

motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the Web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket#" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-26105 Filed 10-16-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[AZ057-NOA; FRL-7084-8]

Adequacy Status of the Maricopa County, Arizona, Submitted CO Attainment Plan for Transportation Conformity Purposes

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of adequacy.

SUMMARY: In this document, EPA is notifying the public that we have found that submitted Revised Maricopa County Carbon Monoxide (CO) Attainment Plan is adequate for conformity purposes. As a result of our finding, the Maricopa Association of Governments and the Federal Highway Administration are required to use the CO motor vehicle emissions budget from the submitted CO Attainment Plan for future conformity determinations.

DATES: This budget is effective November 1, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The finding is available at EPA's conformity Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq>, (once there, click on the "Conformity" button, then look for "Adequacy Review of SIP Submissions for Conformity").

You may also contact Frances Wicher, U.S. EPA, Region IX, Air Division AIR-2, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105; (415) 744-1248 or wicher.frances@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Today's document is simply an announcement of a finding that we have already made. EPA Region IX sent a letter to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and the Maricopa Association of Governments on September 28, 2001 stating that the Revised Maricopa County CO Attainment Plan (submitted on April 18, 2001) is adequate for conformity purposes. This finding has also been announced on our conformity Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq>, (once there, click on the "Conformity" button, then look for "Adequacy Review of SIP Submissions for Conformity").

Transportation conformity is required by section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act. Our conformity rule requires that transportation plans, programs, and projects conform to state air quality implementation plans (SIPs) and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they do. Conformity to a SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the national ambient air quality standards.

The criteria by which we determine whether a SIP's motor vehicle emission budgets are adequate for conformity purposes are outlined in 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4). Please note that an adequacy review is separate from our completeness review which is required by section 110(k)(1) of the Clean Air Act, and it also should not be used to prejudge EPA's ultimate approval of the SIP. Even if we find a budget adequate, the SIP could later be disapproved.

We have described our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP budgets in guidance (May 14, 1999 memo titled "Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999 Conformity Court Decision"). We followed this guidance in making our adequacy determination.

Dated: October 9, 2001.

Sally Seymour,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region IX.

[FR Doc. 01-26091 Filed 10-16-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7085-3]

Meeting of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under Section 10(a)(2) of Public Law 92-423, "The Federal Advisory Committee Act," notice is hereby given that a meeting of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council established under the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. S3300f *et seq.*), will be held on November 8, 2001, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., November 9, 2001, from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., at the Wyndham City Center, 1143 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. The Council will hear presentations and have discussions on several topics important to the Environmental Protection Agency's national drinking water program, including: Regulatory program update and key issues in development of the Arsenic, Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts and Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment rules, and making regulatory determinations from the Contaminant Candidate List; the Agency's Critical Infrastructure Protection efforts; progress on strategies for overall drinking water research and waterborne microbial disease; and updates on other implementation initiatives. The Council encourages the hearing of outside statements and will allocate one hour for this purpose. Oral statements will be limited to five minutes, and it is preferred that only one person present the statement. Any outside parties interested in presenting an oral statement should petition the Council by telephone at (202) 260-9194 or (202) 260-5509 before October 30, 2001.

Any person who wishes to file a written statement can do so before or after a Council meeting. Written statements received prior to the meeting will be distributed to all members of the Council before any final discussion or vote is completed. Any statements received after the meeting will become part of the permanent meeting file and will be forwarded to the Council members for their information.

Members of the public that would like to attend the meeting, present an oral statement, or submit a written statement, should contact Janet Pawlukiewicz, Designated Federal Officer, National Drinking Water

Advisory Council, U.S. EPA, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (4601), 401 M Street SW., Washington, DC 20460. The telephone number is Area Code (202) 260-9194 or e-mail pawlukiewicz.janet@epa.gov.

Dated: October 5, 2001.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground, Water and Drinking Water.

[FR Doc. 01-26101 Filed 10-16-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7084-7]

Announcement of Availability of the Final Version of the "Handbook of Groundwater Protection and Cleanup Policies for RCRA Corrective Action"

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The intent of this notice is to announce the availability of the final version of the "Handbook of Groundwater Protection and Cleanup Policies for RCRA Corrective Action." The Office of Solid Waste, in partnership with EPA Region III's Waste and Chemicals Management Division, developed this Handbook as part of the RCRA Cleanup Reforms efforts that EPA announced in July 1999 and January 2001. The primary objectives of these reforms are to promote faster, focused and more flexible cleanups, and foster creative solutions to improve program implementation. EPA's goal for this Handbook is that it will help meet these objectives by reducing time-consuming uncertainties and confusion about EPA's current policies concerning groundwater protection and cleanup at RCRA facilities.

Topics addressed in the Handbook include: Groundwater protection and cleanup strategy; short-term protection goals; intermediate performance goals; final cleanup goals; groundwater cleanup levels; point of compliance; cleanup timeframes; source control; groundwater use designations; institutional controls; monitored natural attenuation; technical impracticability; reinjection of contaminated groundwater; performance monitoring; and, completing groundwater remedies.

This final version of the Handbook is available for immediate use by all stakeholders. However, it is important to recognize that issuing this Handbook does not foreclose further discussion concerning groundwater policies for the

RCRA Corrective Action Program. On the contrary, we hope that this Handbook will spur new dialogues that will lead to improvements in groundwater protection and cleanup in general. Furthermore, we recognize that continued dialogue on these important topics could result in changes to the policies in this Handbook. So, we intend to revise the document as needed to help ensure that it reflects current Agency positions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: You can view the comments we received in response to a 60-day public review of an April 27, 2000 draft version of the Handbook, as well as other supporting materials, at the RCRA Information Center (RIC), located at Crystal Gateway I, First Floor, 1235 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. The RIC is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. To review docket materials, we recommend that you reference the docket number F-2000-CURA-FFFFF and make an appointment by calling 703-603-9230. You may copy a maximum of 100 pages from any regulatory docket at no charge. Additional copies cost \$0.15 per page. The index and some supporting materials are available electronically.

If you would like to receive a hard copy of the Handbook, please call the RCRA Hotline at 800-424-0346 or TDD 800-553-7672 (hearing impaired). In the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, call 703-412-9810 or TDD 703-412-3323. However, we designed the Handbook to be a useful resource in an Internet-based electronic format. For example, the Handbook contains numerous internal and external "hyperlinks" to help you navigate within the document and to take you directly to the more detailed guidance documents concerning individual topic areas. We also designed the Handbook to be easily updated because we recognize that the policies may evolve as our understanding of complex issues associated with groundwater protection and cleanup increases. Therefore, we urge you to access an electronic version of the Handbook at <http://www.epa.gov/correctiveaction> so you can take full advantage of the "hyperlinks" feature and make sure you are reading the most current version.

While this is the final version of the Handbook, we will continue to welcome public comment at any time. For more detailed information on specific aspects of document, or to submit comments that we will consider in any future revisions, contact Guy Tomassoni, Office of Solid Waste 5303W, U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460, (703-308-8622), (tomassoni.guy@epa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In general, stakeholder comments received on the draft version were supportive of the purpose and format of the Handbook. Here is how this final version responds to some of the major comments we received on the April 2000 draft we issued for public comment:

The Handbook now includes a Groundwater Protection and Cleanup Strategy that conveys EPA's overall goals and approaches for dealing with contaminated groundwater at RCRA facilities, and serves as a common focus for other policies addressed in the Handbook. For example, the Strategy emphasizes EPA's long-standing general expectation that final cleanups return usable groundwater to its maximum beneficial use where practicable. However, the Strategy also conveys that using meaningful and measurable short-term and intermediate goals (where appropriate) often make sense as part of an overall phased approach to address contaminated groundwater.

The Handbook now describes how a different "point of compliance" for groundwater cleanups might be appropriate depending on the particular goal (short-term, intermediate, or final) a facility and overseeing regulator are pursuing.

The Handbook clearly conveys the need for facilities to control sources (using treatment technologies for "principal threats") so as to reduce or eliminate, to the extent practicable, further releases of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents that may pose a threat to human health and the environment.

Consistent with EPA's long-standing policies, the Handbook continues to recognize that there can be various uses and purposes of groundwater, and that regulators and facilities should consider these uses and purposes (and associated exposures), as appropriate, in implementing facility-specific corrective action. However, the Handbook recognizes that most states identify the majority of their groundwaters as actual or potential sources of drinking water, and therefore have their own requirements and policies aimed at cleaning up contaminated groundwater so that it will be suitable for drinking water purposes.

We thank those that took the time to comment on the draft version of the Handbook, and we look forward to continued interactions concerning groundwater protection and cleanup.