ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPTS-82060; FRL-3638-1]

Asbestos in Public and Commercial Buildings; Public Meetings

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: EPA will hold two public meetings in September 1989 on the issue of asbestos in public and commercial buildings. The purpose of these meetings will be to inform interested individuals about the progress of ongoing policy dialogue meetings on asbestos in public and commercial buildings and to provide an opportunity for these individuals to comment on the issues and recommendations being considered by the policy dialogue group.

DATES: The meetings are scheduled as follows:

1. September 6, 1989, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Kansas City, Missouri.
2. September 7, 1989, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., San Francisco, California.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the following locations:

1. Kansas City—Hyatt Regency at Crown Center, 2345 McGee St., Kansas City, Missouri.
2. San Francisco—Holiday Inn Golden Gateway, 1500 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael M. Stahl, Director, Environmental Assistance Division (TS-799), Office of Toxic Substances, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. E545, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 554-1404, TDD: (202) 554-0551.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

To help determine the most appropriate response to take with respect to the issue of asbestos in public and commercial buildings, EPA has begun a policy dialogue with representatives from all groups which have a major interest in this issue. These groups include building owners, building workers, mortgage bankers, asbestos contractors and consultants, asbestos manufacturers, real estate interests, and insurance companies. Also included among the dialogue participants are representatives from the various Federal, State, and local organizations which have responsibility for the development and implementation of asbestos policies. In all, the dialogue group is comprised of approximately 35 invited participants and 12 invited observers. The Conservation Foundation is convening and facilitating this policy dialogue at EPA's request.

After an initial public meeting on May 3, 1989, three policy dialogue meetings have been held this summer in Washington, DC. The dates of these meetings were July 17, July 27-28, and August 22-23. Two additional dialogue meetings have been scheduled for October 3-4 and October 31, 1989. To date, the meetings have addressed the following four issue areas identified in the public meeting on May 3:

1. *Right-to-know* (i.e., the obligation of building owners to inspect their buildings for asbestos and notify their occupants of the results).
2. *Asbestos management options* (i.e., deciding how to manage building materials that are identified as asbestos-containing).
3. *Accreditation/training* (i.e., how to upgrade the quality of asbestos abatement personnel).
4. *Improperly performed removals* (i.e., how to ensure that asbestos removal work is performed properly).

In addition to the policy dialogue meetings described above, EPA plans to gain broader public involvement in the dialogue process by holding two additional public meetings in September 1989 (see above **DATES** unit) on the issue of asbestos in public and commercial buildings. The meetings in Kansas City and San Francisco on September 6 and September 7, respectively, are scheduled between the third and fourth policy dialogue meetings. The purpose of these two public meetings will be to inform interested individuals about the progress of the dialogue process and to provide them with an opportunity to comment on the issues being considered in the dialogue meetings. EPA believes that the comments made at these two meetings will be very useful to the dialogue group as it prepares for its final meetings.

II. Participants

All interested individuals and groups are invited to attend and to participate in the public meetings noted above in the **DATES** section.

Dated: August 25, 1989.

Charles L. Elkins,

Director, Office of Toxic Substances.

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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

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Part VI

Environmental Protection Agency

Asbestos in Commercial and Public Buildings; Notice of Public Meetings

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