



Form for filing a request to assess a substance under Section 76 of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, 1999

Under subsection 76(3) of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* (CEPA or the Act), a request for the Minister of the Environment (the Minister) and the Minister of Health to assess whether a substance is toxic under section 64¹ of the Act, or capable of becoming toxic, must be filed with the Minister in the form and manner set out by the Minister. This document sets out the form and manner to file the assessment request.

Review the guidance for the form entries below to ensure that the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of Health are able to properly consider and respond to your request as efficiently as possible.

If the Ministers grant the request for assessment, the substance will be proposed for addition to the Plan of Priorities as a priority for assessment. More information on the assessment process can be found on the [assessment page and related fact sheets](#).

General guidance

Before submitting a request for assessment under subsection 76(1) of the Act, it is recommended that you verify that the requested substance has not already been addressed or identified as a priority for assessment.

1. A request for assessment should be accompanied by quality data or evidence that the substance is associated with hazardous effects and poses a high likelihood of exposure to people in Canada or the environment. Ensure that you provide sufficient information to explain both the potential hazards and the exposures associated with the substance being requested for assessment. More information can be found on the [Request to assess a substance under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*](#) web page.
2. Complete all sections of the form clearly and concisely and provide all information necessary to support your request. The 90-day response period will only commence once all sections of the form are complete and submitted.
3. To the extent possible, include additional information, such as bibliographic citations for publicly available references, articles of interest or evidence of harm, in your request. Supporting information that is not publicly available can also be provided when submitting your request (for example, unpublished studies or data). Please indicate how the evidence provided supports your request for assessment.
4. If you include information in a form that you consider to be confidential, please provide a request for confidentiality under section 313 of the Act and indicate in your submission the specific information or data that should be treated as confidential, with reasons. For more information on claiming confidentiality, please consult the [Approach to disclose confidential information and promote transparency in chemicals management](#).

¹ Section 64 of CEPA refers to a substance that is toxic if it is entering or may enter the environment in a quantity or concentration or under conditions that (a) have or may have an immediate or long-term harmful effect on the environment or its biological diversity; (b) constitute or may constitute a danger to the environment on which life depends; or (c) constitute or may constitute a danger in Canada to human life or health.

5. The request must meet all of the following requirements:
 - a) All sections of the form are completed; and
 - b) The evidence provided in the request identifies a potential for hazard and exposure to the people in Canada or the environment.

Glossary

Expanded definitions are available in the [Chemical substances glossary](#).

- **Assessment:** A scientific evaluation of a substance under CEPA to determine the potential harm or danger it can cause to human health and the environment, and the ways in which it can happen. This allows the federal government to identify the control measures needed to reduce or prevent the potential harm.
- **Exposure:** The degree to which the environment or living things, including people, come into direct or indirect contact with a substance. (More details provided below under Rationale for Request).
- **Hazard:** The potential harm that a substance can cause, whether to human health or to the environment. (More details provided below under Rationale for Request).
- **Risk:** The risk posed by a substance is a function of its hazardous properties and the ways in which people and the environment are exposed to the substance.

Request form sections

Requests must be made by filling out the sections of this request form:

- a) [Requestor information](#)
- b) [Substance identity](#)
- c) [Rationale for request](#)
- d) [Supporting files](#)
- e) [Where to send your request for assessment](#)

Substance C - Rationale for request

Provide a clear rationale and share what data supports your concern that the substance may pose a risk to the health of people in Canada or the environment and that it should be assessed. Examples of sources of credible evidence for hazard or exposure that are used by Environment and Climate Change Canada and Health Canada to identify priorities can be found on the [information gathering](#) web page.

1. Provide evidence related to the fate and behaviour of this substance in the environment. Bibliographic citations and/or links to the evidence to support your concerns are required.

For consideration: relevant evidence includes published studies on persistence, bioaccumulation or biomagnification:

- Persistence: Refers to a substance that remains in the environment for a long time. A substance is considered persistent if it meets the criteria listed in the [Persistence and Bioaccumulation Regulations](#).
- Bioaccumulation: The process of gradual accumulation of substances in living tissues.
- Biomagnification: The process by which concentrations of a substance increase in the tissue of organisms at successively higher levels in the food chain.

2. Provide evidence for the presence of the substance in Canada, how it is used by people in Canada, and/or how people and/or the Canadian environment are exposed to it. Bibliographic citations and/or links to the evidence to support your concerns are required.

For consideration: Exposure to a substance is the degree to which the environment or living things, including people, come into direct or indirect contact with a substance. Health Canada assesses potential exposure of the general population to substances from all routes (inhalation, ingestion and contact with the skin) and all possible sources (ambient and indoor air, water, food, breast milk, soil and household and consumer products). Environment and Climate Change Canada assesses exposure in environmental media (that is, water, air, sediment, soil), wastewater and wildlife.

Examples of types of data that are considered include, but are not limited to:

- Canadian biomonitoring data
- Concentrations in the Canadian environment from monitoring or surveillance
- Data on manufacture, import or use in Canada, including information on function or volume
- Information on products available to consumers in Canada that contain the substance(s), including information on ingredients or concentrations
- Domestic or international reports or assessments that may be relevant to exposure in Canada

3. Provide evidence related to the environmental or human health hazard of this substance. Bibliographic citations and/or links to the evidence to support your concerns are required.

For consideration: Relevant evidence include laboratory or other published studies that may demonstrate that the substance has a harmful effect on human life or wildlife and the natural environment on which they depend. This could include evidence of:

- **Carcinogenicity:** Capacity of a substance to cause cancer (for example, cancerous cells or cancerous tumours).
- **Mutagenicity:** Capacity of a substance to cause changes to the DNA of cells.
- **Endocrine-disrupting activity:** Ability of a substance to disrupt the synthesis, secretion, transport, binding, action or elimination of natural hormones in an organism (or its progeny) that are responsible for maintaining the homeostasis, reproduction, development or behaviour of the organism.
- **Acute or chronic toxicity:** Amount that can cause harm in aquatic or terrestrial organisms following short- or long-term exposure, respectively.
- **Adverse effect:** An undesirable or harmful change in the morphology, physiology, growth, development, reproduction or lifespan of an organism or population of organisms.

<p>4. Indicate if and how your request implicates one or more of the following areas. Indicate any that you think may be relevant and provide a brief explanation below:</p>	
	<p><u>Groups of individuals</u> within the general Canadian population who, due to either greater susceptibility and/or greater exposure, may be more susceptible to experiencing adverse health effects from exposure to chemicals.</p>
	<p>Cumulative effects associated with combined exposure to two or more chemicals.</p>
	<p><u>Endocrine disruption</u>, whether the substance is a known endocrine-disrupting substance based on evidence/data.</p>
	<p>Known carcinogen, mutagen or reproductive toxicant, as classified by other jurisdictions (for example, Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals) or identified in peer-reviewed literature.</p>
	<p>Potential alternatives to known toxic substances</p>
	<p><u>Chemicals in products</u>, describe if your requested substance is largely used in products available to consumers.</p>
	<p>Hot spots, defined as geographical areas where chemical exposures to the population or environment in its vicinity are expected to be greater due to chemical concentrations in air, water or soil that are expected to be higher than those in the surrounding areas.</p>
	<p>Occupational exposure, potential exposure to a substance in the workplace</p>
	<p>Climate change-related</p>
	<p>Other</p>
<p>Explanation:</p>	

5. Other relevant information. Provide other relevant information on the substance (for example, international risk management)

Section D - Supporting files

Provide any additional verified web link(s) or attachment(s) not accessible to the public but relevant to your request. Do not duplicate any files that have been included in section C of the form. If sending more than one email submission, please put your request title in the subject line.

The following file formats are accepted as attachments: pdf; text; MS Office [that is, Word, Excel, PowerPoint] or equivalent.

Examples of supporting files include:

- Unpublished toxicity studies
- National/international databases (for example, as an Excel spreadsheet or csv file)
- Reports or risk/hazard/exposure assessments from national/international jurisdictions

Section E - Where to send your request for assessment

Submit your completed form and supporting files:

- **Online** through [Environment and Climate Change Canada's Single Window](#) (a secure portal for organizations to submit information)
 - Once you have created an account, select the Chemicals Management Plan from the main page
 - From the Chemicals Management Plan Dashboard, create a new CM-General submission
 - On the first page, select "s.76 Request to assess" as the Submission Purpose

For other delivery methods and inquiries, please contact us at substances@ec.gc.ca or by telephone at 1-800-567-1999 (toll-free in Canada) or 1-819-938-3232 (outside of Canada)

Review our [privacy statement](#).

Provide information in English or French. Your information may be summarized and published in part or in full. Please be sure to identify any confidential business information so that it may be protected.

Once a complete submission is received, you will receive a notice of acknowledgement and then a response within 90 calendar days. Thank you.