

SACC website. You may also subscribe to the following listserv for alerts regarding this and other SACC-related activities: [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USAEPAOPPT/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=USAEPAOPPT\\_101](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USAEPAOPPT/subscriber/new?topic_id=USAEPAOPPT_101).

### III. Virtual Public Meeting of the SACC

#### A. What is the purpose of this public meeting?

The focus of the 4-day virtual public meeting is the SACC peer review of the following two draft documents:

- Draft Proposed Principles of Cumulative Risk Assessment Under the Toxic Substances Control Act; and
- Draft Proposed Approach for Cumulative Risk Assessment of High-Priority Phthalates and a Manufacturer Requested Phthalate Under the Toxic Substances Control Act.

EPA will be soliciting comments from the SACC on issues related to chemical grouping for purposes of Cumulative Risk Assessment (CRA), health outcomes related to phthalate syndrome, and possible approaches to developing the cumulative hazard and exposure assessment for High-Priority phthalates and a Manufacturer-Requested phthalate. In addition, EPA intends to publish a separate document in the **Federal Register** to announce the availability of and solicit public comment on the two draft documents, at which time EPA will provide instructions for submitting comments and registering to provide oral comments at the meeting. EPA also intends to provide a meeting agenda for each day of the meeting, and, as needed, may provide updated times for each day in the meeting agenda that will be posted in docket and on the SACC website.

#### B. Why did EPA develop these documents?

Between 2020 and 2022 EPA published final scoping documents for twenty High-Priority and three Manufacturer-Requested chemical substances for risk evaluation under TSCA. During the scoping process, EPA received comments from stakeholders urging the Agency to consider evaluating several chemical substances undergoing risk evaluation for cumulative risk to human health. TSCA does not explicitly require EPA to conduct cumulative risk assessments (CRAs). However, TSCA does require EPA to consider the reasonably available information and to use the best available science and to make decisions based on the weight of scientific evidence [15 U.S.C. 2625(h), (i), (k)].

EPA recognizes that for some chemical substances, the best available science may indicate that the development of a CRA is appropriate to ensure that any risks to human health and the environment are adequately characterized.

1. *Proposed principles of CRAs under TSCA.* EPA's document entitled "Draft Proposed Principles of Cumulative Risk Assessment Under the Toxic Substances Control Act" will describe the fundamental principles of CRA of chemical substances and how they may be applied within the regulatory requirements of TSCA to ensure TSCA risk evaluations are based on the best available science and are protective of human health. This draft document is not intended to be a framework nor a guidance document on conducting CRAs of chemical substances under TSCA, and it will not address cumulative impacts.

2. *Proposed approach for a CRA of phthalates under TSCA.* Recognizing that human exposure to phthalates is widespread and that multiple phthalates can disrupt development of the male reproductive system in laboratory animals at potentially human relevant doses, EPA asked the National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academies of Science to review the health effects of phthalates and determine whether a cumulative risk assessment of phthalates should be conducted, and if so, what approaches could be used for the assessment. In 2008, NRC published their findings to EPA in a final report entitled "Phthalates and Cumulative Risk Assessment: The Task Ahead" ([https://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si\\_public\\_record\\_report.cfm?Lab=NCEA&dirEntryId=202508](https://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si_public_record_report.cfm?Lab=NCEA&dirEntryId=202508)). In that report, the NRC recommended that a cumulative risk assessment should be conducted for phthalates. EPA's document entitled "Draft Proposed Approach for Cumulative Risk Assessment of High-Priority Phthalates and a Manufacturer Requested Phthalate Under the Toxic Substances Control Act" will describe EPA's proposed approach for evaluating a subset of High-Priority and Manufacturer-Requested phthalates for cumulative risk to human health under TSCA based on the principles of CRA described in EPA's draft principles document referenced previously. EPA's draft proposed approach will follow many of the recommendations made by the NRC in 2008. This draft document is not a CRA, and no risk estimates are presented. Instead, this draft document will outline several options EPA is considering for conducting a phthalate CRA under TSCA.

#### C. How can I access the documents submitted for review to the SACC?

EPA is planning to release the two draft documents mentioned above and all background documents, related supporting materials, and draft charge questions provided to the SACC by late February 2023. At that time, EPA will publish a separate document in the **Federal Register** to announce the availability of and solicit public comment on the two draft documents and provide instructions for submitting comments and registering to provide oral comments. These materials will also be available in the docket through <https://www.regulations.gov> (docket ID number EPA-HQ-OPPT-2022-0918) and the SACC website. In addition, as additional background materials become available and are provided to the SACC, EPA will include those additional background documents (e.g., SACC members and consultants participating in this meeting and the meeting agenda) in the docket and on the SACC website.

#### D. How can I participate in the virtual public meeting?

The public virtual meeting will be held via a webcast platform such as "Zoom.gov" and audio teleconference. You must register online to receive the webcast meeting link and audio teleconference information. Please follow the registration instructions that will be announced on the SACC website in February. You may subscribe to the following listserv for alerts regarding this and other SACC-related activities: [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USAEPAOPPT/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=USAEPAOPPT\\_101](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USAEPAOPPT/subscriber/new?topic_id=USAEPAOPPT_101).  
Authority: 15 U.S.C. 2625(o); 5 U.S.C. appendix 2 *et. seq.*

Dated: December 16, 2022.

#### Michal Freedhoff,

Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

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### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0337; FRL-10497-01-OCSP]

#### Pesticides; Evaluating the Efficacy of Antimicrobial Test Substances on Porous Surfaces in Non-Residential Settings; Interim Guidance and Methods; Notice of Availability and Request for Comments

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the availability of and soliciting comment on interim guidance and methods for adding efficacy claims to antimicrobial products for use on porous materials, including fabrics, textiles, and upholstered items in non-residential settings. Specifically, EPA is seeking public comment on an interim guidance document that describes efficacy testing for antimicrobial products to support claims for use on surfaces of certain porous materials in clinical and institutional (non-residential) settings and how to prepare an application for registration, an interim quantitative method for evaluating the efficacy of antimicrobial products on porous surfaces against viruses, and an interim quantitative method for evaluating the efficacy of antimicrobial products on porous surfaces against bacteria. The interim guidance does not address residential use sites with surfaces such as upholstered furniture (including backing material/stuffing under the porous surface), carpets, rugs, draperies, etc. In addition to the feedback requested above, EPA is also seeking public comment on proposed carrier materials to represent the surfaces commonly found in residential settings.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before January 20, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0337, through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Additional instructions on commenting or visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marc Carpenter, Microbiology Laboratory Branch (7503M), Biological and Economic Analysis Division, Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Science Center, 701 Mapes Road, Ft. Meade, MD 20755-5350; telephone number: (410) 305-2927; email address: [carpenter.marc@epa.gov](mailto:carpenter.marc@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. General Information**

*A. Does this action apply to me?*

This document is directed to the public in general; although this action may be of particular interest to those

persons who are or may be required to conduct testing of chemical substances under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). 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 person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

*B. What should I consider as I prepare my comments for EPA?*

1. *Submitting CBI.* Do not submit CBI information to EPA through [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) or email. Clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes 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 docket. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

2. *Tips for preparing your comments.* When preparing and submitting your comments, see the commenting tips at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>.

**II. Background**

EPA received requests to develop interim test methods and an associated registration process for antimicrobial products intended to treat bacterial and viral public health pathogens on the surface of porous materials. There is significant interest from stakeholders and the public in the availability of antimicrobial products with these public health claims, particularly in institutional, clinical, and health-care settings. Currently, most EPA-registered liquid-based antimicrobial products are intended to treat hard, non-porous surfaces.

EPA is making available for comment interim quantitative efficacy test methods for both bacteria and viruses on porous surfaces, in addition to interim guidance for companies wishing to add specific claims to antimicrobial products for efficacy against public health pathogens when used on porous materials in clinical and institutional (non-residential) settings. These materials include non-clothing fabrics, textiles, and/or upholstery that may be laundered on an infrequent (non-routine) basis where surface wiping and spot treatment is the primary means of cleaning and or disinfection. Examples of non-residential sites include waiting

rooms and offices in clinical settings, hospitals and long-term care facilities, schools, hotels, movie theaters, office buildings, and retail establishments, with a focus on high traffic areas and frequently used surfaces. The guidance does not address claims for porous materials such as clothing, untreated wood, concrete and other hard porous materials, carpet or rugs, and the backing material/stuffing under the porous surface (e.g., beyond what can be visibly observed). The guidance does not address claims for residual antimicrobial product efficacy when used on porous materials.

**III. Do guidance documents contain binding requirements?**

As guidance, these documents are not binding on the Agency or any outside parties, and the Agency may depart from it where circumstances warrant and without prior notice. While EPA has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the discussion in the guidance, the obligations of EPA and the regulated community are determined by statutes, regulations, or other legally binding documents. In the event of a conflict between the discussion in the guidance documents and any statute, regulation, or other legally binding document, the guidance documents will not be controlling.

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

Dated: December 15, 2022.

**Michal Freedhoff,**

*Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.*

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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-10506-01-OW]

**Notice of Public Meeting of the Environmental Financial Advisory Board (EFAB) With Webcast**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of public EFAB meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces a public meeting with a webcast of the Environmental Financial Advisory Board (EFAB). The meeting will be shared in real-time via webcast and public comments may be provided in writing in advance or virtually via webcast. Please see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for further details. The purpose of the meeting will be for the EFAB to provide updates on the