



Chemical Producers & Distributors Association

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VIA E-MAIL

Mr. David DiFiore
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building (MC 7406M)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Comments on the Standard for Safer Cleaning Products

Dear Mr. DiFiore:

The Chemical Producers & Distributors Association (“CPDA”) appreciates this opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the above-referenced Design for the Environment (“DfE”) cleaning product standard (“Standard”). CPDA is the primary advocate on federal legislative and regulatory issues for generic pesticide registrants, adjuvant and inert ingredient manufacturers, and product formulators and distributors. We represent over \$7 billion worth of pest control products used on food, feed and fiber crops, and in non-crop segments of the pesticide industry.

CPDA supports the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA" or "Agency") DfE initiative and its efforts to "reduce risk to people and the environment by finding ways to prevent pollution." However, we believe that the Agency needs to clarify that chemicals on the current "Tier 1" list¹, or any similar lists² generated under the Agency's Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program ("EDSP") would not be subject to the product-level requirements of section 4.5.5 or the component-specific requirements of sections 5.2 and 5.2.1³ of the Standard. Under proposed section 4.5.5 dealing with potential endocrine effects, chemicals that are simply "candidates for endocrine screening" (emphasis added) will be reviewed. In addition, chemicals "found to interact with or perturb the endocrine system – potentially leading to reproductive, developmental, carcinogenic, systemic, hormonal, or other effects – will not be allowed based on the toxicological hazards they pose."

CPDA believes that the requirements as proposed in section 4.5.5 are vague and premature, and inconsistent with other section 4 requirements that are based on established criteria for chemicals of concern. Under the EDSP, EPA has repeatedly stated:

"[B]ased on current information, the public should not presume that the listing of a chemical or substance [on the Tier 1 list] indicates in any way that EPA currently suspects that such chemical or substance interferes with the endocrine systems of humans or other species simply because it has been listed for screening under the EDSP."⁴

Moreover, EPA's lists for chemicals and substances to be screened under the EDSP are based only on their pesticide registration status and/or because such substances may occur in sources of drinking water to which a substantial population may be exposed. Accordingly, initial Tier 1 screening will indicate only whether a chemical has the "potential to interact with the endocrine system" and not whether a chemical does interact with, or adversely affect, the endocrine system. Only when that potential has been confirmed during the Tier 1 screening will mandatory testing be used to determine any actual endocrine effects.⁵

¹ 74 Fed. Reg. 17579 (April 15, 2009) (final Tier 1 list of pesticide chemicals).

² 75 Fed Reg. 70248 (November 17, 2010) (proposed Tier-1 list of chemicals that may be found in drinking water).

³ Under sections 5.2 and 5.2.1, the Tier-1 list apparently would be a "Flagging List" that must be considered under the carcinogenicity and repeated-dose attributes of concern set forth in the Master Criteria for Safer Chemical Ingredients.

⁴ Footnote 2 at 70250; *see also* footnote 1 at 17579.

⁵EPA has not yet selected and fully validated the tests needed to determine actual endocrine effects.

Therefore, CPDA recommends that endocrine effects criteria not be included in the Standard until chemicals or substances have been found to be endocrine disruptors through adequate, reliable, and reproducible scientific studies, and their endocrine effects have been elucidated. We also recommend that any reference to EPA's EDSP in other DfE "policy" documents be revised or removed.

Susan Ferenc, DVM, Ph.D.
President