

June 8, 1983

The nature of the Levitas resolution is primarily to place certain facts in evidence, Congressional staff explained. It establishes for the record that the agency did comply with the agreement reached with Levitas, he said. However, chairman Howard is not expected to allow any move to absolve Burford to go forward without some explanation from the Department of Justice of why no action has been taken.

At the hearing, Molinari said the citation has "served its purpose" and is "now of little use." It was a "tool to be used against Burford as a member of the Administration" but no longer serves as anything but a personal threat, he said. He added that it was Burford's intention all along to turn the documents over to Congress and said that further prosecution of Burford would serve no useful purpose.

Committee staff members Robert Prolman and Charles Ziegler told the subcommittee that they believed the information the subcommittee had subpoenaed had been supplied to them. Prolman said while it would never be possible to ensure the integrity of EPA's files, they appeared to be in their usual order, and said he believed the files to which the subcommittee had access were complete. Ziegler added, "It is my impression that they have lived up to the agreement."

EPA POSES HARVADE QUESTIONS TO THE FIFRA SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL

The FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) has been asked by EPA to respond to the following questions about Harvade, 2,3-dihydro-5,6-dimethyl-1,4-dithiin-1,1,4,4-tetraoxide, Uniroyal Company (See separate story and May 25, Page 2):

"First, does the incidence of any tumor type at any site appear relevant to predicting human risk from exposure to Harvade? If so, what tumor type at what site is appropriate for assessment of risk? Secondly, should carcinomas and adenomas of identical histological origin (like alveolar type lung tumors) be grouped or should they be considered separately in the assessment of risk?"

The questions were in a June 3 letter from William Burnam, Chief, Toxicology Branch, Hazard Evaluation Division (HED), OPP, EPA, to SAP member Dr. Robert M. Hollingworth, Professor, Department of Entomology, Purdue University (See April 6, Page 13).

Burnam said, "We are awaiting new pathology reports from Dr. James A. Swenberg, who is conducting an independent histopathologic evaluation of the male rat brain slides and from Dr. Larry J. Ackerman who is doing the same for male and female mouse lungs and rat livers. We expect their reports by June 10 and will forward them to you quickly. After we receive these pathology reports, it may be necessary for us to re-evaluate the statistical significance of the findings and recompute the anticipated risk."

He said that at the SAP meeting this month, HED officials will discuss Harvade's metabolism, general biological effects and exposure to humans. Dr. Louis Kasza, HED's staff pathologist, Burnam said, will present to SAP the oncogenicity evaluation and introduce Drs. Swenberg and Ackerman. He said, "Dr. Bertram Litt, our staff biostatistician, will present our interpretation of the significance of the findings and our use of statistical models and assumptions."

OWNER SUBMISSION DATA PROCEDURES DUE TO BE ISSUED BY EPA THIS WEEK

This week, EPA plans to issue a PR Notice covering the owner submission method of satisfying pesticide registration data requirements. The agency has made a change

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