

framework for pollution prevention research that emphasizes two long-term ORD goals: (1) Providing common sense and cost-effective approaches for preventing and managing risks, and (2) providing leadership for others in developing ways of preventing or reducing those risks. The Strategy includes "core" and "problem-oriented" research and development activities designed to maintain ORD's long-term capabilities and to address current critical needs identified by EPA Program Offices and Regions. The Strategy is designed around the vision that scientifically-based pollution prevention research and development products will be used routinely for improved decision making by both the public and private sectors. This use would be part of a national move toward sustainable development in the 21st Century. The Strategy has four objectives: (1) conducting research to address economic, social, and behavioral research for pollution prevention; (2) developing and transferring pollution prevention technology approaches; (3) verifying the performance of selected pollution prevention technologies; and (4) delivering broadly applicable tools and methodologies for pollution prevention and sustainability. The Strategy contains four chapters: Chapter 1 provides the context for the Strategy; Chapter 2 outlines the strategic pollution prevention rationale; Chapter 3 describes long-term goals and objectives, as well as research activities to be pursued; and Chapter 4 presents the implementation approach for the goals and objectives described in Chapter 3.

ADDRESSES: An electronic version of the Research Strategy is accessible from ORD's Internet home page at <http://www.epa.gov/ORD/resplans>. Interested parties can obtain a single copy of the report by contacting EPA's National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) at (800) 490-9198. When contacting NSCEP, please provide your name and mailing address, and request publication number EPA/600/R-98/123 dated September 1998. There are a limited number of paper copies available from the above source, and requests will be filled on a first-come first-served basis. After the supply is exhausted, copies of the report can be purchased by contacting the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) at (703) 605-6000, or by sending a facsimile to (703) 605-6900.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jonathan Herrmann (513) 569-7839 or Teresa Harten (513) 569-7565 at the

National Risk Management Research Laboratory, 26 W. Martin Luther King Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45268.

Dated: February 18, 1999.

Calvin O. Lawrence,
Acting Director, National Risk Management Research Laboratory.

[FR Doc. 99-6264 Filed 3-12-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

OPPTS-44651; FRL-6068-3J

TSCA Chemical Testing; Receipt of Test Data

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces EPA's receipt of test data on Hexamethylene Diisocyanate (HDI) (CAS No. 822-06-0). These data were submitted pursuant to an enforceable testing consent agreement/order issued by EPA under section 4 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Publication of this notice is in compliance with section 4(d) of TSCA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan B. Hazen, Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. E-543B, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 554-1404, TDD (202) 554-0551; e-mail: TSCA-Hotline@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under 40 CFR 790.60, all TSCA section 4 enforceable consent agreements/orders must contain a statement that results of testing conducted pursuant to testing enforceable consent agreements/orders will be announced to the public in accordance with procedures specified in section 4(d) of TSCA.

I. What are the details of the submission?

Test data for HDI were submitted by the Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA) on behalf of its test sponsor companies: ARCO Chemical Company, Newtown Square, PA; Bayer Corporation, Pittsburgh, PA; and Rhodia Inc. (Formerly Rhone-Poulenc Inc.), Raleigh, NC. The reports were submitted pursuant to a TSCA section 4 enforceable testing consent agreement/order. EPA received the data on January 29, 1999. The submission includes three final reports entitled: 1) "Bacterial Reverse Mutation Assay Using Vapor-Phase Exposure for 1,6-Hexamethylene

Diisocyanate," 2) "In Vitro Mammalian Cell Gene Mutation Test with an Independent Repeat Assay Using Vapor Phase Exposure to 1,6-Hexamethylene Diisocyanate," and 3) "Acute Inhalation of Hexamethylene Diisocyanate For a Mouse Micronucleus Assay." HDI is used in the manufacture of higher molecular weight biuret polyisocyanate resins and trimer polyisocyanate resins. HDI biuret polyisocyanate resins and trimers are mainly used as reactive components of two part polyurethane paint systems for automobile refinishing, industrial maintenance, marine coatings, and other high performance coating systems. For example, the civilian and military aircraft industry uses aliphatic diisocyanate-containing paint almost exclusively because of its stability in ultraviolet light. Other consumer uses of HDI are not known at this time.

EPA has initiated its review and evaluation process for this data submission. At this time, the Agency is unable to provide any determination as to the completeness of the submission.

II. How do I get additional information?

EPA has established a public record for this TSCA section 4(d) receipt of test data notice (docket number OPPTS-44651). This record includes copies of the studies reported in this notice. The record is available for inspection from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center (also known as the TSCA Public Docket Office), Rm. B-607 Northeast Mall, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Requests for documents should be sent in writing to: Environmental Protection Agency, TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center (7407), 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460 or fax: (202) 260-5069 or e-mail: oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov.

Electronic Availability:

Internet

Electronic copies of this document are available from the EPA Home Page at the **Federal Register**-Environmental Documents entry for this document under "Laws and Regulations" (<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>).

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 2603.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Test data.

Dated: March 5, 1999.

Charles M. Auer,

Director, Chemical Control Division, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

[FR Doc. 99-6274 Filed 3-12-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PB-402404-NJ; FRL-6055-4]

Lead-Based Paint Activities in Target Housing and Child-Occupied Facilities; State of New Jersey's Authorization Application

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; request for comments and opportunity for public hearing.

SUMMARY: On November 30, 1998, the State of New Jersey submitted an application for EPA approval to administer and enforce training and certification requirements, training program accreditation requirements, and work practice standards for lead-based paint activities in target housing and child-occupied facilities under section 402 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). This notice announces the receipt of New Jersey's application, provides a 45 day public comment period, and provides an opportunity to request a public hearing on the application. New Jersey has provided a certification that its program meets the requirements for approval of a State program under TSCA section 404. Therefore, pursuant to TSCA section 404, the program is deemed authorized as of the date of submission. If EPA finds that the program does not meet the requirements for approval of a State program, EPA will disapprove the program, at which time a notice will be issued in the **Federal Register** and the Federal program will take effect in New Jersey.

DATES: Comments on the authorization application must be received on or before April 29, 1999. Public hearing requests must be received on or before March 29, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Submit all written comments and/or requests for a public hearing identified by docket number "PB-402404-NJ" (in duplicate) to: Environmental Protection Agency, Region II, Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch, 2890 Woodbridge Ave., MS-225, Edison, NJ 08837-3679.

Comments, data, and requests for a public hearing may also be submitted electronically to:

bevilacqua.louis@epa.gov. Follow the instructions under Unit IV of this document. No information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Louis Bevilacqua, Regional Lead Coordinator, Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, Region II, 2890 Woodbridge Ave., MS-225, Edison, NJ 08837-3679, telephone: (732) 321-6671, e-mail address:

bevilacqua.louis@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On October 28, 1992, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, Pub. L. 102-550, became law. Title X of that statute was the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992. That Act amended TSCA (15 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*) by adding Title IV (15 U.S.C. 2681-92), entitled Lead Exposure Reduction.

TSCA section 402 (15 U.S.C. 2682) authorizes and directs EPA to promulgate final regulations governing lead-based paint activities in target housing, public and commercial buildings, bridges, and other structures. Those regulations are to ensure that individuals engaged in such activities are properly trained, that training programs are accredited, and that individuals engaged in these activities are certified and follow documented work practice standards. Under TSCA section 404 (15 U.S.C. 2684), a State may seek authorization from EPA to administer and enforce its own lead-based paint activities program.

On August 29, 1996 (61 FR 45777) (FRL-5389-9), EPA promulgated final TSCA section 402/404 regulations governing lead-based paint activities in target housing and child-occupied facilities (a subset of public buildings). Those regulations are codified at 40 CFR part 745, and allow both States and Indian Tribes to apply for program authorization. Pursuant to TSCA section 404(h) (15 U.S.C. 2684(h)), EPA is to establish the Federal program in any State or Tribal Nation without its own authorized program in place by August 31, 1998.

States and Tribes that choose to apply for program authorization must submit a complete application to the appropriate Regional EPA Office for review. Those applications will be reviewed by EPA within 180 days of receipt of the complete application. To receive EPA approval, a State or Tribe must demonstrate that its program is at least as protective of human health and

the environment as the Federal program, and provides for adequate enforcement (section 404(b) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. 2684(b)). EPA's regulations (40 CFR part 745, subpart Q) provide the detailed requirements a State or Tribal program must meet in order to obtain EPA approval.

A State may choose to certify that its lead-based paint activities program meets the requirements for EPA approval, by submitting a letter signed by the Governor or Attorney General stating that the program meets the requirements of TSCA section 404(b). Upon submission of such certification letter, the program is deemed authorized (15 U.S.C. 2684(a)). This authorization becomes ineffective, however, if EPA disapproves the application.

Pursuant to TSCA section 404(b) (15 U.S.C. 2684(b)), EPA provides notice and an opportunity for a public hearing on a State or Tribal program application before authorizing the program. Therefore, by this notice EPA is soliciting public comment on whether New Jersey's application meets the requirements for EPA approval. This notice also provides an opportunity to request a public hearing on the application. If a hearing is requested and granted, EPA will issue a **Federal Register** notice announcing the date, time, and place of the hearing. EPA's final decision on the application will be published in the **Federal Register**.

II. State Program Description Summary

The following summary of New Jersey's proposed program has been provided by the applicant:

The State of New Jersey, through the Department of Health and Senior Services, has implemented its lead-based paint program based on the following outlined structure.

The "Lead Abatement and Evaluation Act," Pub.L. 1993, c.288, was signed into law on December 12, 1993, and directed the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) to establish a certification program to assure the competency of individuals performing lead abatement or lead evaluation work in all buildings and structures in a safe and reliable manner. The Act also required the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to certify business firms prior to their performing lead evaluations or abatement work. The Act further directed the prescription of standards to ensure that these activities are conducted safely. The Act further required the DCA to delegate its administrative and enforcement duties to the Department of Labor (DOL) for