



# HSIA

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solvents  
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# SOLVENTS NEWS YOU CAN USE

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## **EPA PUBLISHES SCOPING DOCUMENTS ON THE FIRST TEN CHEMICALS UNDER TSCA REVIEW**

Upon release of the initial ten scoping documents, EPA acknowledged that future scoping documents will be different as the first ten were not subject to the prioritization process that must be used by the Agency in the future. As a result, EPA has added an additional step for the initial ten chemicals. EPA will take public comments on problem formulation documents which will refine the original scope prior to the release of the draft risk evaluations. This problem formulation documents are expected to be released in six months. On December 19, 2016, EPA published a list of the first ten chemicals it will evaluate for potential risks under the newly passed Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act. Under the new law, EPA must release a scoping document within six months for each chemical, including hazards, exposures, conditions of use, potentially exposed populations, and the Agency's plans for evaluation. EPA released its scoping documents on time on June 22nd. All three of HSIA's mission chemicals – perchloroethylene, trichloroethylene, and methylene chloride – were on the first ten list and HSIA filed comments on the uses of perchloroethylene, trichloroethylene, methylene chloride and carbon tetrachloride on March 15th. Our comments can be viewed at [www.hsia.org](http://www.hsia.org)

Overall, we learned from the scoping documents that EPA will focus on uses associated with manufacturing, processing, and distribution. EPA will consider legacy issues such as disposal as part of the assessment, but may exclude on a case-by-case basis uses that result in *de minimis* exposures. The scoping documents for trichloroethylene and methylene chloride do not include the uses that are subject of proposed bans, but HSIA expects to continue a dialogue with EPA on this subject.

## **NEW YORK STATE DECIDES NOT TO BAN PERCHLOROETHYLENE IN THE DRY CLEANING INDUSTRY**

HSIA applauds the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for concluding that there was not a good reason to ban the use of perchloroethylene by the dry cleaning industry in the State. The Department will be proposing modifications to Part 232 of the dry cleaning regulations which will include the incorporation of the existing federal ban on the installation of perc dry cleaning machines in residential buildings after December 21, 2005, and the required removal of perc dry cleaning machines from residential buildings by December 21, 2020. A new section of the regulation will address alternative solvents that were not on the radar screen when the original regulations were passed. The DEC will develop an approval process for the alternative solvents as well as equipment standards and specifications for the installation and operation of alternative solvent machines.

