

draft document, *Nitrogen Dioxide Health Assessment Plan: Scope and Methods for Exposure and Risk Assessment*. This document was released for public review and comment in September, 2007 and was the subject of a consultation with the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) on October 24 and 25, 2007. Comments received from that consultation have been considered in developing the draft risk and exposure assessment documents being released at this time.

The draft documents convey the approach taken to assess exposures to ambient NO<sub>2</sub> and to characterize associated health risks, as well as to present the results of those assessments. These draft documents will be available online at: [http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/standards/nox/s\\_nox\\_cr\\_rea.html](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/standards/nox/s_nox_cr_rea.html).

The EPA is soliciting advice and recommendations from the CASAC by means of a review on the draft documents at an upcoming public meeting of the CASAC. A **Federal Register** notice will inform the public of the date and location of that meeting. Following the CASAC meeting, EPA will consider comments received from the CASAC and the public in preparing a second draft risk and exposure assessment report. The release of the second draft report will be followed by another CASAC meeting and ultimately by a final risk and exposure assessment report.

Dated: April 4, 2008.

**Mary E. Henigin,**

*Acting Director, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-8553-5]

### Application of Watershed Ecological Risk Assessment Methods to Watershed Management

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is announcing the availability of a final report titled, "Application of Watershed Ecological Risk Assessment Methods to Watershed Management" (EPA/600/R-06/037F), which was prepared by the National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) within EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD).

**DATES:** This document will be available on or about April 14, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** The document will be available electronically through the NCEA Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/ncea>. A limited number of paper copies will be available from the EPA's National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP), P.O. Box 42419, Cincinnati, OH 45242; telephone: 1-800-490-9198; facsimile: 301-604-3408; e-mail: [nscep@beps-lmit.com](mailto:nscep@beps-lmit.com). Please provide your name, your mailing address, the title and the EPA number of the requested publication.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The Information Management Team, National Center for Environmental Assessment (8601P), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460. Telephone: 703-347-8561; fax: 703-347-8691; e-mail: [nceadc.comment@epa.gov](mailto:nceadc.comment@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Ecological risk assessment (ERA) is a process for analyzing environmental problems and is intended to increase the use of ecological science in decision making in order to evaluate the likelihood that adverse ecological effects may occur or are occurring as a result of exposure to one or more stressors. Applying ERA principles to watershed management makes scientific information more relevant to the needs of environmental managers. Watershed ERAs are complex because addressing impacts from multiple sources and stressors on multiple endpoints presents a scientific challenge and because multiple stakeholders have diverse interests. The needs of managers and stakeholders may change, and the need to take action may require using the best available information at the time, sometimes before an ERA is completed. Therefore, some flexibility of ERA methods is needed when performing watershed ERAs. It is also important that risk assessors and managers interact regularly and repeatedly.

This report supplements the *Guidelines for Ecological Risk Assessment* (U.S. EPA, 1998a) by addressing issues unique to ecological assessments of watersheds. Using lessons learned from watershed ERAs, the report presents guidance and examples for scientists performing watershed ecological assessments. The report also can be useful to risk assessors, watershed associations, landscape ecologists, and others seeking to increase the use of environmental assessment data in decision making.

Each activity and phase of the watershed ERA process is explained sequentially in this report. Guidance on how to involve stakeholders to generate environmental management goals and objectives is provided. The processes for selecting assessment endpoints, developing conceptual models, and selecting the exposure and effects pathways to be analyzed are described. Suggestions for predicting how multiple sources and stressors affect assessment endpoints are also provided; these include using multivariate analyses to compare land use with biotic measurements. In addition, the report suggests how to estimate, describe, and communicate risk and how to evaluate management alternatives.

Dated: April 3, 2008.

**Rebecca Clark,**

*Deputy Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.*

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission for Extension Under Delegated Authority, Comments Requested

April 7, 2008.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection(s), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) that does not display a valid control number. Comments are requested concerning (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated