



SCHC Monthly Newsletter

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

GHS

GHS Purple Book 7th Edition Released.....1

EPA

EPA Published the Final Rule on the TSCA Inventory Notification.....1

EPA Eliminates New-Chemical Backlog, Announces Improvements To New Chemical Safety Reviews.....1-3

OSHA

Technical Resources for Hurricane Harvey.....3-4

MEETINGS

Negotiated Rulemaking Committee: Chemical Data Reporting Requirements for Inorganic Byproducts.....4

MISC

SCHC Received a Certificate of Recognition.....5

UN Report from the July 2017 Meeting of the Subcommittee of Experts on the GHS.....5

Hazardous Materials Markings, Labeling and Placarding Guide Update.....5

OSHA

GHS Purple Book 7th Edition Released

Click [Here](#) to read more.

EPA

Publishes the Final Rule on the TSCA Inventory Notification

The 2016 amendments to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) require EPA to designate chemical substances on the TSCA Chemical Substance Inventory as either “active” or “inactive” in U.S. commerce. To accomplish that, EPA is establishing a retrospective electronic notification of chemical substances on the TSCA Inventory that were manufactured (including imported) for nonexempt commercial purposes during the 10-year time period ending on June 21, 2016, with provision to also allow notification by processors. EPA will use these notifications to distinguish active substances from inactive substances. EPA will include the active and inactive designations on the TSCA Inventory and as part of its regular publications of the Inventory. EPA is also establishing procedures for forward-looking electronic notification of chemical substances on the TSCA Inventory that are designated as inactive, if and when the manufacturing or processing of such chemical substances for nonexempt commercial purposes is expected to resume. On receiving forward-looking notification, EPA will change the designation of the pertinent chemical substance on the TSCA Inventory from inactive to active. EPA is establishing the procedures regarding the manner in which such retrospective and forward-looking activity notifications must be submitted, the details of the notification requirements, exemptions from such requirements, and procedures for handling claims.

Dates: This final rule is effective on August 11, 2017.

EPA Eliminates New-Chemical Backlog, Announces Improvements To New Chemical Safety Reviews

Administrator Pruitt Strengthens TSCA New Chemical Review Program to Ensure Safety, Transparency and Continuous Improvements

WASHINGTON (August 7, 2017) – Following through with Administrator Pruitt’s commitment to eliminating the backlog of new chemical cases that were stuck in EPA’s review processes upon his confirmation, Administrator Pruitt is reporting that the backlog is eliminated.





EPA (Cont.)

“EPA has a tremendous responsibility to review new chemicals intended to enter the U.S. market for safety,” said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. “EPA can either be a roadblock to new products, or it can be supporter of innovation and ever-improving chemical safety. I am happy to report that the backlog of new chemical reviews is eliminated. With the ongoing commitment of the staff working on TSCA reviews, and input from stakeholders, our goal is to ensure a new chemicals program that is both protective of human health and the environment, while also being supportive of bringing new chemicals to market.”

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), amended by the 2016 Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act, ensures that EPA must make an affirmative safety determination before a new chemical can come to market. EPA can request more information from chemical companies if it needs more information to make a safety determination.

When Administrator Pruitt was confirmed, over 600 new chemicals were ‘stuck’ in the EPA review process. The current caseload is back at the baseline and now in line with the typical active workload. Administrator Pruitt committed to being a partner in the regulatory process, and ensuring safety for health and the environment, while also seeking ways to allow new chemicals to enter the market quickly, once EPA is assured that the chemical is not likely to present unreasonable risk for the intended and reasonably foreseen uses.

In addition to announcing the elimination of the backlog, EPA Administrator Pruitt is committing the Agency to a more predictable and transparent process for making safety determinations through a commitment to following operating principles; continuously improving; and, increasing the transparency in the decision-making for new chemical safety determinations.

“Not only do I support reducing the backlogs that have built up at this Agency, I also encourage continuous improvement and increased transparency,” said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. Additional Details of New Measures to Strengthen EPA’s New Chemicals Review

EPA is committing to the following operating principles in its review of new chemicals:

- Where the intended uses in premanufacture notices (PMNs) or other Section 5 notices (such as low volume exemption (LVE) requests) raise risk concerns, EPA will work with submitters, and, if the submitters submit timely amended PMNs addressing those concerns, EPA will generally make determinations based on those amended submissions.
- Where EPA has concerns with reasonably foreseen uses, but not with the intended uses as described in a PMN or LVE application, as a general matter, those concerns can be addressed through significant new use rules.
- As described in the risk evaluation rule EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt signed on June 22, 2017, identification of reasonably foreseen conditions of use will be fact-specific. It is reasonable to foresee a condition of use, for example, where facts suggest the activity is not only possible, but, over time under proper conditions, probable.
- The purpose of testing in a Section 5 order is to reduce uncertainty in regard to risk. Specifically, it is to address risk concerns that gave rise to a finding of “may present unreasonable risk” or another Section 5 finding other than “not likely to present unreasonable risk.” In addition, consistent with the statute, any request for testing by EPA will be structured to reduce and replace animal testing as appropriate.

EPA supports continued improvement of EPA’s TSCA new chemicals program, including:

- Redeploying staff to increase the number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staff working on new chemicals.
- Initiating a LEAN exercise to streamline work processes around new chemicals review.
- Institutionalizing a voluntary pre-submission consultation process so that submitters have a clear understanding of what information will be most useful for EPA’s review of their new chemical submission, and of what they can expect from EPA during the review process. While such engagement prior to submission is an additional up-front time and resource commitment by submitters and EPA, it should more than pay for itself with faster, better-informed EPA reviews.





EPA (Cont.)

EPA needs to be more transparent in how it makes decisions on new chemicals under TSCA:

- In Fall 2017, EPA's Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT) intends to release, for public comment and stakeholder engagement, draft documents that will provide the public with more certainty and clarity regarding how EPA makes new chemical determinations and what external information will help facilitate these determinations.
- EPA will facilitate a public dialogue on the Agency's goal of continued improvement in the new chemicals review program.
- EPA will continue posting weekly web updates of program statistics, so that manufacturers and the public can determine the disposition of cases as quickly as possible.

For more information on the TSCA program, please visit [This Website](#).

OSHA

Hurricane Harvey Relief

OSHA is committed to protecting all workers involved in Hurricane cleanup and recovery operations. OSHA recognizes the strong ties that our partners and alliance organizations have with local communities and would appreciate your assistance in helping us reach employers, workers, and stakeholders in the affected areas.

OSHA has a wealth of technical resources and products that contain critical safety and health information on expected hazards for cleanup and recovery workers including the [OSHA Hurricane Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Webpage](#) and the [OSHA Flood Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Webpage](#). To make it easier to find information by hazard or topic, OSHA has consolidated the key resources related to worker safety and health hazards and protective measures on these webpages and in the attached resource list. In addition, the Secretary of Labor and OSHA have recorded audio public service announcements that are available on the [DOL Hurricane Recovery Assistance Page](#).

We would appreciate your assistance getting this information out to Hurricane cleanup and recovery workers, employers, volunteers, and stakeholders in several ways. Please disseminate the webpage links above and the attached resource list to your members and stakeholders through email blasts, newsletters, and social media. If you are providing hurricane response and recovery information on your webpage, we would also appreciate you linking to the primary webpages listed above as well.

In addition, we know that printed copies of fact sheets and QuickCards that can be handed out in the affected areas will be critical because of the loss of power and access to the internet. OSHA has a limited supply of printed copies, which will be distributed in the affected areas. If you have local chapters/affiliates that will be providing support or sending volunteers to affected areas, we would greatly appreciate their assistance in printing and distributing hard copies of several key resources, which are listed/linked below. If your local chapters/affiliates do not have power or the capacity to print, we encourage you to print and supply copies of these resources to them for distribution.

For questions and assistance with this resource list and the linked documents, please contact Christopher Lawver, DTSEM/OEMP, at [\(202\) 693-1985](tel:202-693-1985), or by email at: lawver.christopher.j@dol.gov.

We appreciate all of your assistance in getting critical recovery-related safety and health information into the hands of your members and those who are located in and supporting the affected communities in all states.





OSHA (Cont.)

Key Resources for Printing/Distribution

Keeping Workers Safe during Hurricane Cleanup and Recovery Fact Sheet

[English](#)
[Spanish](#)

Heat Stress QuickCard

[English](#)
[Spanish](#)
[Vietnamese](#)

Disaster Cleanup and Recovery PPE Matrix

[English](#)
[Spanish](#)

Mold Hazards during Disaster Cleanup

[English](#)
[Spanish](#)

MEETINGS

Negotiated Rulemaking Committee: Chemical Data Reporting Requirements for Inorganic Byproducts

EPA is announcing two upcoming meetings of the [Negotiated Rulemaking Committee](#), which will be held on September 13 – 14 and October 25 – 26, 2017. The September 13 – 14 meeting will take place at Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, Oceanic Suite, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004. The October 25 – 26, 2017 meeting will be at the William Jefferson Clinton East (WJCE) Building, Room 1153, 1201 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004. The public is invited to attend.

The objective of the Committee is to negotiate a proposed rule that would limit chemical data reporting requirements, under subsection 8(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), for manufacturers of any inorganic byproducts when such byproducts are subsequently recycled, reused, or reprocessed. This negotiation process is required by TSCA, as amended by the [Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act](#). EPA believes the [Chemical Data Reporting \(CDR\) Rule](#) is the only current reporting obligation under TSCA section 8(a) that is likely to affect the manufacturers of inorganic byproduct chemical substances.

Parties interested in requesting time for an oral presentation at the meeting should submit requests by email to ecdrweb@epa.gov one week prior to the meeting date, in order to be placed on the list of public speakers. Written statements will be accepted throughout the advisory process; however, for timely consideration, statements should be supplied by email one week prior to the meeting date.

Information about the Committee, including information about attending Committee meetings and meeting agendas, will be posted [Here](#).





MISC.

SCHC Received a Certificate of Recognition

SCHC has received a certificate of recognition that is posted on SCHC's OSHA Alliance webpage

View it online at our site [Here](#). View the letter and certificate [Here](#).

UN Report from the July 2017 Meeting of the Subcommittee of Experts on the GHS

Dear stakeholders,

The UN Sub-committee of Experts on the GHS (UNSCEGHS) met from July 10-12, 2017. We have provided links to the report, as well as the working and informal papers for your convenience. There were a number of topics discussed that you may find of interest. They include:

- . Dust explosion hazard annex
- . New classification for chemicals under pressure
- . Global GHS implementation: explaining the implementation gap

Working Group Meetings and Discussions included:

- . Labelling of small packagings
- . Improvement of Annexes 1 to 3
- . Practical classification issues
- . The revision of Chapter 2.1 of the GHS
- . Non-animal testing methods
- . The development of a classification list

[July 2017 Meeting Report](#)

[Working Papers for 33rd Session](#)

[Informal Paper for 33rd Session](#)

Deana Holmes
Health Scientist

Hazardous Materials Markings, Labeling and Placarding Guide Update

The US DOT has just updated and published their "Hazardous Materials Markings, Labeling and Placarding Guide" - DOT Chart 16. This info has been posted on the HazCom Resources page [Here](#).

The SCHC Newsletter is a monthly publication of the Society for Chemical Hazard Communication. SCHC Members are encouraged to submit a title or short statement on any topic in the HazCom field along with a link to: design@m2columbus.com

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