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EPA proposes to add sixteen new chemicals to the toxics release inventory list

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By Robert Joyce

For the first time in more than a decade, EPA has proposed to add more than a dozen chemical to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) list. Each of the new additions is believed by EPA to cause cancer in humans insofar as each has been classified by the National Toxicology Program (NTP) in their Report on Carcinogens as "reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen." Four of the newly-listed chemicals are polycyclic aromatic compounds (PACs) that, according to EPA are persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic. PACs are expected to persist in the environment for a significant period of time and are not readily destroyed.

Those four listed PACs are:

- 1,6-Dinitropyrene
- 1,8-Dinitropyrene
- 6-Nitrochrysene
- 4-Nitropyrene

The twelve other suspected carcinogens to be added to the list are as follows:

- 1-Amino-2,4-dibromoanthraquinone
- 2,2-bis(Bromomethyl)-1,3-propanediol
- Furan
- Glycidol
- Isoprene
- Methyleugenol
- o-Nitroanisole
- Nitromethane
- Phenolphthalein
- Tetrafluoroethylene
- Tetranitromethane
- Vinyl Fluoride

EPA has concluded that these sixteen chemicals may be manufactured, processed, or otherwise used by industry in quantities that would exceed the TRI reporting thresholds. The deadline for commenting on the proposed additions is June 7, 2010. The full text of the proposed rule can be found in the April 6, 2010 volume of the Federal Register (Vol 75, No. 65, at page 17333).

LINKS

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