ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Montel Livingston, Environmental Protection Specialist (AT–082), Air Programs Section, at the EPA Regional Office listed below.

Copies of the documents relevant to this proposed rule are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the following locations. The interested persons wanting to examine these documents should make an appointment with the appropriate office at least 24 hours before the visiting day. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, Air Programs Section, 1200 6th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, 811 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204–1390.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christi Lee, Air Programs Branch (AT– 082), EPA, 1200 6th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101, (206) 553–1814.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: See the information provided in the Direct Final action which is located in the Rules Section of this Federal Register.

Dated: September 22, 1995. Carol M. Browner, *U.S. EPA Administrator.* [FR Doc. 95–24040 Filed 9–28–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

40 CFR Part 180

[PP 5E4464/P629; FRL-4973-7]

RIN 2070-AC18

Linuron; Pesticide Tolerance

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA proposes to increase the established tolerance for residues of the herbicide linuron in or on the raw agricultural commodity asparagus. The proposed regulation to increase the maximum permissible level for residues of linuron was requested in a petition submitted by the Interregional Research Project No. 4 (IR-4) pursuant to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA).

DATES: Comments, identified by the document control number, [PP 5E4464/ P629], must be received on or before October 30, 1995.

ADDRESSES: By mail, submit written comments to: Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St. SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, bring comments to: Rm. 1132, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA 22202. Comments and data may also be submitted to OPP by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number [PP 5E4464/P629]. Electronic comments on this proposed rule may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found in the "SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION" section of this document.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as 'Confidential Business Information.' CBI should not be submitted through email. Information marked as CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. All written comments will be available for public inspection in Rm. 1132 at the address given above, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Hoyt L. Jamerson, Registration Division (7505W), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St. SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Sixth Floor, Crystal Station #1, 2800 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA 22202, (703)-308-8783; e-mail: jamerson.hoyt@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Interregional Research Project No. 4 (IR-4), New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, P.O. Box 231, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, submitted a pesticide petition (PP 5E4464) to EPA on behalf of the IR-4 Agricultural Experiment Stations of California, Indiana, Michigan, and New Jersey. The petition requests that the Administrator, pursuant to section 408(e) of the FFDCA, 21 U.S.C. 346a(e), amend 40 CFR 180.184 by increasing the established tolerance for residues of the herbicide linuron [3-(3,4dichlorophenyl)-1-methoxy-1methylurea] in or on the raw agricultural commodity asparagus from 3.0 parts per million (ppm) to 7.0 ppm. IR-4 proposed the increased tolerance for asparagus in response to the reregistration eligibility review and decisions on the pesticide case linuron, which was completed by EPA on April 28, 1995. The Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) requires that the established tolerance for linuron on asparagus be increased to 7.0 ppm.

The scientific data submitted with the petition and other relevant material have been evaluated. The toxicological data considered in support of the proposed tolerance include:

1. A 1-year feeding study in dogs, which were fed diets containing 10, 25, 125, or 625 ppm (equivalent to 0.29, 0.79, 4.17, or 18.6 milligrams (mg)/ kilogram (kg)/day for males; 0.3, 0.77, 3.49, or 16.1 mg/kg/day for females), with a no-observed-effect level (NOEL) for systemic toxicity of 25 ppm. The lowest-observed-effect level (LOEL) was established at 125 ppm based on hematology changes.

2. A 2-year feeding/carcinogenicity study in Sprague-Dawley rats, which were fed diets containing 50, 125, or 625 ppm (equivalent to 2.5, 6.25, or 31.25 mg/kg/day), with systemic NOEL's of 50 ppm for females and 625 ppm for males. The LOEL for systemic toxicity for females was established at 125 ppm based on hematotoxicity (a decrease in the percent hemoglobin). There was no decrease in percent hemoglobin in male rats at any dosage level tested. Testicular interstitial cell adenomas were observed at a significantly increased incidence in male rats fed diets containing 125 and 625 ppm.

3. A 2-year feeding study in albino rats, which were fed diets containing 25, 125, or 625 ppm (equivalent to 1.25, 6.25, or 31.25 mg/kg/day), with a systemic NOEL of 125 ppm. Growth retardation and findings indicative of red blood cell disintegration were observed at the LOEL of 625 ppm.

4. An 18-month feeding study was conducted in rats to study the effects of linuron on methemoglobin and sulfhemoglobin blood concentrations. The dietary levels tested were 25, 125, or 625 ppm (1.25, 6.25, or 31.25 mg/kg/ day). Significant changes in blood pigment were observed in the mid- and high-dose female rats and the high-dose male rats. NOELs were established at 125 ppm for male rats and 25 ppm for female rats.

5. A 2-year feeding/carcinogenicity in CD-1 mice, which were fed diets containing 50, 150, or 1,500 ppm (12, 35, or 455 mg/kg/day), showed a statistically significant increase in the