From: Faye Graul
To: Parsons, Doug
Subject: RE: Workshop on Methylene Chloride and Furniture Refinishing
Date: Wednesday, July 26, 2017 3:47:11 PM

Thanks, Doug, appreciate your keeping me up-to-date as your planning progresses.

Faye

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From: Parsons, Doug [mailto:Parsons.Douglas@epa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2017 3:03 PM
To: Faye Graul
Subject: RE: Workshop on Methylene Chloride and Furniture Refinishing

Thanks Faye. It will be remotely accessible, and held in Boston. Still of course in the planning stages.

From: Faye Graul [mailto:fgraul@mindspring.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2017 2:23 PM
To: Parsons, Doug <Parsons.Douglas@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Workshop on Methylene Chloride and Furniture Refinishing

Hi Doug,

Yes, I recall that you told me you were going to do a workshop on methylene chloride use by furniture refinishers. I will reach out to any of my associate
members that may be interested in attending. Where exactly is it going to be held?

Hope you are enjoying the summer,
Faye

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From: Parsons, Doug [mailto:Parsons.Douglas@epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 1:17 PM
To: Faye Graul
Cc: Feustel, Ingrid
Subject: Workshop on Methylene Chloride and Furniture Refinishing

Hey Faye

I hope this email finds you well.

As you will remember, EPA has been planning a workshop on the use of methylene chloride in furniture refinishing. EPA is now planning to hold this workshop on September 12 in Boston, with remote participation encouraged. We are working to minimize the need for anyone to travel, so this workshop will be available through operated assisted conference line and webinar.

By way of history, back in January, EPA proposed a rule under the Toxic Substances Control Act on the chemicals methylene chloride and NMP in paint and coating removal. In the proposed rule, EPA deferred action on methylene chloride in furniture refinishing and committed to further engage with stakeholders and others about the use of methylene chloride in the furniture refinishing industry. This workshop will help EPA and all stakeholders better understand current trends and challenges in furniture refinishing with respect to methylene chloride, and fill the data gaps addressed in the proposed rule on methylene chloride and NMP in paint and coating removal. The agency is looking for information on the following questions that are posted below.

I wanted you to know that we are reaching out to the various methylene chloride manufacturers and distributors to determine if they want to participate. Let me know if you want to discuss this workshop, or have suggestions on people we should be talking to.

Best,
Doug

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Questions:

Speakers from furniture refinishing businesses, manufacturers, NGOs, states, and others will share expertise on the following information areas as identified in the January 2017 proposed rule:

- What percent of business for firms in this sector is paint and coating removal, versus furniture repair, reupholster, or other furniture refinishing functions?
- How likely is it that firms in this sector would close if methylene chloride were prohibited from use in paint and coating removal in this sector?
- What would the impact be on this sector if all firms were prohibited from using methylene chloride for paint and coating removal, and thus any changes in work processes or dwell time would be universally experienced?
- Have firms had any success with substitute chemicals or alternative methods of paint and coating removal? If not, which aspects of the chemical or method renders the substitute or alternative ineffective?
- What are the current experiences with firms in this sector with supplied air respirators and/or engineering controls?
- What is the current experience of firms in this sector with ventilation systems, makeup-air systems, and other engineering controls?
- What types of exposures do workers in firms in these sectors currently experience?
- What are the current considerations when selecting a paint and coating removal chemical for furniture refinishing or refinishing of other wood objects or surfaces?
- What are the current considerations when selecting a paint and coating removal method for furniture refinishing or refinishing of other wood objects or surfaces?
- Are there substitute chemicals or alternative methods in use beyond what EPA has identified in the notice published on January 19, 2017 (82 FR 7464)?
- Are any new paint and coating removal product formulations or chemistries under development?
- Are any new paint and coating removal methods in development for furniture refinishing or refinishing of other wood objects or surfaces?

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