

Greening of Consumer Products

an Allen Matkins
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publication

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Businesses call on CPSC to ease testing requirements

Bloomberg News - Jan 22

Small businesses including retailers, toymakers and manufacturers are calling on the Consumer Product Safety Commission to reduce the scope of a law requiring the testing of products for children to make sure they don't contain toxins. The law goes into effect Feb. 10, and the small companies say they don't have the infrastructure to handle the sophisticated testing required and will be forced out of business if exemptions aren't made.

California expected to revive chemical-regulation bills

Capitol Weekly - Jan 22

Two Democratic senators in California are expected to reintroduce chemicals legislation that they sponsored last year. Sen. Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto, said a bill he introduced will likely be adapted to either a bill to boost chemical disclosure requirements on products sold in California or a "larger next step on green chemistry," or both. Sen. Mark Leno, D-San Francisco, said he will push for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the Department of Toxic Substances Control to prohibit the use of some fire retardants that a number of scientists say are toxic.

Environment, global warming not a top priority: survey

Environmental Leader - Jan 26

A new poll shows that people who once put a huge emphasis on the government's green efforts now have other issues they care about more. The latest Pew Research Center poll shows that the economy and job market have jumped to the top of the priority list for most people. Last January, 75 percent of Americans polled said that the economy should be a top priority, and in a year's time, that has jumped to 85 percent. On the other hand, however, protecting the environment has fallen from 56 percent a year ago to just 41 percent today.

EPA's ability to assess toxic chemicals found lacking in audit

Miami Herald - Jan 23

The Environmental Protection Agency's ability to assess toxic chemicals is as broken as the nation's financial markets and needs a total overhaul, a congressional audit has found. The Government Accountability Office has released a report saying the EPA lacks even basic information to say whether chemicals pose substantial health risks to the public. It says actions are needed to streamline and increase the transparency of the EPA's registry of chemicals. And it calls for measures to enhance the agency's ability to obtain health and safety information from the chemical industry.

DTSC Nanotechnology Symposium

DTSC - Jan 23

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Editor

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DTSC will be hosting a full-day nanotechnology symposium on Thursday, March 19th at the Cal/EPA Headquarters Building in Sacramento. This event will be free and open to the public. It will also be available via web cast. A detailed Agenda will be posted in the near future. Presentation materials will also be posted on this webpage prior to the event. For more information, please go to www.dtsc.ca.gov.

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