

Part VIII. Evaluation of the Pilot Program

The pilot program is designed to allow the USPTO to evaluate how having a limited number of claims under examination affects pendency and examination quality. Accordingly, the USPTO intends to collect data on the progression of applications accepted into the pilot program throughout the examination process. During or after the pilot program, the USPTO will provide avenues for participants to provide feedback on their experience with the pilot program. As applicable, the USPTO will follow the United States Government Accountability Office's (GAO's) leading practices for effective pilot design, including (1) establishing clear objectives; (2) collecting relevant data; (3) evaluating outcomes; (4) considering scalability; and (5) ensuring stakeholder communication. *See* GAO, *Data Act: Section 5 Pilot Design Issues Need to Be Addressed to Meet Goal of Reducing Recipient Reporting Burden*, GAO-16-438 (April 19, 2016).

John A. Squires,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2025-19669 Filed 10-24-25; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OPP-2025-0756; FRL-12903-03-OCSPP]

FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP); Notice of Postponement of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agency has postponed the 3-day virtual public meeting of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Scientific Advisory Panel (FIFRA SAP) for peer review on "Determining the Absence of Novel Proteins in the Saliva of Genetically Engineered Mosquitoes for Mosquito Control" scheduled for November 3 to 5, 2025. The meeting was announced in the **Federal Register** on July 24, 2025. The meeting will be rescheduled.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alie Muneer, Designated Federal Official, Mission Support Division, Office of Program Support, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, Environmental Protection Agency; telephone number: (202) 564-6369 or

the main office number: (202) 564-8450; email address: muneer.alie@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting was announced in the **Federal Register** on July 24, 2025 (90 FR 34864 (FRL-12903-01-OCSPP)). This meeting is being rescheduled due to the lapse in government appropriations and its impact on potential and existing panel members. A new notice announcing the new date will be published in the **Federal Register** at least 15 days prior to the meeting being held.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 10; 7 U.S.C. 136 *et seq.*; 21 U.S.C. 301 *et seq.*

Dated: October 22, 2025.

Nancy B. Beck,

Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

[FR Doc. 2025-19663 Filed 10-24-25; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**Office of the Secretary****Determination Pursuant to Section 102 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, as Amended**

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of determination.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Homeland Security has determined, pursuant to law, that it is necessary to waive certain laws, regulations, and other legal requirements in order to ensure the expeditious construction of barriers and roads in the vicinity of the international land border in the state of Texas.

DATES: This determination takes effect on October 27, 2025.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Important mission requirements of the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") include border security and the detection and prevention of illegal entry into the United States. Border security is critical to the nation's national security. Recognizing the critical importance of border security, Congress has mandated DHS to achieve and maintain operational control of the international land border. Secure Fence Act of 2006, Public Law 109-367, section 2, 120 Stat. 2638 (Oct. 26, 2006) (8 U.S.C. 1701 note). Congress defined "operational control" as the prevention of all unlawful entries into the United States, including entries by terrorists, other unlawful aliens, instruments of terrorism, narcotics, and other

contraband. *Id.* Consistent with that mandate, the President's Executive Order on Securing Our Borders directs that I take all appropriate action to deploy and construct physical barriers to ensure complete operational control of the southern border of the United States. Executive Order 14165, section 3 (Jan. 20, 2025).

Congress has provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security a number of authorities necessary to carry out DHS's border security mission. One of those authorities is found at section 102 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, as amended ("IIRIRA"). Public Law 104-208, Div. C, 110 Stat. 3009-546, 3009-554 (Sept. 30, 1996) (8 U.S.C. 1103 note), as amended by the REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law 109-13, Div. B, 119 Stat. 231, 302, 306 (May 11, 2005) (8 U.S.C. 1103 note), as amended by the Secure Fence Act of 2006, Public Law 109-367, section 3, 120 Stat. 2638 (Oct. 26, 2006) (8 U.S.C. 1103 note), as amended by the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008, Public Law 110-161, Div. E, Title V, section 564, 121 Stat. 2090 (Dec. 26, 2007). In section 102(a) of IIRIRA, Congress provided that the Secretary of Homeland Security shall take such actions as may be necessary to install additional physical barriers and roads (including the removal of obstacles to detection of illegal entrants) in the vicinity of the United States border to deter illegal crossings in areas of high illegal entry into the United States. In section 102(b) of IIRIRA, Congress mandated that in carrying out the authority of section 102(a), I provide for the installation of additional fencing, barriers, roads, lighting, cameras, and sensors to achieve and maintain operational control of the border. Finally, in section 102(c) of IIRIRA, Congress granted to the Secretary of Homeland Security the authority to waive all legal requirements that I, in my sole discretion, determine necessary to ensure the expeditious construction of barriers and roads authorized by section 102 of IIRIRA.

Determination and Waiver**Section 1**

The United States Border Patrol Del Rio Sector is an area of high illegal entry. Between fiscal year 2021 and July 2025, Border Patrol apprehended over 1,408,600 illegal aliens attempting to enter the United States between border crossings in the Del Rio Sector. In that same time period Border Patrol seized over 275 pounds of marijuana, over 131 pounds of cocaine, over 18 pounds of

heroin, over 353 pounds of methamphetamine, and over five pounds of fentanyl.

Since the President took office, DHS has delivered the most secure border in history. More can and must be done, however. As the statistics cited above demonstrate, the Del Rio Sector is an area of high illegal entry where illegal aliens regularly attempt to enter the United States and smuggle illicit drugs, and given my mandate to achieve and maintain operational control of the border, I must use my authority under section 102 of IIRIRA to install additional barriers and roads in the Del Rio Sector. Therefore, DHS will take immediate action to construct additional barriers and roads in a segment of the border in the Del Rio Sector. The segment where such construction will occur is referred to herein as the “project area,” which is more specifically described in Section 2 below.

Section 2

I determine that the following area in the vicinity of the United States border, located in the State of Texas within the U. S. Border Patrol Del Rio Sector, is an area of high illegal entry (the “project area”): Within the Del Rio Sector, starting at approximately GPS point 29.09, – 100.67 and extending south and east to approximately GPS point 28.47, – 100.36.

There is presently an acute and immediate need to construct additional physical barriers and roads in the vicinity of the border of the United States in order to prevent unlawful entries into the United States in the project area pursuant to section 102(a) and 102(b) of IIRIRA. In order to ensure the expeditious construction of additional physical barriers and roads in the project area, I have determined that it is necessary that I exercise the authority that is vested in me by section 102(c) of IIRIRA.

Accordingly, pursuant to section 102(c) of IIRIRA, I hereby waive in their entirety, with respect to the construction of physical barriers and roads (including, but not limited to, accessing the project areas, creating and using staging areas, the conduct of earthwork, excavation, fill, and site preparation, and installation and upkeep of physical barriers, roads, supporting elements, drainage, erosion controls, safety features, lighting, cameras, and sensors) in the project area, all of the following statutes, including all federal, state, or other laws, regulations, and legal requirements of, deriving from, or related to the subject of, the following

statutes, as amended: The National Environmental Policy Act (Pub. L. 91–190, 83 Stat. 852 (Jan. 1, 1970) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*)); the Endangered Species Act (Pub. L. 93–205, 87 Stat. 884 (Dec. 28, 1973) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*)); the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly referred to as the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*)); the National Historic Preservation Act (Pub. L. 89–665, 80 Stat. 915 (Oct. 15, 1966), as amended, repealed, or replaced by Pub. L. 113–287 (Dec. 19, 2014) (formerly codified at 16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*, now codified at 54 U.S.C. 100101 note and 54 U.S.C. 300101 *et seq.*)); the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 *et seq.*); the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715 *et seq.*); the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*); the Archeological Resources Protection Act (Pub. L. 96–95 (16 U.S.C. 470aa *et seq.*)); the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470aaa *et seq.*); the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 (16 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.*); the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1241 *et seq.*); the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f *et seq.*); the Noise Control Act (42 U.S.C. 4901 *et seq.*); the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 *et seq.*); the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*); the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act (Pub. L. 86–523, as amended, repealed, or replaced by Pub. L. 113–287 (Dec. 19, 2014) (formerly codified at 16 U.S.C. 469 *et seq.*, now codified at 54 U.S.C. 312502 *et seq.*)); the Antiquities Act (formerly codified at 16 U.S.C. 431 *et seq.* and 16 U.S.C. 431a *et seq.*, now codified 54 U.S.C. 320301 *et seq.*); the Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act (formerly codified at 16 U.S.C. 461 *et seq.*, now codified at 54 U.S.C. 320301–320303 & 320101–320106); the Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*); the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001 *et seq.*); the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 551 *et seq.*); Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act (42 U.S.C. 17094); the National Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (Pub. L. 84–1024 (16 U.S.C. 742a, *et seq.*)); the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (Pub. L. 73–121 (16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*)); the Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. 4201 *et seq.*); the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (Pub. L. 94–579 (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*)); the Wild Horse and Burro Act (16 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*); 43 U.S.C. 387; the Wild and

Scenic Rivers Act (Pub. L. 90–542 (16 U.S.C. 1281 *et seq.*); the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403 *et seq.*); the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, (16 U.S.C. 136–136y); and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1361–1421h).

This waiver does not revoke or supersede any other waiver determination made pursuant to section 102(c) of IIRIRA. Such waivers shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with their terms. I reserve the authority to execute further waivers from time to time as I may determine to be necessary under section 102 of IIRIRA.

Kristi Noem,

Secretary of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 2025–19656 Filed 10–24–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–14–P

JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

Advisory Committee on Evidence Rules; Meeting of the Judicial Conference

AGENCY: Judicial Conference of the United States.

ACTION: Advisory Committee on Evidence Rules; revised notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The Advisory Committee on Evidence Rules will hold a meeting virtually on November 5, 2025, rather than in New Orleans, LA, as previously announced. The meeting is open to the public only for remote observation with no participation. Please see the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section in this notice for instructions on observing the meeting.

DATES: November 5, 2025.

ADDRESSES: An agenda and supporting materials will be posted at least 7 days in advance of the meeting at: <https://www.uscourts.gov/forms-rules/records-rules-committees/agenda-books>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carolyn A. Dubay, Chief Counsel, Rules Committee Staff, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building, One Columbus Circle NE, Suite 7–300, Washington, DC 20544, Phone (202) 502–1820, RulesCommittee_Secretary@ao.uscourts.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Remote registration is available until the meeting date, provided it is completed before the projected end time. The announcement for this meeting was previously published in the **Federal**