Message

From: Sinks, Tom [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=001007B7D256453A8A19B91DF704E22C-SINKS, TOM]
Sent: 2/21/2018 9:48:31 PM
To: Grevatt, Peter [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d3caa0c39ebe44cb9d3ae44da7543733-Grevatt, Peter]; Orme-Zavaleta, Jennifer [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3c5a111dc377411595e5b24b5d96146b-Orme-Zavaleta, Jennifer]
CC: Sinks, Tom [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=001007b7d256453a8a19b91df704e22c-Sinks, Tom]
Subject: FW: Response to questions about Glyphosate and PFAS toxicological profiles
Attachments: Response to EPA_dr3.docx; Copy of PFAS Intermediate MRLs DRAFT Drinking Water CVs 11.8.17.xlsx

Importance: High

Note highlighted language which I believe supports the EPA drinking water health advisory.

From: Breysse, Patrick N. (CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH) [mailto:pjb7@cdc.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 3:43 PM
To: Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>; Orme-Zavaleta, Jennifer <Orme-Zavaleta.Jennifer@epa.gov>
Cc: Sinks, Tom <Sinks.Tom@epa.gov>; Carroll, Yulia (CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH) <eya3@cdc.gov>; Cibulas, William (ATSDR/OADS) <wic1@cdc.gov>; Abadin, Henry (ATSDR/DTHHS/ETB) <hga0@cdc.gov>
Subject: Response to questions about Glyphosate and PFAS toxicological profiles
Importance: High

Dear Nancy and Jennifer:

Thank you for your time and comments during our recent conference calls on glyphosate and PFAS. I hope that we addressed your questions during these calls. I wanted to take this opportunity to follow up.

As discussed, ATSDR is currently updating the Toxicological Profile for perfluoroalkyls. ATSDR prepares toxicological profiles in response to statutory requirements under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). These profiles provide interpretations of data that are used to evaluate chemical hazards at hazardous waste sites. Toxicological profiles are prepared in accordance with guidelines developed by ATSDR and published in the Federal Register, allowing for public comment periods on draft toxicological profiles before they are finalized. During the development of toxicological profiles, if it is determined that reliable and sufficient data exists to identify the specific health effects that result from exposure to a hazardous substance, a Minimal Risk Level (MRL) will be derived. MRLs are an estimate of the daily human exposure to a hazardous substance that is likely to be without appreciable risk of adverse non-cancer health effects over a specified duration of exposure. These substance specific estimates, which are intended to serve as screening levels, are used by ATSDR health assessors and other responders to identify contaminants at hazardous waste sites and determine if further investigation is needed to protect communities from exposure. MRLs are not intended to define clean up or action levels for ATSDR or other Agencies.

Toxicological profiles containing MRLs are considered Influential Scientific Information in terms of their potential impact on public policy or the private sector. CDC/ATSDR makes this information available to demonstrate its efforts to utilize only the most transparent and independent peer review, appropriate research methods, and the highest level of data quality. In addition, this information demonstrates CDC/ATSDR compliance with the specific requirements of the Information Quality Act (2000), 44 U.S.C. §3516, and of peer review standards developed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Proposed MRLs undergo a rigorous review. They are reviewed by the Health Effects/MRL Workgroup within ATSDR's Division of Toxicology and Human Health Sciences; an expert panel of external peer reviewers; the agency-wide MRL Workgroup, with participation from other federal agencies, including EPA; and are submitted for public comment. ATSDR reviews and addresses each comment from public, external peer reviewers, other agencies, etc. before the MRLs and toxicological profile are finalized. In addition, each MRL is subject to change as new information becomes available concomitant with updating the toxicological profile of the substance. MRLs in the most recent toxicological profiles supersede previously published levels.

MRLs are health guidelines to be used by ATSDR health assessors to calculate environmental guidelines such as environmental media evaluation guides (EMEGs). It is the EMEGs that we use as an environmental guideline comparison during a screening analysis to quickly evaluate large quantities of data for a site under investigation. Substances found at concentrations below EMEGs are not expected to pose public health hazards. Substances found at concentrations above EMEGs require further evaluation before drawing a public health conclusion. EMEGs are screening values only, and are not used as a threshold or indicator of adverse health effects and as such are not meant to supplant the EPA's Long-Term Health Advisory levels or any state drinking water comparison value. Substances found at concentrations above EMEGs will not necessarily cause adverse health effects and should be further evaluated along with community-specific information.

You can find more information on our website: https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/mrls/index.asp and https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hac/phamanual/appf.html

We recognize that the science on PFAS is changing rapidly and that the public expects and deserves that federal agencies work together to interpret and act on the science. In addition, please find attached a detailed response to the two questions you had highlighted in your email request from December 2017. The second attachment is a table explaining the ATSDR EMEG calculations.

Finally, regarding glyphosate, the ATSDR MRL Workgroup has elected to revisit the possibility of establishing MRLs for technical glyphosate. We will keep you posted as to disposition of this reconsideration.

Thank you for your time and valuable discussions on these important issues. I look forward to future discussions.

Regards,
Pat Breysse