Message

From: Strauss, Linda [Strauss.Linda@epa.gov]
Sent: 12/12/2017 9:35:11 PM
To: Beck, Nancy [Beck.Nancy@epa.gov]; Keigwin, Richard [Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov]
CC: Bertrand, Charlotte [Bertrand.Charlotte@epa.gov]; Wise, Louise [Wise.Louise@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: LINDA/OPP: Key West Citizen - 12/12 - genetically modified mosquito proposal

Rick?

From: Beck, Nancy
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 4:26 PM
To: Strauss, Linda <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov>
Cc: Bertrand, Charlotte <Bertrand.Charlotte@epa.gov>; Wise, Louise <Wise.Louise@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: LINDA/OPP: Key West Citizen - 12/12 - genetically modified mosquito proposal

Is it public knowledge that we have the EUP?

Nancy B. Beck, Ph.D., DABT
Deputy Assistant Administrator, OCSPP
P: 202-564-1273
M: 202-731-9910
Beck.Nancy@epa.gov

On Dec 12, 2017, at 4:19 PM, Strauss, Linda <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov> wrote:

> OK to go? Rick wrote it ☺
>
> Response: We only got the application for the experimental use permit last week. We are completing a screen of the application to ensure that it is complete. Once it is complete, we will begin the scientific evaluation. Under PRIA, the application has a review period of several months.
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> **From:** Daguillard, Robert
> **Sent:** Friday, December 08, 2017 11:16 AM
> **To:** Strauss, Linda <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov>; Dunton, Cheryl <Dunton.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Sisco, Debby <Sisco.Debby@epa.gov>; Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>; Lantz, Tracy <Lantz.Tracy@epa.gov>
> **Subject:** LINDA/OPP: Key West Citizen - 12/12 - genetically modified mosquito proposal
>
> **OUTLET** **KEY WEST CITIZEN**
> **REPORTER** **TIM O'HARA**
> **DDL** **APPROX. TUESDAY 12/12**
>
> **Good morning team,**
>
> **The reporter says he reached out directly to OXITEC, which told him we are not requiring a full environmental impact assessment before registering their product. However, the head of a popular initiative that opposed testing OXITEC's GE mosquitoes in Key West, tells him we are. The reporter wants to know who is right, and where the registration process for this particular product stands.**

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I am a reporter with the Key West Citizen newspaper. We are the daily paper here in the Florida Keys. The EPA has taken over responsibility for approving or rejecting a proposal by a company called Oxitec, which wants to release millions of genetically modified mosquitoes as part of mosquito eradication or suppression effort here in the Keys. The Food and Drug Administration had been handling the approval of the test release but it has been passed along to the EPA.

I have a few questions about where in the process Oxitec's request is and whether your agency is requiring them to perform a full blown environmental impact statement or rely on the environmental assessment conducted when FDA was handling it.

Also, I wanted to establish a regular media contact for this issue.
If someone can call me or email me back I would appreciate it.