

The electronic version of the public docket for this action contains a copy of the proposed settlement agreement and is available through <https://www.regulations.gov>. You may use <https://www.regulations.gov> to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, key in the appropriate docket identification number then select “search.”

II. Additional Information About the Proposed Settlement Agreement

On October 3, 2017, Plaintiff (a non-governmental environmental organization) filed a complaint in the United States District Court in the District of Columbia asserting three claims against EPA for allegedly violating section 7(a)(2) of the ESA by failing to initiate and reinstate consultation with the Services. Specifically, Plaintiffs alleged that the EPA failed to consult on the effects to listed species of 95 pesticide product registrations containing one of three pesticide active ingredients—acetamiprid (Claim One), dinotefuran (Claim Two), and imidacloprid (Claim Three). The Court approved, in February 2018, a stipulation of partial dismissal of many products, leaving 59 pesticide product registrations at issue. In January 2021, Plaintiff and EPA reached a stipulated partial settlement agreement in this case where EPA agreed to complete ESA section 7(a)(2) effects determination, compiled into a biological evaluation, for imidacloprid by June 30, 2022, and, as appropriate, request initiation of any ESA section 7(a)(2) consultation with the Services.

After the entry of the stipulated partial settlement agreement for imidacloprid, the parties filed summary judgment motions and cross motions on the remaining claims. Shortly after these filings, the parties began settlement discussions on these remaining claims. The stipulated partial settlement agreement for which EPA is taking comment addresses these two claims. Specially, Paragraph 1 of the stipulated partial settlement agreement states that EPA will by October 2024 complete effects determinations and request initiation of any necessary ESA consultation pursuant to 50 CFR part 402 regarding the potential effects of acetamiprid and dinotefuran on any and all listed species and designated critical habitat.

Consistent with current practice, the agreement would also include statements of EPA’s intent to take

certain actions in addition to the deadlines associated with specific biological evaluations, including: (1) To complete the draft biological evaluations no later than one year prior to the deadline for the final biological evaluations, as well as to provide notice and a 60-day opportunity for public comment on any such draft, and (2) conduct the effects determinations on a nationwide-scale. Defendant-Intervenor takes no position on this agreement.

For a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this notice, the Agency will accept written comments relating to the proposed stipulated partial settlement agreement from persons who are not named as parties to the litigation in question. EPA or the Department of Justice may withdraw or withhold consent to the proposed stipulated partial settlement agreement if the comments disclose facts or considerations that indicate that such consent is inappropriate, improper, inadequate, or inconsistent with the requirements of the ESA or the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act. Unless EPA or the Department of Justice determines that consent should be withdrawn, the terms of the proposed stipulation and stipulated notice of dismissal will be affirmed.

III. Additional Information About Commenting on the Proposed Settlement Agreement

Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OGC-2020-0520, via <https://www.regulations.gov>. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from this docket. EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit to EPA’s docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.* on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>. For additional information about submitting information identified

as CBI, please contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document. Note that written comments containing CBI and submitted by mail may be delayed and deliveries or couriers will be received by scheduled appointment only.

If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name, mailing address, and an email address or other contact information in the body of your comment. This ensures that you can be identified as the submitter of the comment and allows EPA to contact you in case EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties or needs further information on the substance of your comment. Any identifying or contact information provided in the body of a comment will be included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket and made available in EPA’s electronic public docket. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment.

Use of the <https://www.regulations.gov> website to submit comments to EPA electronically is EPA’s preferred method for receiving comments. The electronic public docket system is an “anonymous access” system, which means EPA will not know your identity, email address, or other contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment.

Please ensure that your comments are submitted within the specified comment period. Comments received after the close of the comment period will be marked “late.” EPA is not required to consider these late comments.

Christopher E. Kaczmarek,

Acting Associate General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2021–22860 Filed 10–19–21; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-ORD-2020-0675; FRL-9147-01-ORD]

Availability of the Draft IRIS Toxicological Review of Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA) and Related Compound Ammonium Perfluorobutanoic Acid; Extension of Public Comment Period

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public comment period; extension.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is extending the public comment period for the document titled, “Availability of the Draft IRIS Toxicological Review of Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA) and Related Compound Ammonium Perfluorobutanoic Acid.” The original **Federal Register** document announcing the public comment period was published on August 23, 2021.

DATES: The public comment period for the notice published on August 23, 2021 (86 FR 47100), is being extended. The EPA must receive comments on or before Monday, November 8, 2021.

ADDRESSES: The “Availability of the Draft IRIS Toxicological Review of Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA) and Related Compound Ammonium Perfluorobutanoic Acid” is available via the internet on IRIS’ website at <https://www.epa.gov/iris> and in the public docket at <https://www.regulations.gov>, Docket ID: EPA-HQ-ORD-2020-0675.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the public comment period, contact the ORD Docket at the EPA Headquarters Docket Center; telephone: 202-566-1752; facsimile: 202-566-9744; or email: Docket_ORD@epa.gov.

For technical information on the IRIS Toxicological Review of Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA) and Related Compound Ammonium Perfluorobutanoic Acid, contact Ms. Vicki Soto, CPHEA; telephone: 202-564-3077; or email: soto.vicki@epa.gov. The IRIS Program will provide updates through the IRIS website (<https://www.epa.gov/iris>) and via EPA’s IRIS listserv. To register for the IRIS listserv, visit the IRIS website (<https://www.epa.gov/iris>) or visit <https://www.epa.gov/iris/forms/staying-connected-integrated-risk-information-system#connect>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

How To Submit Technical Comments to the Docket at <https://www.regulations.gov>

Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2020-0675 for the Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA) and Related Compound Ammonium Perfluorobutanoic Acid IRIS assessment, by one of the following methods:

- www.regulations.gov: Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
- Email: Docket_ORD@epa.gov.
- Fax: 202-566-9744. Due to COVID-19, there may be a delay in processing comments submitted by fax.

- Mail: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center (ORD Docket), Mail Code: 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460. The phone number is 202-566-1752. Due to COVID-19, there may be a delay in processing comments submitted by mail.

For information on visiting the EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room, visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>. Due to public health concerns related to COVID-19, the EPA Docket Center and Reading Room may be closed to the public with limited exceptions. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is 202-566-1744. The public can submit comments via www.Regulations.gov or email.

Instructions: Direct your comments to docket number EPA-HQ-ORD-2020-0675 for Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA) and Related Compound Ammonium Perfluorobutanoic Acid. Please ensure that your comments are submitted within the specified comment period. Comments received after the closing date will be marked “late,” and may only be considered if time permits. It is EPA’s policy to include all comments it receives in the public docket without change and to make the comments available online at www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided, unless a comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information for which disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information through www.regulations.gov or email that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected. The www.regulations.gov website is an “anonymous access” system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an email comment directly to EPA without going through www.regulations.gov, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses. For additional information about EPA’s public docket visit the EPA

Docket Center homepage at www.epa.gov/epahome/dockets.htm.

Docket: Documents in the docket are listed in the www.regulations.gov index. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other materials, such as copyrighted material, are publicly available only in hard copy. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in www.regulations.gov or in hard copy at the ORD Docket in the EPA Headquarters Docket Center.

Timothy Watkins,

Acting Director, Center for Public Health & Environmental Assessment.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0653; FRL-9072-01-OW]

Notification of Receipt of Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Section 1441 Application Submissions for FY21

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing receipt of Certification of Need applications pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Section 1441. Three public water systems (PWSs) and one publicly owned treatment works (POTW) submitted these applications. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document for their specific concerns about the unavailability of treatment chemical(s) via normal procurement channels. EPA is providing an opportunity for written comments from the public on these SDWA Section 1441 applications, from chemical producers and repackagers that could supply the required liquid oxygen, sulfur dioxide, clarifloc SE- 1371, clarifloc SE 1482, gaseous chlorine, and sodium hypochlorite to the applicants, and from any other interested parties. The applications are available in the docket.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 3, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, identified by Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0653, by any of the following methods: