



HSIA

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SOLVENTS NEWS YOU CAN USE

FIRST & SECOND QUARTERS 2020

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EPA RELEASED DRAFT TSCA RISK EVALUATIONS FOR CARBON TETRACHLORIDE, TRICHLOROETHYLENE AND PERCHLOROETHYLENE

On January 24, EPA released its draft Risk Evaluation of carbon tetrachloride. Jim Bus of Exponent, representing HSIA, presented on the cancer mode of action at the meeting of the Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC) on February 25. HSIA filed comments on the draft Risk Evaluation on March 27 and they can be viewed at www.hsia.org

On February 21, EPA released its draft Risk Evaluation of trichloroethylene. The draft found that with the exception of pepper spray all uses of the solvent presented an unreasonable risk to human health. Jim Bus, of Exponent, representing HSIA, presented at the SACC meeting on kidney toxicity and cancer mode of action. HSIA submitted extensive comments on April 27 which also can be viewed at www.hsia.org

On April 27, EPA released its draft Risk Evaluation of perchloroethylene and Cardio ChemRisk presented on behalf of HSIA at the SACC meeting held on May 26. HSIA will file detailed comments by the deadline of July 6.

EPA RELEASES FINAL TSCA RISK EVALUATION FOR METHYLENE CHLORIDE

On June 24, EPA published the final TSCA Risk Evaluation for methylene chloride, the first since passage of the Lautenberg Act four years ago. HSIA does not believe that the evaluation reflects “best available science” as the Act requires. Aside from the well-documented asphyxiations in enclosed areas where label directions were not followed, there is no evidence of risk to workers or other exposed individuals where workplace standards and other regulations have been complied with in the many applications in which methylene chloride has been widely used since the 1940s. EPA ignored public comment and advice from the SACC that it not rely on outdated exposure data and also failed to adapt its cancer risk methodology to reflect scientific advances over the past 40 years.

EPA MOVES TO ADD NPB TO THE HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANT LIST

In 2010, HSIA and the New York Department of Environmental Conservation petitioned EPA to add nPB to the list of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) for sources of which EPA must adopt emission standards under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act. On June 18th, EPA granted the petition and made nPB the first addition ever to the HAP list included as part of the 1990 Clean Air Act amendments. EPA indicated that it would be adopting changes to the NESHAPs for solvent degreasing and perc dry cleaning to expand their coverage to nPB.

EUROPEAN CHLORINATED SOLVENTS ASSOCIATION (ECSA) PARTICIPATES IN HSIA BOARD MEETING

On June 11th, ECSA's Sector Group Manager Angelica Candido and member representatives from Inovyn – Chris Howick and Neil Rosenberg – participated in the HSIA Board meeting. ECSA shared information about its communications and the current status of perchloroethylene, trichloroethylene and methylene chloride in Europe. Everyone agreed that it was a useful exchange that will be continued.