

**Public Notice of EPA's Plan to Issue Final Corrective Action Decisions  
and Implement Hazardous Waste Permit Modifications**

**Pfizer Pharmaceuticals LLC in Arecibo, Puerto Rico  
EPA ID # PRD 090398074**

Public Notice Number: PR-2007-01

Date: June 22, 2007

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is giving notice to the public that it plans to issue final RCRA corrective action decisions for ten solid waste management units (SWMUs) at the Pfizer Pharmaceuticals facility in Arecibo, Puerto Rico (formerly Pharmacia & Upjohn Caribe, Inc.). Specifically, EPA has determined that cleanup is required for eight SWMUs, and that no further action is required for 2 SWMUs. Interested members of the public are welcome to comment on EPA's proposal, and may review documents about the proposed decision at the three locations listed below. Written comments may be submitted to EPA at the address given below and should be postmarked by August 6, 2007.

The Pfizer-Arecibo facility occupies 247 acres of land in a rural part of Puerto Rico, approximately 30 miles east of the San Juan metropolitan area. The site was formerly owned and operated by Pharmacia & Upjohn Caribe, Inc. Manufacturing operations at the site began in 1973 and included the formulation of raw materials; fermentation, extraction, crystallization, purification, and chemical synthesis of antibiotics; and manufacturing and packaging of bulk and finished goods. Pfizer-Arecibo is currently operating as a permitted RCRA storage facility. Hazardous waste storage and treatment units operated by Pfizer-Arecibo include a container storage area, a waste storage tank system, and a treatment tank for reclamation of spent acetone solvent. All hazardous wastes generated at the facility are sent off site for treatment and/or final disposal.

The Pfizer-Arecibo facility's current RCRA permit was issued in 1991, renewed in 2000, and modified in 2003 and 2005. The 2000 permit renewal addressed 31 SWMUs. Of those 21 were found to require no further action or were being addressed under CERCLA. Ten SWMUs required further evaluation and investigation, which has been carried out. Based on such evaluation and investigation, EPA has determined that two of these areas (SWMUs 23 and 24) pose no significant risks to human health or the environment and, thus, no further action is required (i.e., Corrective Action Complete). EPA therefore recommends that the facility's hazardous waste permit be modified to note that no further action is necessary for these two SWMUs. EPA has also determined that ongoing RCRA corrective action is required for soil at 8, SWMUs Nos. 13 to 20. Accordingly, EPA has developed a formal corrective action strategy including treatment via soil vapor extraction and follow-up post-treatment soil sampling to confirm that the target cleanup goals have been met. EPA also has determined that the facility's hazardous waste permit should be modified to outline specific corrective action requirements for SWMUs 13 to 20.

The proposed permit modification will also incorporate financial assurance requirements for corrective action, incorporate waste minimization provisions and will be updated to reflect permit modifications previously approved by EPA. Remediation of groundwater is also in

progress at the Pfizer-Arecibo facility, but this work is being conducted under EPA's Superfund program and is not the subject of this public notice.

The statement of basis for EPA's proposed corrective action decisions and permit modifications, as well as a fact sheet and all supporting data and documents, can be reviewed at the following locations:

U.S. EPA RCRA Records Center  
290 Broadway, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 1538  
New York, NY 10007-1866  
(212) 637-3043

U.S. EPA Caribbean Environmental Protection Division  
1492 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Suite 417  
Santurce, Puerto Rico 00907-4127  
(787) 977-5890

Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board  
Land Pollution Control Area, Hazardous Waste Permits Division, Room 365  
Ave. Ponce de Leon 1308, Carr Estatal 8838, Sector El Cinco  
Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico 00926  
Contact: Israel Torres, (787) 767-8181

For more information about the proposed permit modifications and corrective action decisions (including Corrective Action Complete without Controls determinations), please contact Mr. Samuel Ezekwo, EPA RCRA Programs Branch, at (212) 637-4168.

Written comments may be sent to the following individual and must be postmarked by August 6, 2007.

Mr. Adolph S. Everett  
Chief, RCRA Programs Branch  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
290 Broadway  
New York, NY 10007-1866

After the close of the public comment period, EPA will consider all significant comments and decide whether to issue the proposed Corrective Action Complete without Controls determinations, to implement the proposed corrective action strategy for SWMUs that require additional corrective action, and to modify the facility's permit as discussed above.