

safeguards and general nuclear programs.

- Energy Conservation meets April 6 on hydroelectric energy; the geothermal energy resources and development fund; solar energy; energy conservation in buildings, industry and transportation; the Energy Information Administration; and the Solar Energy and Energy Conservation Bank.

- Water and Power meets at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 26, on the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Bonneville Power Administration and the Western Area Power Administration. A hearing on legislation to authorize the construction of additional hydroelectric generating facilities at existing dams is set for April 8.

- Energy Regulation has not yet announced its hearing schedule but will be meeting soon on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Economic Regulatory Administration and DOE's appliance efficiency and building energy performance standards. Check for schedule at x45356.

Other hearings by the Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee are described elsewhere in this issue of the Weekly Bulletin.

Contacts: Energy Conservation: Gary Barber, majority, x40613; Jim Bruce, minority, x49894. Energy R&D: Paul Gilman, majority, x46621; Will Smith, minority, x47530. Mineral Resources: Dave Russell, majority, x44971; Mike Harvey, minority, x49894. Energy Regulation: Marilyn Burkhart, majority, x45356; Ben Cooper, minority, x49894. Water and Power: Russ Brown, majority, x47166; Dan Dreyfus, minority, x49894. Public Lands: Tony Devinetto, majority, x45161; Tom Williams, minority, x49894.

TOXIC/HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

PCB - A House subcommittee next

month will explore the status of polychlorinated biphenyls from A to Z.

Government Operations' Environment Subcommittee plans an April 9 hearing on regulation of PCBs which have been linked to reproductive failures, gastric disorders, skin lesions, tumors and other health problems.

Subcommittee Chairman Moffett (D-Conn.) is concerned that existing regulations are insufficient to ensure safe storage, cleanup and disposal of the toxic chemicals, an aide says.

When Congress passed the Toxic Substances Control Act in 1976, it told the Environmental Protection Agency to draw up regulations to eliminate PCBs. But a U.S. Appeals Court last October threw out EPA's regulations. The agency currently is using an interim PCB control program while working on new permanent rules.

"We could be back to square one," the Moffett aide says.

PCBs have been used since 1929 as electrical transformer and capacitor cooling fluids. They are used also as sealants, road coatings, dye carriers and plasticizers, among other things.

In February, EPA discovered PCBs in Northeastern natural gas pipelines. The agency, states and industry are trying to find out why the PCBs are in the pipelines and what risks the chemicals' presence may cause.

Moffett will ask EPA for a status report on this investigation, the aide says.

Contacts: D. Ann Seyfrit, majority, x56427; Cathy Sands, minority, x52738.

WATER POLLUTION

GRANTS REFORM - Despite earlier indications to the contrary, Congress

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