provide it in the body of your comment. In contrast to EPA’s electronic public docket, EPA’s electronic mail (email) system is not an “anonymous access” system. If you send an email comment directly to the Docket without going through www.regulations.gov, your email address is automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket, and made available in EPA’s electronic public docket.


Gautam Srinivasan,
Acting Associate General Counsel.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

A. Does this action apply to me?

This action is directed to the public in general, and may be of interest to a wide range of stakeholders including environmental, human health, farm worker, and agricultural advocates; the chemical industry; pesticide users; and members of the public interested in the sale, distribution, or use of pesticides. Since others also may 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 pesticide specific contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

B. How can I get copies of this document and other related information?

The docket for this action, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPP–2011–0855, is available at http://www.regulations.gov or at the Office of Pesticide Programs Regulatory Public Docket (OPP Docket) in the Environmental Protection Agency Docket Center (EPA/DC), West William Jefferson Clinton Bldg., Rm. 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460–0001. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566–1744, and the telephone number for the OPP Docket is (703) 305–5805. Please review the visitor instructions and additional information about the docket available at http://www.epa.gov/dockets.

II. What action is the agency taking?

Pursuant to 40 CFR 155.58(c), this notice announces the availability of EPA’s human health mitigation decision for paraquat dichloride, case 0262. Paraquat is a widely used broad spectrum herbicide for the control of weeds in many agricultural and non-agricultural settings. It is also used as a desiccant on crops, prior to harvest. It is classified as restricted use due to high toxicity. An estimated 1.5 teaspoons (tsp) can be lethal if ingested and there is no known antidote. Paraquat dichloride is associated with a disproportionately high number of incidents including accidental ingestions typically leading to fatalities as well as occupational spills, splashes, and leaks resulting in severe and often damaging dermal or ocular contact. Paraquat is known to be corrosive to skin and eyes. EPA recently reviewed all available incident information and determined that mitigation measures to address these human health risk concerns are necessary.

In addition to the human health mitigation decision document, the registration review docket for paraquat dichloride also includes other relevant documents related to the registration review of this case. The proposed human health mitigation decision was posted to the docket in March 2016, and the public was invited to submit any comments or new information.

During the 60-day comment period, comments were received that resulted in changes to the Agency’s human health mitigation decision, including that backpack and hand-held application methods will remain, but will require the development of special containers as part of a ‘closed system’ that prevents spills, mixing, pouring or other actions that could lead to paraquat exposure. Pursuant to 40 CFR 155.58(c), the registration review case docket for paraquat dichloride will remain open until registration review has been completed.

Background on the registration review program is provided at: http://www2.epa.gov/pesticide-reevaluation. Links to earlier documents related to the registration review of paraquat are provided at: http://www.epa.gov/ingredients-used-pesticide-products/paraquat.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.

Dated: December 7, 2016.

Yu-Ting Guilaran,
Director, Pesticide Re-Evaluation Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY


Board of Scientific Counselors Executive Committee; Notification of Public Meeting and Public Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.