

EPA's Enhanced Chemical Management Program

- On September 29, 2009, Administrator Jackson outlined her framework for the Agency's enhanced Chemical Management Program.
- Comprehensive effort includes:
 - New regulatory risk management actions.
 - Development of chemical action plans which will target risk management efforts.
 - Requiring information needed to understand chemical risks.
 - Increasing public access to information about chemicals.

Bisphenol A (BPA)

- Over 2 billion pounds are manufactured/imported in U.S. per year; about 6 billion lbs internationally.
 - Used in manufacturing polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins employed in nearly every industry.
 - Most human exposure estimated to come from only 5% of total production (food packaging uses).
- In the U.S., over 1 million lbs/year are released to the environment (2007 Toxics Release Inventory data).
- BPA is a reproductive, developmental, and systemic toxicant; there are questions and concerns about potential effects even at low doses or concentrations.

BPA Action Plan: Regulatory Components

- Two regulatory actions are underway on the basis of concern for potential risk to the environment:
 - Consider adding BPA to new Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) 5(b)(4) Concern List
 - Draft proposed rule now undergoing interagency review; expected to publish in Autumn 2010.
 - Consider TSCA 4(a) rulemaking to develop data on environmental presence and effects
 - Draft advance notice of proposed rulemaking under development; expected to publish Winter 2010.
- EPA is *not* initiating regulatory action under TSCA at this time on the basis of risk to human health.

BPA Action Plan: Non-Regulatory Components

- Initiate Design for the Environment (DfE) alternatives assessment on use of BPA in thermal paper.
 - Address both human and environmental exposures.
 - Consider direct contact and the potential for exposures through recycling and solid waste disposal.
- Continue to consult and coordinate closely with FDA, CDC, and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to better determine and evaluate the potential human health consequences of BPA.

Additional Information

BPA Action Plan web page:

http://www.epa.gov/oppt/existingchemicals/pubs/actionplans/bpa.html

BPA Action Plan public docket:

http://www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#docketDetail?
R=EPA-HQ-OPPT-2010-0348

Existing Chemicals web page:

http://www.epa.gov/oppt/existingchemicals/index.html