installments over a period not to exceed three years from the effective date. The settlement includes a covenant by EPA not to sue or to take administrative action against the Settling Party/Parties pursuant to Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9607(a), with regard to the response costs related to the work at the Site enumerated in the settlement agreement. For thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this notice, EPA will receive written comments relating to the settlement. EPA will consider all comments received and may modify or withdraw its consent to the settlement if comments received disclose facts or considerations that indicate that the proposed settlement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. EPA’s response to any comments received will be available for public inspection at EPA Region 2, 290 Broadway, New York, New York 10007–1866.


Walter Mugdan, Director, Emergency and Remedial Response Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–9973–47–OA]

Notification of a Public Teleconference of the Science Advisory Board Chemical Assessment Advisory Committee Augmented for the Review of EPA’s Draft Ethyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (ETBE) and tert-Butyl Alcohol (tert-butanol; tBA) Assessments

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office announces a public teleconference of the SAB Chemical Assessment Advisory Committee augmented for the review of two EPA draft assessments; Toxicological Review for Ethyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (ETBE) (External Review Draft, dated June 2017); and Toxicological Review of tert-Butyl Alcohol (tert-butanol or tBA) (External Review Draft, dated June 2017). The Panel will meet to discuss its draft peer review report regarding the two EPA draft assessments named above.

DATES: The public teleconference will be held on two dates: Thursday, March 22, 2018, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Eastern time) and Tuesday, March 27, 2018, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern time).

ADDRESSES: The public teleconference will be held by telephone only.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any member of the public who wants further information concerning this meeting notice may contact Dr. Shaunta Hill-Hammond, Designated Federal Official (DFO), via phone at (202) 564–3343, or email at hill-hammond.shaunta@epa.gov. General information about the SAB, as well as updates concerning the meeting announced in this notice, may be found on the EPA website at http://www.epa.gov/sab.

Technical Contact for EPA’s Draft Reports: For information concerning the EPA draft assessments, please contact James Avery, phone (703) 347–8668 or via email at avery.james@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Background: The SAB was established pursuant to the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act (ERDAAA), codified at 42 U.S.C. 4365, to provide independent scientific and technical advice to the Administrator on the scientific and technical basis for Agency positions and regulations. The SAB is a Federal Advisory Committee chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C., App. 2. Pursuant to FACA and EPA policy, notice is hereby given that the SAB CAAC augmented for ETBE and tBA Panel will hold a public teleconference to discuss its draft report regarding the EPA’s draft assessments; Toxicological Review for Ethyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (ETBE) (External Review Draft, dated June 2017); and Toxicological Review of tert-Butyl Alcohol (tert-butanol or tBA) (External Review Draft, dated June 2017). The Panel will provide their advice to the Administrator through the chartered SAB.

EPA’s Office of Research and Development (ORD) requested that the SAB conduct a peer review of the two EPA draft assessments. The EPA SAB Staff Office augmented the SAB CAAC with subject matter experts, to provide advice to the Administrator through the chartered SAB regarding these assessments. The CAAC augmented for ETBE/tBA Panel convened a public face-to-face meeting on August 15–17, 2017, to deliberate on the peer review charge questions. The Panel will meet via a public teleconference to discuss its draft peer review report and to hear and consider public comments. The SAB CAAC augmented for ETBE and tBA Panel will comply with the provisions of FACA and all appropriate SAB Staff Office procedural policies.

Availability of Meeting Materials: Prior to the meeting(s), the Panel’s draft report, meeting agenda and other supporting materials (if applicable) will be accessible on the meeting page corresponding to each chemical assessment on the SAB website (http://www.epa.gov/sab).

Procedures for Providing Public Input: Public comment for consideration by EPA’s federal advisory committees and panels has a different purpose from public comment provided to EPA program offices. Therefore, the process for submitting comments to a federal advisory committee is different from the process used to submit comments to an EPA program office. Federal advisory committees and panels, including scientific advisory committees, provide independent advice to the EPA. Members of the public can submit relevant comments pertaining to the EPA’s charge, meeting materials, or the group providing advice. Input from the public to the SAB will have the most impact if it provides specific scientific or technical information or analysis for the SAB to consider or if it relates to the clarity or accuracy of the technical information. Members of the public wishing to provide comment should follow the instructions below to submit comments.

Oral Statements: In general, individuals or groups requesting to make an oral presentation will be limited to three minutes during a public teleconference. Interested parties wishing to provide comments should contact Dr. Hill-Hammond (preferably via email), at the contact information noted above by March 14, 2018, to be placed on the list of public speakers.

Written Statements: Written statements will be accepted throughout the advisory process; however, for timely consideration by SAB members, statements should be supplied to the DFO (preferably via email) at the contact information noted above by March 14, 2018. It is the SAB Staff Office general policy to post written comments on the web page for the advisory meeting or teleconference. Submitters are requested to provide an unsigned version of each document because the SAB Staff Office does not publish documents with signatures on its websites. Members of the public should be aware that their personal contact information, if included in any written comments, may be posted to the SAB website. Copyrighted material will not be posted without explicit permission of the copyright holder.
should make an appointment at least 24 hours before the visiting day. Additionally, the final Orders for the Alon USA—Bakersfield Refinery are available electronically at: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-01/documents/alon_response2014.pdf (Part V), and https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-08/documents/alon_2nd_response2014.pdf (Parts II and III).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Yannayon, EPA Region IX, (415) 972–3534, yannayon.laura@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SJVUAPCD Rule 2201 affords the EPA a 45-day period to review and object to, as appropriate, a proposed permit. Rule 2201 § 5.9.1. If the EPA does not object, Rule 2201 allows any person to petition the EPA, within 60 days, to object to the proposed permit. Petitions must be based only on objections to the permit that were raised with reasonable specificity during the public comment period, unless the petitioner demonstrates that it was impracticable to raise these issues during the comment period, or the grounds for the issue arose after this period.

The EPA received the Petition dated December 16, 2014, requesting that the EPA object to the proposed issuance of the Permit to Alon USA—Bakersfield Refining, for modifications to its petroleum products refinery and gasoline terminal, located in Kern County, California. The Petition contained five different bases for its request for an objection. Pursuant to the terms of a settlement agreement, noticed on October 21, 2016 (81 FR 72804), the EPA issued a final Order responding to the claims made in Part V of the Petition on December 21, 2016, and a second Order responding to the claims made in Parts II and III of the Petition on July 28, 2017. Part V of the Petition requested that the EPA object to the Permit because the emissions baseline and the assumptions used to calculate project emissions were allegedly inaccurate.

On December 21, 2016, the then Administrator issued an order granting Part V of the Petition. On March 16, 2017, SJVUAPCD responded to the December 21, 2016 objection. On July 28, 2017, the current Administrator issued an order denying Parts II and III of the Petition. EPA’s rationale for granting the Petition in part and denying the Petition in part are described in the Orders.


Alexis Strauss,
Acting Regional Administrator, Region IX.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–9973–36—Region 9]

Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program; Petition for Objection to Proposed Permit for Alon USA—Bakersfield Refinery, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of final Order on petition to object to air permit.

SUMMARY: This document announces that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator has responded to a citizen petition asking the EPA to object to the proposed issuance of an Authority to Construct/Certificate of Conformity (Permit) issued by the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD).

Specifically, on December 21, 2016, the then Administrator granted Part V of the December 16, 2014 petition (Petition) and on July 28, 2017, the current Administrator denied Parts II and III of the Petition submitted by the Association of Irritated Residents, Center for Biological Diversity, and the Sierra Club to object to SJVUAPCD’s proposed issuance of the Permit for the Alon USA—Bakersfield Refinery located in Kern County, California.

ADDRESSES: You may review copies of the final Orders, the Petition, and other supporting information at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105–3901.

The EPA requests that you contact the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section to view copies of the final Orders, the Petition, and other supporting information. You may view the hard copies Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., excluding federal holidays. If you wish to examine these documents, you...