

individuals or groups concerned with chemical testing and children's health, or animal welfare groups. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the technical person listed under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT."

II. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document or Other Related Documents?

1. *Electronically.* You may obtain electronic copies of this document, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. To access this document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations" and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register--Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

To access information about the Voluntary Children's Health Chemical Testing Program go to the website address: <http://www.epa.gov/chemrtk/childhlt.htm>. For information on the first and second stakeholder meetings go to the website address: <http://www.epa.gov/chemrtk> and select "Meeting Archives."

2. *In person.* The Agency has established an official record for the Stakeholder Involvement Process for the Voluntary Children's Health Chemical Testing Program under docket control number OPPTS-00274. The record consists of public comments received during past comment periods, and other information related to the Voluntary Children's Health Chemical Testing Program. This record includes the documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. The public version of the record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments that may be submitted during an applicable comment period, is available for inspection in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, North East Mall, Rm. B-607, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC. The Center is open from noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number of the Center is (202) 260-7099.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Children, Hazardous substances, Health and safety.

Dated: January 10, 2000.

William H. Sanders III.

Director, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

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BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-211044; FRL-6487-7]

TSCA Section 21 Petition; Notice of Receipt

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces receipt of a petition submitted by five organizations under section 21 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), and requests comments on the petition. The organizations have petitioned EPA to initiate rulemaking proceedings with respect to all chemicals included on the HPV (high production volume chemical) Challenge Program list as updated through the date of initiation of the requested proceedings for: The issuance of a TSCA section 8(a) Preliminary Assessment Information Reporting (PAIR) rule and issuance of a Health and Safety Data Reporting rule under TSCA section 8(d). The petitioners further petition that "[s]uch rule should neither be limited to participants in the Challenge Program nor exclude substances or mixtures as to which a participant has enrolled in the Program." Under TSCA section 21, the Agency must respond to the petition by March 28, 2000.

DATES: Comments should be received on or before February 3, 2000. The Agency will accept comments received after that date, but cannot guarantee that they will be considered prior to preparing its response to the petition.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit I. of

"SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION."

To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPPTS-211044 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information contact: Joseph S. Carra, Deputy Director, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (7401), Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone

numbers: (202) 554-1404 and TDD: (202) 554-0551; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

For technical information contact: Frank Kover, Chemical Control Division (7405), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 260-3946; e-mail address: ccd.citb@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may, however, be of interest to chemical manufacturers (including importers). Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the technical person listed under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT."

B. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document or Other Related Documents?

1. *Electronically.* You may obtain electronic copies of this document, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. To access this document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations" and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register--Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>. In addition, the petition may also be accessed on EPA's homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/chemrtk/sc21main.htm>.

2. *In person.* The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPPTS-211044. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received during an applicable comment period, and other information related to this action, including any information claimed as confidential business information (CBI). This official record includes the documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. The public version of the official record does not include any information claimed as CBI. The public version of the official record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments submitted during

an applicable comment period, is available for inspection in the TSCA Nonconfidential Information Center, North East Mall Rm. B-607, Waterside Mall, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC. The Center is open from noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Center is (202) 260-7099.

C. How and to Whom Do I Submit Comments?

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPPTS-211044 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

1. *By mail.* Submit your comments to: Document Control Office (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460, Attention: Docket Number OPPTS-211044.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver your comments to: OPPT Document Control Office (DCO) in East Tower Rm. G-099, Waterside Mall, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC. The DCO is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the DCO is (202) 260-7093.

3. *Electronically.* You may submit your comments electronically by e-mail to: "oppt.ncic@epa.gov," or mail your computer disk to the address identified above. Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on standard disks in WordPerfect 6.1/8.0 or ASCII file format. All comments in electronic form must be identified by docket control number OPPTS-211044. Electronic comments may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

D. How Should I Handle CBI Information That I Want To Submit to the Agency?

Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be CBI. You may claim information that you submit to EPA in response to this document as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes any information claimed as CBI, a copy of

the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public version of the official record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public version of the official record without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult the technical person identified under "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT."

E. What Should I Consider as I Prepare My Comments for EPA?

We invite you to provide your views on the relief sought by the petitioners, and any data or information that you would like the Agency to consider in developing its response to the petition. You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

1. Explain your views as clearly as possible.
2. Describe any assumptions that you used.
3. Provide copies of any technical information and/or data you used that support your views.
4. If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate that you provide.
5. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
6. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this notice.
7. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, be sure to identify the docket control number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation.

II. Background

A. What is a TSCA section 21 petition?

Section 21 of TSCA allows citizens to petition EPA to initiate a proceeding for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of a rule under TSCA section 4, 6, or 8 or an order under section 5(e) or 6(b)(2). A TSCA section 21 petition must set forth facts which the petitioner believes establish the need for the action requested. EPA is required to grant or deny the petition within 90 days of its receipt. If EPA grants the petition, the Agency must promptly commence an appropriate proceeding. If EPA denies the petition, the Agency must publish its reasons for the denial in the **Federal Register**. Within 60 days of denial or no action, petitioners may commence a civil action in a U.S. district court to compel initiation of the requested rulemaking. When reviewing a petition for a new rule, as in this case, the court

must provide an opportunity for *de novo* review of the petition. After hearing the evidence, the court can order EPA to initiate the requested action.

B. What action is requested under this TSCA section 21 petition?

On December 27, 1999, EPA received a TSCA section 21 petition from five organizations. The organizations have petitioned EPA to initiate rulemaking proceedings with respect to all chemicals included on the HPV Challenge Program list as updated through the date of initiation of the requested proceedings for: The issuance of a TSCA section 8(a) PAIR rule and issuance of a Health and Safety Data Reporting rule under TSCA section 8(d). The petitioners further petition that "[s]uch rule should neither be limited to participants in the Challenge Program nor exclude substances or mixtures as to which a participant has enrolled in the Program." Under TSCA section 21, the Agency must respond to the petition by March 28, 2000.

Petitioners' request for rules under TSCA sections 8(a) and 8(d) is based in part upon assertions that rules requiring the submission of existing data provide a better implementation approach for the HPV Challenge Program and TSCA section 4 HPV test rule(s) than the approach currently utilized, namely, voluntary submission of existing data in connection with the HPV Challenge or as comments to the proposed HPV rule(s) under TSCA section 4. EPA has commenced a review of this petition. Comments on the petition may be submitted by any of the methods identified in Unit I.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: January 7, 2000.

Charles M. Auer,

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

[FR Doc. 00-850 Filed 1-12-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6521-8]

Final NPDES General Permit for Discharges From Ready-Mixed Concrete Plants, Concrete Products Plants and Their Associated Facilities in Texas (TXG110000)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).