

# memorandum

DATE: March 5, 1999

REPLY TO

ATTN OF: Office of Environmental Policy and Assistance: Boulos: 6-1306

SUBJECT:

Advance Notice of a Proposed Clean Air Act Rule on n-Propyl Bromide as a Substitute for Class I and Class II Ozone-Depleting Substances, for Review and Comment

TO:

Distribution

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify Department of Energy (DOE) program offices and field organizations of, and solicit comments on, an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM), "Protection of Stratospheric Ozone; Listing of Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Substances (ODSs)."

On February 18, 1999, EPA issued an ANPRM in the *Federal Register* ([64 FR 8043](#)), to elicit the voluntary submission of information on n-propyl bromide (n-PB) under the EPA's Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) program. Under Section 612 of the Clean Air Act, EPA established the SNAP program. SNAP's mandate is to identify alternatives to ODSs and to publish lists of acceptable and unacceptable substitutes. Comprehensive SNAP lists can be obtained through EPA's Stratospheric Ozone Protection Hotline at: 1-800-296-1996.

In this ANPRM, EPA is seeking public comment as part of the development of effective regulatory options on the listing of n-PB as acceptable or unacceptable for the various submitted end-uses under SNAP. EPA believes that the available information regarding n-PB is either significantly uncertain or incomplete. Based on information collected as part of this ANPRM, EPA intends to propose a future determination on whether n-PB is acceptable as a substitute for class I and class II ozone-depleting substances, and, if acceptable, a determination of an occupational exposure limit. This limit would be designated to protect worker safety until the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) sets its own standards under public Law 91-596.

The ANPRM is available on the Office of Environmental Policy and Assistance Home Page (EH-41) at: <http://tis.eh.doe.gov/oepa/rules/64fr8043.pdf>.

Please review the advance notice from the program and operations perspective and provide your written comments to Emile Boulos by April 5, 1999. Mr. Boulos can be reached at: [emile.boulos@eh.doe.gov](mailto:emile.boulos@eh.doe.gov); 202-586-1306. In developing comments, please indicate the specific page and section of the preamble of the *Federal Register* to which each comment pertains. If comments are received, a consolidated Departmental response will be developed by EH-41 and submitted to EPA.

If you have any questions concerning this rule, please contact Emile Boulos of my staff at: [emile.boulos@eh.doe.gov](mailto:emile.boulos@eh.doe.gov); 202-586-1306 or Ted Koss at: [theodore.koss@eh.doe.gov](mailto:theodore.koss@eh.doe.gov); 202-586-7964.

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