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From: Strauss, Linda
Sent: Wed 6/21/2017 8:04:48 PM
Subject: FW: BNA: EPA Extends Time to Plan 10 Chemical Risk Assessments

From: StClair, Christie
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 3:40 PM
To: Strauss, Linda <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov>; Dunton, Cheryl <Dunton.Cheryl@epa.gov>
Subject: BNA: EPA Extends Time to Plan 10 Chemical Risk Assessments

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http://esweb.bna.com/eslw/1245/split_display.adp?fedfid=114578213&vname=dennotallissues&wsn=498898500&searchid

By Pat Rizzuto

The EPA is extending the time it will take to prepare its strategy to evaluate the risks of 10 chemicals and giving chemical manufacturers, states and other interested parties until Sept. 19 to comment on the problems the agency should examine.

The Environmental Protection Agency is scheduled to release on June 22 risk "scoping" documents explaining its strategy to evaluate asbestos, five solvents, three other chemicals and one group of flame retardants. Those documents were expected to highlight the health and environmental concerns, as well as the chemical uses and exposures, that the EPA plans to consider as part of the assessments.

The EPA has announced, however, that it is inviting public comment on information "that could be useful to the agency in conducting problem formulation, the next step in the process of conducting the required risk evaluations for these chemicals." The EPA's memo does not explain what would be in a scoping versus a problem formulation document.

The Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act, which overhauled the Toxic Substances Control Act in 2016, required the EPA to prepare scoping documents describing the issues it would address, but it did not specifically require the EPA to prepare problem formulation documents.

The U.S. Chamber of Comments, however, has said "a well-developed problem formulation docket with stakeholder input for is critical for the first 10 substances."

The 10 chemicals the EPA will evaluate are:

• asbestos;

• pigment violet 29, which is used to provide color to art, glass and other decorative materials;

• 1,4-dioxane, an impurity that can occur during chemical manufacture;

• the cyclic aliphatic bromide cluster of flame retardants called HBCD;

• carbon tetrachloride, which is used to make other chemicals; and

• 1-bromopropane, methylene chloride, n-methylpyrrolidone, trichloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene, all of which are solvents.

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For More Information

The EPA's memo reopening the dockets to receive problem formulation information for all 10 chemicals is available at http://src.bna.com/p3m.