

*Name of Committee:* Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* March 25, 1999.

*Time:* 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Alec S. Liacouras, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5154, MSC 7842, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1740.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

*Name of Committee:* Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* March 25, 1999.

*Time:* 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Gopal C. Sharma, DVM, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4112, MSC 7816, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1783.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitation imposed by the review and funding cycle.

*Name of Committee:* Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* March 25, 1999.

*Time:* 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Eugene Zimmerman, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4202, MSC 7812, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-435-1220.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

*Name of Committee:* Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* March 25, 1999.

*Time:* 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Chhanda L. Ganguly, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5156, MSC 7842, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1739.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

*Name of Committee:* Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel, ZRG1-SSS-X (14).

*Date:* March 25-27, 1999.

*Time:* 7:00 pm to 11:00 am.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Ramada Palo Verde, 5251 S. Julian Drive, Palo Verde & 1-10, Tucson, AZ 85706.

*Contact Person:* Lee Rosen, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5116, MSC 7854, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1171.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 12, 1999.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Committee Management Officer, National Institutes of Health.*

[FR Doc. 99-6965 Filed 3-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Public Health Service

#### **National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS); The Murine Local Lymph Node Assay: A Test Method for Assessing the Allergic Contact Dermatitis Potential of Chemicals/Compounds, Report Now Available**

**SUMMARY:** The report entitled "The Murine Local Lymph Node Assay: A Test Method for Assessing the Allergic Contact Dermatitis Potential of Chemicals/Compounds," NIH Publication 99-4494, is now available and may be obtained as described in this notice. The report describes the results of an independent peer review evaluation of the validation status of the Local Lymph Node Assay (LLNA) that was conducted on September 17, 1998 (**Federal Register** 63 FR 37405-6, July 10, 1998). The (LLNA) was proposed as an alternative toxicological test method for assessing the allergic contact dermatitis (contact hypersensitivity) potential of chemicals and products. The review was coordinated by the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) and the National Toxicology Program (NTP) Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICEATM). The review was sponsored by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the NTP.

## Background

Pub. L. 103-43 directed the NEIHS to develop and validate alternative methods that can reduce or eliminate the use of animals in acute or chronic toxicity testing, establish criteria for the validation and regulatory acceptance of alternative testing methods, and recommend a process through which scientifically validated alternative methods can be accepted for regulatory use. Criteria and processes for validation and regulatory acceptance were developed in conjunction with 14 other Federal agencies and programs with broad input from the public. These are described in the document "Validation and Regulatory Acceptance of Toxicological Test Methods: A Report of the Ad Hoc Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods" NIH publication 97-3981, March 1997, which is available on the internet at <http://ntp-server.niehs.nih.gov.htdocs/ICCVAM/iccvam.html>. ICCVAM was subsequently established in a collaborative effort by NIEHS and 13 other Federal regulatory and research agencies and programs. The Committee's functions include the coordination of interagency reviews of toxicological test methods and communication with stakeholders throughout the process of test method development and validation. The following Federal regulatory and research agencies and organizations are participating in this effort:

Consumer Product Safety Commission  
Department of Defense  
Department of Energy  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry  
Food and Drug Administration  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health/CDC  
National Institutes of Health  
National Cancer Institute  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
National Library of Medicine  
Department of the Interior  
Department of Labor  
Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
Department of Transportation  
Research and Special Programs Administration  
Environmental Protection Agency

The LLNA was proposed to ICCVAM for consideration as a stand-alone test to identify chemicals that have a potential to cause allergic contact dermatitis. The ICCVAM determined that there was sufficient information available to merit an independent scientific peer review evaluation of the LLNA test method. Peer review is an essential prerequisite

for consideration of a method for regulatory acceptance. The peer review panel was charged with developing a scientific consensus on the usefulness and limitations of the test method. The peer review panel concluded that the LLNA is a valid alternative to currently accepted guinea pig test methods for the assessment of allergic contact dermatitis when the test method is conducted in accordance with peer review panel recommendations. The panel also concluded that the LLNA offers animal welfare advantages compared to conventional guinea pig methods in that it involves less pain and distress, and fewer animals may be required. The peer review panel's report has been forwarded to Federal agencies for their determination of the regulatory acceptability and applicability of the test method according to their statutory mandates.

### Summary of the Report

The report contains 212 pages and includes the results of the independent peer review evaluation and supporting documentation, including the original test method submission, supporting data evaluations conducted by NICEATM, and a proposed protocol that incorporates the recommendations of the peer review panel.

### Obtaining the Report

To receive a copy of the report, please contact NICEATM at PO Box 12233, MD EC-17, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (mail), 919-541-3398 (phone), 919-541-0947 (fax), or iccvam@niehs.nih.gov (email). The report is also available on the ICCVAM/NICEATM website at <http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/llnarep.htm>.

Dated: March 11, 1999.

**Samuel H. Wilson,**

*Deputy Director, National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences.*

[FR Doc. 99-6953 Filed 3-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

#### Advisory Committee for Women's Services; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to Pub. L. 92-463, notice is hereby given of the teleconference meeting of the Advisory Committee for Women's Services of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in April 1999.

The meeting of the Advisory Committee for Women's Services will be open and will include a discussion of the role and responsibilities of the Advisory Committee in providing advice to SAMHSA, and policy and program issues relating to women's substance abuse and mental health service needs at SAMHSA, including the Fiscal Year 1999 budget and SAMHSA's FY 1999 Knowledge Development and Application Grants.

Public comments are welcome. Please communicate with the individual listed as contact below to make arrangements to comment or to request special accommodations for persons with disabilities.

Substantive program information, a summary of the meeting and a roster of the committee members, may be obtained from the contact whose name and telephone number is listed below.

*Committee Name:* Advisory Committee for Women's Services.

*Meeting Date:* April 30, 1999.

*Place:* Room 12-94, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

*Open:* April 30, 1999, 10 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

*Contact:* Duiona R. Baker, Executive Secretary, Parklawn Building, Room 13-99, Telephone: (301) 443-5184, Fax: (301) 443-8964, E-mail: [dbaker@samhsa.gov](mailto:dbaker@samhsa.gov)

Dated: March 17, 1999.

**Sandi Stephens,**

*Team Leader, Division of Extramural Programs Policy and Review. SAMHSA.*

[FR Doc. 99-7057 Filed 3-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4162-20-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area Advisory Committee; Renewal

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior

**ACTION:** Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area Advisory Committee—Notice of renewal.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is published in accordance with Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, Public Law 92-463. Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Interior has renewed the Bureau of Land Management's Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area Advisory Committee.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Bureau of Land Management's Safford Field Manager regarding the preparation and implementation of the comprehensive

plan for the long-range management of the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area, as required by Section 201 of the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990, 16 U.S.C. 460ddd.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melanie Wilson, Intergovernmental Affairs (640), Bureau of Land Management, 1620 L Street, N.W., Room 406 LS, Washington, D.C. 20240, telephone (202) 452-0377.

### Certification Statement

I hereby certify the renewal of the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area Advisory Committee is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities to manage the lands, resources, and facilities administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

Dated: March 12, 1999.

**Bruce Babbitt,**

*Secretary of the Interior.*

[FR Doc. 99-7108 Filed 3-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-640-1820-00 24 1A]

#### Call for Nominations for Resource Advisory Councils

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Resource Advisory Council call for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this notice is to solicit public nominations for each of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) that have member terms expiring this year. The RACs provide advice and recommendations to BLM on land use planning and management of the public lands within their geographic areas. Public nominations will be considered for 45 days after the publication date of this notice.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) directs the Secretary of the Interior to involve the public in planning and issues related to management of lands administered by BLM. Section 309 of FLPMA directs the Secretary to select 10 to 15 member citizen-based advisory councils that are established and authorized consistent with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). As required by the FACA, the interests represented by the individuals appointed to the RAC must be balanced