

antimicrobial resistance that compromises the effectiveness of medically important antibacterial and antifungal drugs. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be interested in this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

E. What should I consider as I prepare my comments for EPA?

1. Submitting CBI

Do not submit CBI information to EPA through <https://www.regulations.gov> or email. If you wish to include CBI in your comment, please follow the applicable instructions at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets#rules> and clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

2. Tips for Preparing Your Comments

When preparing and submitting your comments, see the commenting tips and instructions at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>.

II. Request for Comments

EPA is seeking comment on the document entitled “Soliciting Feedback from Stakeholders on the Structure of a Proposed Framework to Assess the Risk to the Effectiveness of Human and Animal Drugs Posed by Certain Antibacterial or Antifungal Pesticides” (also referred to as the concept document), a copy of which is available in the docket. EPA is also requesting public comments on potential solutions, research, or mitigation approaches to reduce the spread of AMR, and is specifically seeking public comment on the following questions for the proposed framework:

- Is the concept for the proposed framework (see Figure 1 in the concept document) appropriately defined and clear to stakeholders?
- Are there specific types of pesticides that should be evaluated under the framework, either by class or function?
- What factors that should be considered in determining if a proposed pesticide use constitutes a potential risk to human or animal health due to AMR?

- How to determine which human and animal antimicrobial drugs should be considered ‘medically important’ and how should this term be defined?

- What mitigation strategies are currently available to address the risk of AMR developing because of pesticide use?

Comment is also requested on the list of research gaps that could help inform risk assessment and mitigation addressed in this framework, including agricultural methods or other processes that could minimize the potential for these pesticides to select for resistant organisms and strategies to prevent infection or colonization related to pathogen exposure, including:

- How do organisms that might have developed resistance by exposure to these pesticides come into contact with and cause illness in humans or animals (e.g., through direct contact, inhalation, ingestion, healthcare-associated transmission), and which human or animal populations are most affected (e.g., agricultural workers, persons handling compost, persons with immunocompromising conditions, persons living near treated fields, animals for food production, companion animals)?

- What are effective strategies to reduce the potential for these pesticides to select for antimicrobial-resistant bacteria and fungi? For example, which agricultural practices are effective in reducing the potential for these pesticides to select for AMR, including strategies to reduce the need for pesticide use and practices that reduce the likelihood that pesticide use will result in resistance emergence (e.g., crop rotations, specific pesticide formulations)?

- By which mechanisms do human or animal pathogenic bacteria and fungi spread through populations after becoming resistant through selection by these pesticides?

- What are the best approaches to determine the potential for pesticides to select for antimicrobial-resistant pathogens, and do chemical criteria exist that could help determine whether pesticides are more or less likely to pose health risks to humans or animals?

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136 *et seq.*

Dated: September 21, 2023.

Michal Freedhoff,

Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

[FR Doc. 2023–20929 Filed 9–25–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–11421–01–OA]

Establishment of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) Advisory Council

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; establishment of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions Advisory Council.

SUMMARY: As required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is giving notice that it is establishing the Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions Advisory Council. The purpose of this committee is to provide advice and recommendations to the EPA Administrator on critical policy and technical issues to advance equity in economic and social opportunities for all Americans and strengthen the capacity of HBCUs and MSIs to provide the highest-quality education, participate in and benefit from federal programs, and support key Administration policies. The EPA has determined that this federal advisory committee is necessary and in the public interest to provide critical advice and recommendations to assist the EPA in increasing outreach to underrepresented and underserved communities by developing a stronger partnership with HBCUs and MSIs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pradnya Bhandari, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW (Mail code 1448K), Washington, DC 20460, at 202–564–0381 or by email to bhandari.pradnya@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions Advisory Council will be established for a two-year period. Copies of the committee charter will be filed with the appropriate congressional committees and the Library of Congress.

Kathryn Jakob,

Director, Office of Public Engagement.

[FR Doc. 2023–20878 Filed 9–25–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P