

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

INTERAGENCY REGULATORY LIAISON GROUP

ESTABLISHMENT OF RADIOFREQUENCY/MICROWAVE COMMITTEE

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

→ SUMMARY: This notice announces that the ^{*Regulatory Development Workgroup of the*} Interagency Regulatory Liaison Group (IRLG) has established a committee to ^{*be responsible for a*} ~~coordinate a~~ review and analysis of the available data on radiofrequency and microwave exposure effects and to

coordinate member agency activities and responsibilities ^{*regarding radiofrequency and microwave exposure,*} ~~in this area.~~ The committee seeks public comment on ^{*any relevant issues and specifically on its*} ~~its~~

Health
or 2 draft statement on radiation protection philosophy and alternatives to standard setting.

DATES: Comments to contact person below by (insert date 60 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND COPIES OF STATEMENT, CONTACT:

Mays L. Swicord, Chairman,
IRLG Radiofrequency/Microwave Committee,
Bureau of Radiological Health (HFX-240),
Food and Drug Administration,
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare,
5600 Fishers Lane,
Rockville, MD 20857,
301-443-3840.

the subject of
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Because of uncertainty about ^(only?) low level exposure effects, *the Regulatory Development Work Group, established the Radiation Protection Workgroup to coordinate* one of eight work groups of the IRLG, ~~focuses on~~ radiofrequency/microwave exposure ~~as~~ ^{is} one of several priority items for ~~joint~~ ^{Regulatory Development} cooperative efforts. The Work Group has specifically recommended that the four agencies ~~should~~ assess the present data bases required for regulatory initiatives, especially with regard to the biological effects of low level radiation (particularly nonionizing), and ~~should~~ propose studies to fill any identified needs.

To this end, the member agencies of the IRLG (i.e., the Food and Drug Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission) announce the formation of a committee to ^{be responsible for} ~~coordinate~~ a review and analysis of the available data on radiofrequency and microwave exposure effects and to coordinate activities and responsibilities ^{regarding radiofrequency and microwave exposure} ~~in this area~~. This action is ~~taken as~~ another step toward meeting the IRLG objectives announced at a joint press conference ^{by the agency heads} on August 2, 1977.

OK w/ at Hearn?

The Radiofrequency/Microwave Committee has been specifically charged with the following objectives:

A. Develop a consistent radiation protection philosophy for radiofrequencies and microwaves.

B. Coordinate the development of a comprehensive bioeffects survey report on published experimental and epidemiological studies, considering the efforts of all agencies.

C. ~~Coordinate the~~ *Identification* of radiofrequency and microwave emitters and the populations exposed. Identify significant sources and categorize them.

D. Identify common research needs and coordinate a biological and physical research program.

E. Develop a coordinated control and corrective action plan in areas of overlapping jurisdictions.

The committee held its first meeting on October 12, 1978, and has had two later monthly meetings. *PH* The National

Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the Federal Communications Commission *have* ~~were asked to participate~~ *with them meetings* and *liaisons with other Federal agencies is being established* ~~had representatives at these meetings.~~

The committee *has* ~~decided~~ to seek a ~~balanced~~ *literature.* critical evaluation of the bioeffects research. Negotiations are underway with the National Academy of Sciences ~~to support Phase I of their unsolicited proposal in order~~ *in order* to accomplish this objective. The committee is considering a coordinated control and corrective action plan in a number of selected areas.

projecting
monthly
meetings
in future
life of
committee
years

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

The committee has drafted a statement of radiofrequency and microwave radiation protection philosophy with several alternative approaches to standard setting. The committee actively seeks public comment on this statement. For a draft copy and ~~further information on the activities of this committee contact:~~

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Mays L. Swicord, Chairman,
IRLG Radiofrequency/Microwave Committee,
Bureau of Radiological Health (HFX-240),
5600 Fishers Lane,
Rockville, MD 20857.

Comments on the draft statement *and other relevant matters* may be submitted to Mays L. Swicord at the address given above. Comments received by (insert date 60 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER) will be considered before the committee submits the statement to the IRLG for adoption.

Dated: _____.

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COPY

OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE	OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE	OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE