will be a limited time for comments from the public. In order to participate, you should contact Mr. Andrew Oravetz of Versar, Inc. at aoravetz@versar.com or by phone at 703-642-6832 to register. You will be asked for your name, affiliation, city and state, and contact information. When registering, please also indicate whether you would like to

make a statement during the call. Time for public comments is limited, and reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. At a time before June 14, 2006, registrants will be given the call-in information for the peer review teleconference.

For technical information, please contact Resha M. Putzrath, Risk Assessment Forum; telephone: 202-564-3229; facsimile: 202-565-0062; or e-mail: putzrath.resha@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Information About the Document

The Agency endorses a hierarchy of approaches to derive human equivalent oral exposures from data from laboratory animals, with the preferred approach being physiologically based toxicokinetic modeling. Intermediate approaches include using some chemical-specific information. In lieu of data to support either of these approaches, body weight scaling to the $3/4$ power ($BW^{3/4}$) would be endorsed as a general default procedure to extrapolate toxicologically equivalent doses of chronic orally administered agents from laboratory animals to humans for the purposes of deriving an oral Reference Dose (RfD). Use of $BW^{3/4}$ in derivation of RfD values would be parallel with current Agency use in derivation of cancer oral slope factors. Thus, this paper would harmonize the two main Agency oral dose-response extrapolation procedures. This generalized default procedure is viewed as an informed, species-specific, dosimetric adjustment factor (DAF) that addresses predominantly toxicokinetic and some toxicodynamic aspects of the interspecies uncertainty factor UF_A . Use of this procedure would result in derivation of a human equivalent exposure, specifically a human equivalent dose (HED) that is to be used in derivation of the oral RfD in a manner parallel to the human equivalent concentration (HEC) in derivation of an inhalation RfC.

Dated: May 15, 2006.

George Alapas,

Deputy Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. E6-7836 Filed 5-22-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-ORD-2006-0187; FRL-8173-1]

Human Studies Review Board (HSRB); Notification of a Public Teleconference To Review Its Draft Report From the April 4-6, 2006 HSRB Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The EPA Human Studies Review Board (HSRB) announces a public teleconference meeting to discuss its draft HSRB report from the April 4-6, 2006 HSRB meeting.

DATES: The date for the teleconference will be held on June 8, 2006, from 1:30-4 p.m. (Eastern Time).

Location: The meeting will take place via telephone only.

Meeting Access: For information on access or services for individuals with disabilities, please contact the DFO at least 10 business days prior to the meeting using the information under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Procedures for Providing Public Input: Interested members of the public may submit relevant written or oral comments for the HSRB to consider during the advisory process. Additional information concerning submission of relevant written or oral comments is provided in Unit I.D. of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Members of the public who wish to obtain the call-in number and access code to participate in the telephone conference, request a current draft copy of the Board's report or who wish further information may contact Paul I. Lewis, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), EPA, Office of the Science Advisory, (8105), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; or via telephone/voice mail at (202) 564-8381 or via e-mail at lewis.paul@epa.gov. General information concerning the EPA HSRB can be on the EPA Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/osa/hsrb/>.

ADDRESSES: Submit your written comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2006-0187, by one of the following methods: <http://www.regulations.gov>: Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

E-mail: ORD.Docket@epa.gov.

Mail: ORD Docket, Environmental Protection Agency, Mailcode: 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

Hand Delivery: EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Room B102, EPA West Building, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-ORD-2006-0187. Deliveries are only accepted from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. Special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

Instructions: Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2006-0187. EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through <http://www.regulations.gov> or e-mail. The <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site is an "anonymous access" system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to EPA, without going through <http://www.regulations.gov>, your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses.

I. Public Meeting

A. Does This Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may, however, be of interest to persons who conduct or assess human studies on substances regulated by EPA or to persons who are or may be required to conduct testing of chemical substances under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) or the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions

regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Access Electronic Copies of This Document and Other Related Information?

In addition to using www.regulations.gov, you may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

Docket: All documents in the docket are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov> index. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, will be publicly available only in hard copy. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in <http://www.regulations.gov> or in hard copy at the ORD Docket, EPA/DC, EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the ORD Docket is (202) 566-1752.

The April 4-6, 2006 HSRB meeting draft report is now available. You may obtain electronic copies of this document, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the www.regulations.gov Web site and the HSRB Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/osa/hsrb/>. For questions on document availability or if you do not have access to the Internet, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

C. What Should I Consider as I Prepare My Comments for EPA?

You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

1. Explain your views as clearly as possible.
2. Describe any assumptions that you used.
3. Provide copies of any technical information and/or data you used that support your views.
4. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
5. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, be sure to identify the docket ID number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation.

D. How May I Participate in This Meeting?

You may participate in this meeting by following the instructions in this section. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket ID number EPA-HQ-ORD-2006-0187 in the subject line on the first page of your request.

1. **Oral comments.** Requests to present oral comments will be accepted up to May 31, 2006. To the extent that time permits, interested persons who have not pre-registered may be permitted by the Chair of the HSRB to present oral comments at the meeting. Each individual or group wishing to make brief oral comments to the HSRB is strongly advised to submit their request (preferably via e-mail) to the DFO listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** no later than noon, eastern time, May 31, 2006, in order to be included on the meeting agenda and to provide sufficient time for the HSRB Chair and HSRB DFO to review the meeting agenda to provide an appropriate public comment period. The request should identify the name of the individual making the presentation and the organization (if any) the individual will represent. Oral comments before the HSRB are limited to 5 minutes per individual or organization. Please note that this includes all individuals appearing either as part of, or on behalf of an organization. While it is our intent to hear a full range of oral comments on the science and ethics issues under discussion, it is not our intent to permit organizations to expand these time limitations by having numerous individuals sign up separately to speak on their behalf. If additional time is available, there may be flexibility in time for public comments.

2. **Written comments.** Although you may submit written comments at any time, for the HSRB to have the best opportunity to review and consider your comments as it deliberates on its report, you should submit your comments at least 5 business days prior to the beginning of this teleconference. If you submit comments after this date, those comments will be provided to the Board members, but you should recognize that the Board members may not have adequate time to consider those comments prior to making a decision. Thus, if you plan to submit written comments, the Agency strongly encourages you to submit such comments no later than noon, Eastern Time, May 31, 2006. You should submit your comments using the instructions in Unit 1.C. of this notice. In addition, the

Agency also requests that person(s) submitting comments directly to the docket also provide a copy of their comments to the DFO listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. There is no limit on the length of written comments for consideration by the HSRB.

E. Background

The EPA Human Studies Review Board will be reviewing its draft report from the April 4–6, 2006 HSRB meeting. Background on the April 4–6, 2006 HSRB meeting can be found at 71 FR 12194 (March 9, 2006) and at the HSRB Web site <http://www.epa.gov/osa/hsrb/>.

Dated: May 16, 2006.

George Gray,

EPA Science Advisor.

[FR Doc. E6–7830 Filed 5–22–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–8173–6; Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–ORD–2006–0463]

External Review Draft, Application of Equilibrium Partitioning Theory to Soil PAH Contamination

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public comment period.

SUMMARY: EPA is announcing a 30-day public comment period for the draft document titled, “Application of Equilibrium Partitioning Theory to Soil PAH Contamination” (EPA/600/R–06/035A). The document was prepared by the Ecological Risk Assessment Support Center managed by the National Center for Environmental Assessment within EPA’s Office of Research and Development.

EPA is releasing this draft document solely for the purpose of pre-dissemination peer review under applicable information quality guidelines. This document has not been formally disseminated by EPA. It does not represent and should not be construed to represent any Agency policy or determination. EPA will consider any public comments submitted in accordance with this notice when revising the document.

DATES: The 30-day public comment period begins May 23, 2006, and ends June 22, 2006. Technical comments should be in writing and must be received by EPA by June 22, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The draft document, “Application of Equilibrium

Partitioning Theory to Soil PAH Contamination,” is available primarily via the Internet on the National Center for Environmental Assessment’s home page under the Recent Additions and Data and Publications menus at <http://www.epa.gov/ncea>. A limited number of paper copies are available from Ms. Donna Tucker, Technical Information Manager, NCEA-Cincinnati; telephone: 513–569–7257; facsimile: 513–569–7916; e-mail: tucker.donna@epa.gov. If you are requesting a paper copy, please provide your name, your mailing address, and the document title, “Application of Equilibrium Partitioning Theory to Soil PAH Contamination”.

Comments may be submitted electronically via <http://www.regulations.gov>, by mail, by facsimile, or by hand delivery/courier. Please follow the detailed instructions provided in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the public comment period, contact the Office of Environmental Information Docket; telephone: 202–566–1752; facsimile: 202–566–1753; or e-mail: ORD.Docket@epa.gov.

For technical information, contact Michael Kravitz, NCEA; telephone: 513–569–7740; facsimile: 513–487–2540; or e-mail: kravitz.michael@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Information About the Project/ Document

U.S. EPA’s Ecological Risk Assessment Support Center (ERASC) is a knowledge center that provides technical information and addresses scientific questions on topics relevant to ecological risk assessment at hazardous waste sites for EPA’s Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) and Regional Superfund/Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) staff. The topics are submitted by users in the program office and regions. The ERASC is managed by the Office of Research and Development’s (ORD’s) National Center for Environmental Assessment and is located in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The ERASC recently completed an external review draft of the document titled, “Application of Equilibrium Partitioning Theory to Soil PAH Contamination”. It addresses the issue of whether equilibrium partitioning techniques can be used to predict the toxicity of PAH mixtures in soil.

II. How to Submit Technical Comments to the Docket at <http://www.regulations.gov>

Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–ORD 2006–0463 by one of the following methods:

- <http://www.regulations.gov>: Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

- E-mail: ORD.Docket@epa.gov.

- Fax: 202–566–1753.

- Mail: Office of Environmental Information (OEI) Docket (Mail Code: 2822T), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. The phone number is 202–566–1752.

- Hand Delivery: The OEI Docket is located in the EPA Headquarters Docket Center, EPA West Building, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is 202–566–1744. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket’s normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

If you provide comments in writing, please submit one unbound original with pages numbered consecutively, and three copies of the comments. For attachments, provide an index, number pages consecutively with the comments, and submit an unbound original and three copies.

Instructions: Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–ORD–2006–0463. It is EPA’s policy to include all comments it receives in the public docket without change and to make the comments available online at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided, unless a comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through <http://www.regulations.gov> or e-mail. The <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site is an “anonymous access” system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to EPA without going through <http://www.regulations.gov>, your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you