ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF–933; FRL–6552–9]

Notice of Filing a Pesticide Petition to Establish a Tolerance for Certain Pesticide Chemicals in or on Food

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initial filing of a pesticide petition proposing the establishment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket control number PF–933, must be received on or before May 8, 2000.

ADDRESS: Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit I.C. of the “SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.” To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number PF–933 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Treva C. Alston, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 308–8373; and e-mail address: alston.treve@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer or pesticide manufacturer. Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>NAICS codes</th>
<th>Examples of potentially affected entities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>Crop production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>112</td>
<td>Animal production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>311</td>
<td>Food manufacturing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32532</td>
<td>Pesticide manufacturing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This listing is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in the table could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes have been provided to assist you and others in determining whether or not this action might apply to certain entities. If you have questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed in the “FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT” section.

B. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document and 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/fedreg/.

2. In person. The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number PF–933. 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 Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305–5605.

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 PF–933 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

1. By mail. Submit your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Information Resources and Services Division.
II. What Action is the Agency Taking?

EPA has received a pesticide petition as follows proposing the establishment and/or amendment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities under section 408 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a. EPA has determined that this petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2); however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data support granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Agricultural commodities, Feed additives, Food additives, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.


James Jones,
Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Summary of Petition

The petitioner summary of the pesticide petition is printed below as required by section 408(d)(3) of the FFDCA. The summary of the petition was prepared by the petitioner and represents the views of the petitioner. EPA is publishing the petition summary verbatim without editing it in any way. The petition summary announces the availability of a description of the analytical methods available to EPA for the detection and measurement of the pesticide chemical residues or an explanation of why no such method is needed.

Ecolab Inc.

OE6100

EPA has received a pesticide petition (OE6100) from Ecolab Inc., 370 N. Wabasha Street, St. Paul, MN 55102 proposing, pursuant to section 408(d) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a(d), to amend 40 CFR part 180 to establish an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for 1,2-ethanediamine, polymer with oxirane and methylolxirane (EDPOM) in or on raw agricultural commodities, in processed commodities, and in or on meat and meat by products of cattle, sheep, hogs, goats, horses, and poultry, milk, and dairy products, eggs, seafood and shellfish, and fruits and vegetables when such residues result from the use of EDPOM as a component of a food contact surface sanitizing solution for use in food handling establishments. The request is for an unlimited clearance. EPA has determined that the petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2) of the FFDCA; however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

A. Residue Chemistry

This is a high molecular weight alkoxylated amine polymer. No residue chemistry data or environmental fate data are presented in the petition as the Agency does not generally require some or all of the listed studies to rule on the exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for an inert ingredient.

B. Toxicological Profile

The Agency has established a set of criteria, which identifies categories of polymers that present low risk. These criteria (described in 40 CFR 723.250) identify polymers that are relatively unreactive and stable compounds compared to other chemical substances as well as polymers that typically are not readily absorbed. These properties generally limit a polymer’s ability to cause adverse effects. The Agency believes that polymers meeting the criteria noted above will present minimal or no risk. Ecolab Inc. believes that EDPOM conforms to the definition of a polymer given in 40 CFR 723.250 and meets the following criteria used to identify a low risk polymer.

1. EDPOM is not a cationic polymer, nor is it reasonably anticipated to become a cationic polymer in a natural aquatic environment.

1. EDPOM is not a cationic polymer, nor is it reasonably anticipated to become a cationic polymer in a natural aquatic environment.
2. EDPOM contains as an integral part of its composition the atomic elements carbon, nitrogen, hydrogen and oxygen.

3. EDPOM does not contain as an integral part of its composition, except as impurities, any element other than those listed in 40 CFR 723.250(d)(2)(ii).

4. EDPOM is not designed, nor is it reasonably anticipated to substantially degrade, decompose or depolymerize prior to, during, or after use.

5. EDPOM is not manufactured or imported from monomers and/or reactants that are not included on the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) substance inventory or manufactured under an applicable TSCA section 5 exemption.

6. EDPOM is not a water absorbing polymer.

7. EDPOM has a minimum-average molecular weight of 25,000. Substances with molecular weights greater than 400 generally are not absorbed through the intact skin, and substances with molecular weights greater than 1,000 generally are not absorbed through the gastrointestinal (GI) tract. Chemicals not absorbed through the skin or GI tract generally are incapable of eliciting a toxic response.

8. EDPOM has a minimum-average molecular weight of 25,000. EDPOM meets the requirements for molecular weight distribution of oligomer contents of less than 25% with molecular weights below 1,000 and less than 10% with molecular weights below 500.

Ecolab Inc. believes that sufficient information has been submitted to assess the hazards of EDPOM. No toxicology data are being submitted as the Agency does not generally require these data to rule on exemptions from the requirement of a tolerance for an inert ingredient. Because EDPOM conforms with the definition of a polymer and meets the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250, Ecolab Inc. believes there are no concerns for risks associated with toxicity.

C. Aggregate Exposure

1. Dietary exposure. Acute: Due to the low toxicity, there are no toxicological concerns for EDPOM. An acute dietary risk assessment is not appropriate.

   Chronic: Chronic exposure would not produce any effect since it is not absorbed. Therefore, no concerns are warranted.

2. Food. When EDPOM is used as a component of a food contact surface sanitizer, the residue that would be introduced into food will be insignificant. EDPOM is not absorbed from the GI tract. Based on this, there are no toxicological concerns resulting from exposures to residues of EDPOM resulting from the use of sanitizing solutions.

ii. Drinking water. Acute: EDPOM is not expected to be introduced into drinking water, therefore an acute drinking water risk assessment is not required. Chronic: EDPOM is not expected to be introduced into drinking water; therefore, a chronic drinking water risk assessment is not required.

2. Non-dietary exposure. EDPOM is not absorbed from the GI tract or through the skin. The potential for significant additional non-occupational exposure to the general population (including children) is unlikely.

D. Cumulative Effects

The amount of EDPOM exposure resulting from indirect exposure to sanitizing solutions will be miniscule. EDPOM is a high molecular weight alkoxylated amine polymer that is not absorbed by the body. EDPOM in the diet poses no cumulative toxicological risk. Ecolab Inc. believes that sufficient information has been submitted to assess the hazards of EDPOM. Because EDPOM conforms with the definition of a polymer and meets the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250, Ecolab Inc. believes there are no concerns for risks associated with cumulative effects.

E. Safety Determination

1. U.S. population. There are no adverse toxicological effects resulting from ingestion of trace amounts of EDPOM, so there is no need to determine aggregate risks, or to conduct a safety determination. EDPOM exposure due to its use as an inert ingredient in a food contact surface sanitizer is negligible. Ecolab Inc. believes that sufficient information has been submitted to assess the hazards of EDPOM. Because it conforms with the definition of a polymer and meets the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250, there are no concerns for risks associated with any potential exposure to adults.

2. Infants and children. Children are at no greater risk from exposure to EDPOM. Therefore, as with adults, a safety determination is not appropriate. Ecolab Inc. believes that sufficient information has been submitted to assess the hazards of EDPOM. Because it conforms with the definition of a polymer and meets the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250, there are no concerns for risks associated with any potential exposure to children.

E. International Tolerances

No Codex Maximum Residue Levels have been established for EDPOM.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

[FR Doc. 00–8405 Filed 4–6–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF–932; FRL–6499–7]

Notice of Filing a Pesticide Petition to Establish a Tolerance for Certain Pesticide Chemicals in or on Food

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initial filing of pesticide petitions proposing the establishment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket control number PF–932, must be received on or before May 8, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit I.C. of the “SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.” To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number PF–932 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Treva C. Alston, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 308–8373; e-mail address: alston.treva@epa.gov.

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