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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 99F-0299]

Alcide Corp. Inc.; Filing of Food Additive Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that Alcide Corp. has filed a petition proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of aqueous solutions of acidified sodium chlorite as an antimicrobial agent on raw agricultural commodities.

DATES: Written comments on the petitioner's environmental assessment by (insert date 30 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER).

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

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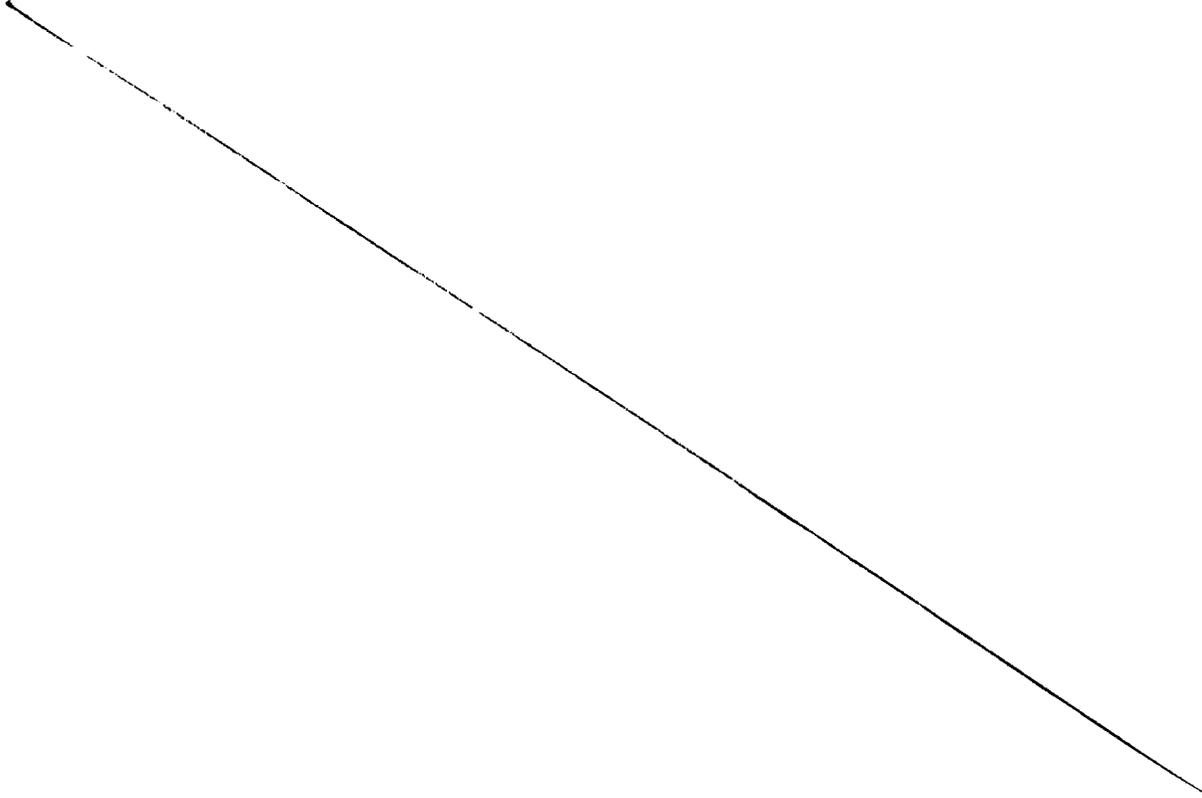
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert L. Martin,
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS-215),
Food and Drug Administration,
200 c St. Sw.,
Washington, DC 20204-0001,
202-418-3074.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (sec. 409(b)(5) (21 U.S.C. 348(b)(5))), notice is given that a petition (FAP 9A4648) has been filed by **Alcide Corp.**, 8561 154th Ave. NE., Redmond, WA 98052. The petition proposes to amend the food additive regulations in 21 CFR 173.325 to provide for the safe use of aqueous solutions of acidified sodium chlorite as an antimicrobial agent on raw agricultural commodities.

The potential environmental impact of this action is being reviewed. To encourage public participation consistent with regulations issued under the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1501.4(b)), the agency is placing the environmental assessment submitted with the petition that is the subject of this notice on public display at the Dockets Management Branch (address above) for public review and comment. Interested persons may, on or before (insert date 30 days after date of publication in the **FEDERAL REGISTER**), submit to the Dockets Management Branch (address above)

written comments. Two copies of any comments are to be submitted, except that individuals may submit one copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. Received comments may be seen in the office above between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. FDA will also place on public display any amendments to, or comments on, the petitioner's environmental assessment without further announcement in the FEDERAL REGISTER. If, based on its review, the agency finds that an environmental impact statement is not required and this petition results in a regulation, the notice of availability of the agency's finding of no significant impact and the evidence



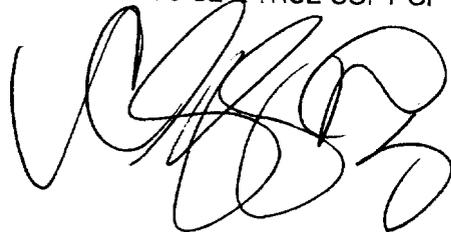
supporting that finding will be published with the regulation in the FEDERAL REGISTER in accordance with 21 CFR 25.40(c).

Dated: February 19, 1999
February 18, 1999

Laura M. Tarantino

Laura M. Tarantino
Acting Director
Office of Premarket
Approval
Center for Food Safety and
Applied Nutrition

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'LMT' or similar, written over the printed name of the certifier.