



EPA

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

EPA Initiatives on Chemicals and Pollution Prevention

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OVERVIEW

- ➔ TSCA Reform
- ➔ Improving Chemicals Management under TSCA
- ➔ Increasing Public Access to Information
- ➔ Regulating Nanoscale Materials
- ➔ Managing Mercury
- ➔ Implementing the Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule
- ➔ Preventing Pollution

TSCA REFORM

- September 2009, EPA Administrator Jackson announced plan to enhance EPA's chemical management program that included the release of a set of Administration principles on TSCA reform.
- On April 15, Sen. Lautenberg introduced the "Safe Chemicals Act of 2010."
- On July 22, Congressmen Waxman and Rush introduced the "Toxic Chemicals Safety Act of 2010."

ADMINISTRATION PRINCIPLES FOR LEGISLATIVE REFORM

- ① Chemicals Should be Reviewed Against Safety Standards that are Based on Sound Science and Reflect Risk-based Criteria Protective of Human Health and the Environment.
- ② Manufacturers Should Provide EPA with the Necessary Information to Conclude That New and Existing Chemicals are Safe and Do Not Endanger Public Health or the Environment.
- ③ Risk Management Decisions Should Take into Account Sensitive Subpopulations, Cost, Availability of Substitutes and Other Relevant Considerations.

ADMINISTRATION PRINCIPLES FOR LEGISLATIVE REFORM

- ④ Manufacturers and EPA Should Assess and Act on Priority Chemicals, Both Existing and New, in a Timely Manner.
- ⑤ Green Chemistry Should Be Encouraged and Provisions Assuring Transparency and Public Access to Information Should Be Strengthened.
- ⑥ EPA Should Be Given a Sustained Source of Funding for Implementation.

ENHANCED CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- While TSCA reform is underway, use existing law to greatest extent possible.
- Comprehensive effort includes:
 - New regulatory risk management actions
 - Development of chemical Action Plans which focuses risk management efforts on chemicals of concern.
 - Requiring industry to submit information needed to understand chemical risks.
 - Increasing public access to information about chemicals.

CHEMICAL ACTION PLANS

- Action Plans released on phthalates, PBDEs, perflourinated chemicals (PFCs), short-chain chlorinated paraffins, BPA, benzidine dyes, hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) and nonylphenol (NP)/nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs).
 - Actions include: Chemicals of Concern list, Section 6 actions to ban or limit uses, TSCA test rules and significant new use rules, new TRI reporting, and DfE and Green Chemistry approaches for alternatives assessment.
- EPA will continue to address chemicals that pose a concern.

INCREASING ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- July 2009 – Addition of 530 chemicals on TSCA Inventory
- January 2010 – New policy for review of CBI chemical identity claims for notices of substantial risks
- March 2010 – Free access to consolidated TSCA inventory on EPA and Data.Gov websites
- May 2010 – Integrated TSCA facility and chemical information into Envirofacts
- June 2010 – New policy for review of CBI chemical identity claims for all health and safety studies.
- Additional efforts in coming months.

REGULATING NANOSCALE MATERIALS UNDER TSCA

- EPA has reviewed over 100 new chemical notices for new nanoscale materials (NMs) and has taken steps to control or limit exposures.
- Developing three proposed TSCA rules to ensure that existing NMs receive appropriate regulatory review
 - Section 5 – Significant New Use rule (SNUR)
 - Section 8 – Information gathering rule
 - Section 4 – Test rule

LEAD RENOVATION REPAIR AND PAINTING RULE (LRRP)

- The LRRP rule requires certification/training in lead safe work practices for contractors working in pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities.
 - Since April, EPA has certified nearly 52,000 renovation firms and accredited 310 training providers. Nearly 20,000 training courses have been attended by an estimated 449,000 individuals.
- LRRP Rule effective April 22, 2010
 - In June, the Agency announced that it will delay enforcement for violations of the firm certification requirements until after Oct. 1, 2010.
 - EPA will also delay enforcement against renovators if the individual is enrolled in training by Sept. 30, 2010 and takes the training by Dec. 31, 2010.
- To date, only nine states have been authorized to administer the LRRP program. EPA will continue to use STAG funds to support these programs.

MERCURY

- Domestically, OPPT is continuing its regulatory work on mercury in products
 - Developing TSCA Section 6 rule for mercury in certain products - switches (including thermostats), relays, flame sensors, and button cell batteries
 - Developing TSCA Section 5(a)(2) significant new use rule for mercury in certain products - barometers, manometers, and hygro/psychrometers
 - Planning for implementation of Mercury export ban and long-term storage beginning in 2013
- Internationally, EPA is active in efforts to control mercury as well.
 - UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Mercury-Containing Products Partnership Area meeting in Washington, D.C. (April 2010)
 - UNEP Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee meeting for mercury treaty (June 2010)
 - Reviewing proposals to amend Heavy Metals Protocol for the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution, to include mercury in products.

POLLUTION PREVENTION

- 20th Anniversary of the Pollution Prevention Act
 - EPA-States P2 dialogue, Sept. 8-9
 - P2 Week, Sept. 20-24
 - Webinars
 - Green Supplies Network (GSN) event in W. Michigan
 - Possible E3 event in Milwaukee, WI
- Expansion of E3 (Economy, Energy, and Environment) projects
 - W. VA and Appalachia, MI, WI, etc
 - Interagency MOU
- Design for the Environment (DfE)
 - Over 2000 DfE recognized “safer cleaning” products
 - Enhanced criteria, audits, and outreach
 - Alternatives assessments for action plan chemicals

RESOURCES

For additional information, visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/>