

Summary of Risk Assessment Conducted Pursuant to subsection 83(1) of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*

New Substances Notification No. 19572: Carbonic acid, dimethyl ester, polymer with 1,6-hexanediol and 1,5-pentanediol (Chemical Abstracts Service No. 126773-01-1)

Regulatory decisions

Under the provisions for Substances and Activities New to Canada in Part 5 of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* (CEPA), and pursuant to section 83 of the Act, the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of Health have assessed information in respect of the substance and have determined that it is not anticipated to enter the environment in a quantity or concentration or under conditions that have or may have an immediate or long term harmful effect on the environment or its biological diversity, constitute or may constitute a danger to the environment on which life depends, or constitute or may constitute a danger in Canada to human life or health.

Substance identity

The notified polymer is carbonic acid, dimethyl ester, polymer with 1,6-hexanediol and 1,5-pentanediol (Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number¹ 126773-01-1). The substance does not meet the Reduced Regulatory Requirements criteria according to the *New Substances Notification Regulations (Chemicals and Polymers)* because it contains a high percentage of low molecular weight components.

Notified and potential activities

The substance is proposed to be imported into Canada in quantities greater than 10 000 kg/yr for the notified use in industrial and commercial coatings. No other uses are anticipated in Canada.

Environmental fate and behaviour

Based on its physical and chemical properties, if the substance is released to the environment, it will tend to partition to water. The substance is not expected to be persistent in this compartment. The substance is not expected to bioaccumulate based on its low predicted bioaccumulation factor and its high average molecular weight which will limit its ability to cross biological membranes.

Ecological assessment

Based on the available hazard information, the substance has moderate acute toxicity in algae (median effective concentration (EC₅₀) 1-100 mg/L) and low chronic toxicity in algae (10% effective concentration (EC₁₀) >10 mg/L). Using the EC₁₀ from algae and by applying an assessment factor of 50 to account for species sensitivity variation, the predicted no-effect concentration (PNEC) was calculated to be in the range of 100-1000 µg/L, which was used to estimate the ecological risk.

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The notified and other potential activities in Canada were assessed to estimate the environmental exposure potential of the substance throughout its life cycle. Environmental exposure from the notified activities is expected to be mainly from use in industrial coatings by release of the substance to water, resulting in a predicted environmental concentration (PEC) in the range of 10-100 µg/L. For potential activities such as blending and industrial formulation environmental exposure is expected to be similar to that of the notified use.

Comparing the PEC with the PNEC, the ratio is less than 1. This, along with other lines of evidence including environmental fate, hazard, and exposure, indicates that the substance is unlikely to cause ecological harm in Canada.

Human health assessment

Based on the available hazard information, the substance has a low acute toxicity by the oral route (median lethal dose >2000 mg/kg body weight).

When the notified substance is used in industrial and commercial coatings, consumers may come into contact with end-use products containing the substance; however, direct exposure is not expected because the substance will be chemically reacted into a stable matrix once the product is cured and will be unavailable for uptake. Indirect exposure of the general population from environmental media is not expected given the specialized industrial and commercial use of the substance, which results in little or no release to the environment. No potential uses which could significantly increase human health risks compared to the notified uses were identified.

Based on the low toxicity and low potential for exposure, the substance is not likely to pose a significant health risk to the general population, and is therefore unlikely to be harmful to human health.

Assessment conclusion

When the substance is used as notified or for other identified potential activities, it is not expected to be harmful to human health or the environment according to the criteria under section 64 of the Act.

A conclusion under CEPA, on this substance, is not relevant to, nor does it preclude an assessment against the hazard criteria for Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System that is specified in the *Controlled Products Regulations* or *Hazardous Products Regulations* for products intended for the workplace.