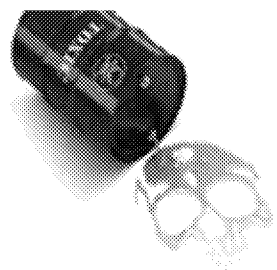
Message

From: Goerke, Ariadne [Goerke.Ariadne@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/10/2017 4:42:52 PM
To: O'Lone, Mary [OLone.Mary@epa.gov]; Wilson, Adam [wilson.adam@epa.gov]; Martinez, Brittany [Martinez.Brittany@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Pesticides & Toxic Substances Law News for March 10, 2017

I wanted all of you to see the article in BNA about the Hawaii complaint. The second link down in the attachment.

Ariadne Goerke
Office of General Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
(202) 564-5471 - WJC North 7318B

From: OGCLibrary
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 11:40 AM
To: Abramson, Jennifer <Abramson.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Allnutt, David <Allnutt.David@epa.gov>; Anderson, Kate <Anderson.Kate@epa.gov>; Anderson, Steve <Anderson.Steve@epa.gov>; Bahk, Benjamin <Bahk.Benjamin@epa.gov>; Berckes, Nicole <Berckes.Nicole@epa.gov>; Bernota, Carolyn <Bernota.Carolyn@epa.gov>; Bruce, Susan <Bruce.Susan@epa.gov>; Bufill, Lourdes <Bufill.Lourdes@epa.gov>; Charlton, Tom <Charlton.Tom@epa.gov>; Cherry, Andrew <Cherry.Andrew@epa.gov>; Cobb, Christina <cobb.christina@epa.gov>; Cozad, David <Cozad.David@epa.gov>; Cross, Verna <Cross.Verna@epa.gov>; Denton, Loren <Denton.Loren@epa.gov>; Dierker, Carl <Dierker.Carl@epa.gov>; Dolph, Becky <Dolph.Becky@epa.gov>; Drelich, David <Drelich.David@epa.gov>; Faeth, Lisa <Faeth.Lisa@epa.gov>; Frey, Bert <frey.bertram@epa.gov>; Garvey, Mark <Garvey.Mark@epa.gov>; Goerke, Ariadne <Goerke.Ariadne@epa.gov>; Greenwald, Kathryn <Greenwald.Kathryn@epa.gov>; Harrison, Ben <Harrison.Ben@epa.gov>; Herrema, Jeffrey <Herrema.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Kaminer, Joan <Kaminer.Joan@epa.gov>; Kaplan, Robert <kaplan.robert@epa.gov>; Kaul, Monisha <Kaul.Monisha@epa.gov>; Kausch, Jeannine <Kausch.Jeannine@epa.gov>; King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>; Liva, Aakruti <Liva.Aakruti@epa.gov>; Lott, Don <Lott.Don@epa.gov>; Mackey, Cyndy <Mackey.Cyndy@epa.gov>; Matthews, Julie <Matthews.Juliane@epa.gov>; Mclean, Kevin <Mclean.Kevin@epa.gov>; Miles, James <miles.james@epa.gov>; Mitchell, Stacey <Mitchell.Stacey@epa.gov>; Morgan, Jeanette <Morgan.Jeanette@epa.gov>; Nanda, Sushila <Nanda.Sushila@epa.gov>; Nguyen, Quoc <Nguyen.Quoc@epa.gov>; OGC FEAT <OGC_FEAT@epa.gov>; OGC PTSLO <OGC_PTSLO@epa.gov>; Phillips, Ginny <Phillips.Ginny@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; Presler, Amos <presler.amos@epa.gov>; Rog, Morgan <Rog.Morgan@epa.gov>; Rose, Cheryl <Rose.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Schaaf, Eric <Schaaf.Eric@epa.gov>; Seltzer, Mark <Seltzer.Mark@epa.gov>; Smoot, Cameo <Smoot.Cameo@epa.gov>; Stern, Allyn <Stern.Allyn@epa.gov>; Sullivan, Greg <Sullivan.Greg@epa.gov>; Swan, Russell <Swan.Russell@epa.gov>; Tierney, Cate <Tierney.Cate@epa.gov>; Trivedi, Adrienne <Trivedi.Adrienne@epa.gov>; Vergeront, Julie <Vergeront.Julie@epa.gov>; Walker, Mike <Walker.Mike@epa.gov>; Ward, W. Robert <Ward.Robert@epa.gov>
Subject: Pesticides & Toxic Substances Law News for March 10, 2017



Pesticides & Toxic Substances Law News for March 10, 2017

Bloomberg BNA Daily Environment Report™

NEWS

Chemicals
Degreasing Chemical Concerns Spur Thousands of State Reviews
States are finding dangerous concentrations of a degreasing chemical in indoor air in reviews of thousands of contaminated sites. ...

Pesticides
EPA Takes Up Hawaii Pesticide Discrimination Case
The EPA has pledged to investigate allegations that Hawaii's agriculture department discriminated against Native Hawaiians by neglecting to investigate pesticide poisonings in poor communities. ...

Pesticides
How Organic Produce Can Make America Less Healthy
Regardless of whether you're a parent, an environmentalist, or just a plain old shopper, chances are you've gazed out over the supermarket produce section and asked yourself, "Should I buy organic?" Everyone's...

Pesticides
Nonprofit Sues Over EPA-Monsanto Documents
A nonprofit organization has launched the latest salvo in a bitter battle over the risks posed by world's most widely used herbicide. ...

Biotechnology
Feds Can't Handle Biotech Flow, Must Increase Capabilities
Federal agencies are woefully understaffed and lacking in the resources needed to deal with the flood of biotechnology products coming in the next decade, scientists said in a March 9 webinar....

REACH
EU Watchdog Spotlights 50 Chemicals That Could Be Regulated
Environmental group the International Chemical Secretariat added 50 substances to its Substitute it Now! (SIN) list of hazardous chemicals, which spotlights chemicals that could be identified for regulation under the European Union's...

Regulatory Policy
Public Comment Divided on Trump Regulatory Order
Public opinion of President Donald Trump's executive order requiring agencies to eliminate two regulations for every one issued is firmly divided between those who support regulatory protections and those who oppose regulatory...

Regulatory Policy
Senators Question Science Behind Agency Regulatory Decisions
Arguments over regulatory decisions often come down to science, with industry distrustful that agencies are using the best available science and agencies wary of possibly biased industry analyses....

EPA
EPA Will Consider All Options as It Looks at Budget, Pruitt Says
The EPA is in the early stages of talking to the White House about its budget, but these discussions have been largely positive, agency administrator Scott Pruitt said....

EPA

N.Y. Attorney General Says He Will Fight EPA on Budget Cuts
New York's top legal official says he will use the power of his office to hold the EPA accountable if planned budget cuts hamper the agency's ability to carry out its responsibilities....

EPA
Senate Aide Named a Top Adviser to EPA Head on Climate, Clean Air
A top Senate aide's recent move to majority counsel at the Environment and Public Works Committee was only a pit stop: Mandy Gunasekara now heads to the Environmental Protection Agency to advise its new administrator on air and climate...

Judge Queries EPA Claim On Standing In Species' Pesticide Risk Litigation
A federal appellate judge appeared skeptical at oral argument of EPA's claim that environmentalists lack standing to seek a judicial order requiring EPA to consult with federal wildlife officials on the risks of the pesticide cyantraniliprole to endangered species, though a second judge backed the agency's arguments that written public input can substitute for a public hearing.

- ### EPA Aims To Speed Chemical Reviews But Must Address TSCA Mandates
EPA is aiming to speed its process for reviewing new chemicals that has been mired with delays since enactment of the revised Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), but it is having to balance efforts to accelerate the reviews with the need to ensure its process meets the requirements outlined in the law, says EPA's acting toxics chief.

- ### Chemical Sector Details Hurdles With EPA New Substance Review Process
Chemical companies are facing hurdles in their assumptions about what changes they will have to make to requests for EPA to review new substances under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), as the updated version of the law is creating questions about what information companies must submit and is causing delays in review.

Industry Groups Join Calls To Resist 'Drastic' EPA Budget Cut Proposal
A host of industry and professional groups -- including chemical, engine and vehicle manufacturers, truckers, builders, water utilities and radon prevention technicians -- is resisting plans by the Trump administration to slash EPA's budget, warning that the cuts will harm programs they rely on to reduce compliance costs and create jobs.

PESTICIDES

Researchers caution against popular herbicide's use
Published: Thursday, March 9, 2017
Farmers need cheap and effective ways to kill weeds so that their crops have no competition for water and nutrients.
But many of the chemicals that fall under those requirements are also dangerous.
Recently, a California court ruled that the main ingredient in the popular herbicide Roundup must be labeled as a possible carcinogen (*Greenwire*, Jan. 30).

Another pesticide, paraquat, is especially good at protecting young trees from weeds, said Kurt Hembree, a weed specialist with the University of California Cooperative Extension in Fresno County. Paraquat bottles are labelled as toxic.

"Something like paraquat, you're going to wear rubber boots, you're going to wear goggles while you're spraying," Hembree said. "You don't want to get this stuff on your skin or on your mouth or anywhere."

Paraquat is one of the top 10 most common herbicides used in California, and some researchers find that concerning.

"The number of studies that have linked paraquat use occupationally to increased risk of Parkinson's should raise some concerns if there's an increasing environmental presence," said Caroline Tanner, a neurologist at the University of California, San Francisco.

Tanner noted that the Parkinson's-paraquat relationship is a correlation, not necessarily a causation (Kerry Klein, Valley Public Radio, March 7). — **CS**

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Jennifer McCune
Public Access/Cataloging Librarian
ASRC Federal Primus (Contractor)
3334C WJC West
US EPA Headquarters, Washington, D.C.
Desk: 202-566-1432
McCune.Jennifer@epa.gov