

## **TSCA Section 5(a)(3) Determination for Premanufacture Notice (PMN) P-19-0007**

**Number: P-19-0007**

**TSCA Section 5(a)(3) Determination:** The chemical substance is not likely to present an unreasonable risk (5(a)(3)(C))

### **Chemical Name:**

Generic: Alkenoic acid, alkyl-, hydroxyalkyl ester, polymer with alkyl-alkenoate, alkenylcarbomonocycle, hydroxyalkyl-alkenoate, alkyl substituted alkenoate and heteromonocycle, alkyl substituted peroxyoate-initiated, polymers with [substituted alkanenitrile]-initiated acrylic acid-alkane acrylates-alkyl substituted carbomonocycle polymer; polymer exemption flag.

Polymer exemption flag: The chemical must be manufactured such that it meets the polymer exemption criteria as described under 40 CFR §723.250(e)(1), in addition to meeting the definition of polymer at 40 CFR §723.250(b).

### **Conditions of Use (intended, known, or reasonably foreseen)<sup>1</sup>:**

Intended conditions of use (specific): Import in formulation for use as coating resin binder applied to metal substrates, consistent with the manufacturing, processing, use, distribution, and disposal information described in the PMN.

Known conditions of use: Applying such factors as described in footnote 1, EPA evaluated whether there are known conditions of use and found none.

Reasonably foreseen conditions of use: Applying such factors as described in footnote 1, EPA evaluated whether there are reasonably foreseen conditions of use and found none.

**Summary:** The chemical substance is not likely to present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment, without consideration of costs or other nonrisk factors, including an unreasonable risk to a potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulation identified as relevant by the Administrator under the conditions of use, based on the risk assessment presented below. Although EPA estimated that the new chemical substance could be very persistent, the new chemical substance has low potential for bioaccumulation, such that repeated exposures are not

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<sup>1</sup> Under TSCA § 3(4), the term “conditions of use” means “the circumstances, as determined by the Administrator, under which a chemical substance is intended, known, or reasonably foreseen to be manufactured, processed, distributed in commerce, used, or disposed of.” In general, EPA considers the intended conditions of use of a new chemical substance to be those identified in the section 5(a) notification. Known conditions of use include activities within the United States that result from manufacture that is exempt from PMN submission requirements. Reasonably foreseen conditions of use are future circumstances, distinct from known or intended conditions of use, under which the Administrator expects the chemical substance to be manufactured, processed, distributed, used, or disposed of. The identification of “reasonably foreseen” conditions of use will necessarily be a case-by-case determination and will be highly fact-specific. Reasonably foreseen conditions of use will not be based on hypotheticals or conjecture. Accordingly, EPA will apply its professional judgment, experience, and discretion when considering such factors as evidence of current use of the new chemical substance outside the United States, evidence that the PMN substance is sufficiently likely to be used for the same purposes as existing chemical substances that are structurally analogous to the new chemical substance, and conditions of use identified in an initial PMN submission that the submitter omits in a revised PMN. The sources EPA uses to identify reasonably foreseen conditions of use include searches of internal confidential EPA PMN databases (containing use information on analogue chemicals), other U.S. government public sources, the National Library of Medicine’s Hazardous Substances Data Bank (HSDB), the Chemical Abstract Service STN Platform, REACH Dossiers, technical encyclopedias (e.g., Kirk-Othmer and Ullmann), and Internet searches.

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expected to be cumulative. When manufactured to meet the polymer exemption criteria, EPA estimates that the chemical substance has low environmental hazard and potential for the following human health hazard: irritation. EPA concludes that the new chemical substance is not likely to present an unreasonable risk when manufactured to meet the polymer exemption criteria. The PMN describes conditions of use consistent with these criteria.

**Fate:** Environmental fate is the determination of which environmental compartment(s) a chemical moves to, the expected residence time in the environmental compartment(s) and removal and degradation processes. Environmental fate is an important factor in determining exposure and thus in determining whether a chemical may present an unreasonable risk. EPA estimated a number of physical-chemical and fate properties of this new chemical substance using data for analogous chemicals. Based on these estimates, the chemical substance is estimated to be removed with an efficiency of 90% during wastewater treatment due to strong sorption to sludge. Additionally, the chemical substance is estimated to have very strong sorption to soil and sediments, resulting in negligible migration to groundwater. Volatilization to air is estimated to be negligible because the substance has a low estimated vapor pressure. Overall, these estimates are indicative of low potential for this chemical substance to volatilize into the air and a low potential for this chemical substance to migrate into groundwater.

**Persistence<sup>2</sup>:** Persistence is relevant to whether a new chemical substance is likely to present an unreasonable risk because chemicals that are not degraded in the environment at rates that prevent substantial buildup in the environment, and thus increase potential for exposure, may present a risk if the substance presents a hazard to human health or the environment. EPA estimated biodegradation half-lives of this new chemical substance using data for analogous chemicals. EPA estimated the aerobic and anaerobic biodegradation half-lives to be greater than six months. These estimates for biodegradation indicate that the chemical substance may be very persistent in aerobic environments (e.g., surface water) and very persistent in anaerobic environments (e.g., sediment).

**Bioaccumulation<sup>3</sup>:** Bioaccumulation is relevant to whether a new chemical substance is likely to present an unreasonable risk because substances that bioaccumulate in aquatic and/or terrestrial species pose the potential for elevated exposures to humans and other organisms via food chains. The chemical substance has low bioaccumulation potential based on estimates from analogous polymers and large predicted molecular volume, which limits bioavailability. Although EPA estimated that the new chemical substance could be very persistent, the chemical

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<sup>2</sup> Persistence: A chemical substance is considered to have limited persistence if it has a half-life in water, soil or sediment of less than 2 months or there are equivalent or analogous data. A chemical substance is considered to be persistent if it has a half-life in water, soil or sediments of greater than 2 months but less than or equal to 6 months or if there are equivalent or analogous data. A chemical substance is considered to be very persistent if it has a half-life in water, soil or sediments of greater than 6 months or there are equivalent or analogous data. (64 FR 60194; November 4, 1999)

<sup>3</sup> Bioaccumulation: A chemical substance is considered to have a low potential for bioaccumulation if there are bioconcentration factors (BCF) or bioaccumulation factors (BAF) of less than 1,000 or there are equivalent or analogous data. A chemical substance is considered to be bioaccumulative if there are BCFs or BAFs of 1,000 or greater and less than or equal to 5,000 or there are equivalent or analogous data. A chemical substance is considered to be very bioaccumulative if there are BCFs or BAFs of 5,000 or greater or there are equivalent or analogous data. (64 FR 60194; November 4 1999)

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substance has low potential for bioaccumulation, such that repeated exposures are not expected to cause food chain effects via accumulation in exposed organisms.

**Human Health Hazard<sup>4</sup>:** Human health hazard is relevant to whether a new chemical substance is likely to present an unreasonable risk because the significance of the risk is dependent upon both the hazard (or toxicity) of the chemical substance and the extent of exposure to the substance. EPA estimated the human health hazard of this chemical substance based on its estimated physical/chemical properties, and by comparing it to structurally analogous chemical substances for which there is information on human health hazard. EPA identified irritation hazard based on the SDS. EPA also identified developmental toxicity hazards based on the presence of low amounts of the esters of branched chain fatty acids or alcohols [claimed CBI]. However, when manufactured as described in the PMN, the new chemical substance meets the polymer exemption criteria described under 40 CFR §723.250(e)(1) and this hazard is not of concern.

**Environmental Hazard<sup>5</sup>:** Environmental hazard is relevant to whether a new chemical substance is likely to present unreasonable risks because the significance of the risk is dependent upon both the hazard (or toxicity) of the chemical substance and the extent of exposure to the substance. EPA estimated environmental hazard of this new chemical substance using hazard data on analogous chemicals. EPA determined environmental hazard for this new chemical substance based on SAR predictions for anionic polymers as well as the negligible water solubility of the new chemical substance. Hazards from acute and chronic exposures are not expected at concentrations up to the water solubility limit of the new chemical substance (i.e., no effects at saturation). These toxicity values indicate that the new chemical substance is expected

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<sup>4</sup> A chemical substance is considered to have low human health hazard if effects are observed in animal studies with a No Observed Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL) equal to or greater than 1,000 mg/kg/day or if there are equivalent data on analogous chemical substances; a chemical substance is considered to have moderate human health hazard if effects are observed in animal studies with a NOAEL less than 1,000 mg/kg/day or if there are equivalent data on analogous chemical substances; a chemical substance is considered to have high human health hazard if there is evidence of adverse effects in humans or conclusive evidence of severe effects in animal studies with a NOAEL of less than or equal to 10 mg/kg/day or if there are equivalent data on analogous chemical substances. EPA may also use Benchmark Dose Levels (BMDL) derived from benchmark dose (BMD) modeling as points of departure for toxic effects. See <https://www.epa.gov/bmds/what-benchmark-dose-software-bmds>. Using this approach, a BMDL is associated with a benchmark response, for example a 5 or 10 % incidence of effect. The aforementioned characterizations of hazard (low, medium, high) would also apply to BMDLs. In the absence of animal data on a chemical or analogous chemical substance, EPA may use other data or information such as from in vitro assays, chemical categories (e.g., Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2014 Guidance on Grouping of Chemicals, Second Edition. ENV/JM/MONO(2014)4. Series on Testing & Assessment No. 194. Environment Directorate, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, Paris, France. ([http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=env/jm/mono\(2014\)4&doclanguage=en](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=env/jm/mono(2014)4&doclanguage=en))), structure-activity relationships, and/or structural alerts to support characterizing human health hazards.

<sup>5</sup> A chemical substance is considered to have low ecotoxicity hazard if the Fish, Daphnid and Algae LC50 values are greater than 100 mg/L, or if the Fish and Daphnid chronic values (ChVs) are greater than 10.0 mg/L, or there are not effects at saturation (occurs when water solubility of a chemical substance is lower than an effect concentration), or the log Kow value exceeds QSAR cut-offs. A chemical substance is considered to have moderate ecotoxicity hazard if the lowest of the Fish, Daphnid or Algae LC50s is greater than 1 mg/L and less than 100 mg/L, or where the Fish or Daphnid ChVs are greater than 0.1 mg/L and less than 10.0 mg/L. A chemical substance is considered to have high ecotoxicity hazard, or if either the Fish, Daphnid or Algae LC50s are less than 1 mg/L, or any Fish or Daphnid ChVs is less than 0.1 mg/L (Sustainable Futures <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-futures/sustainable-futures-p2-framework-manual>).

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to have low environmental hazard. Because hazards are not expected up to the water solubility limit, acute and chronic concentrations of concern are not identified.

**Exposure:** The exposure to a new chemical substance is potentially relevant to whether a new chemical substance is likely to present unreasonable risks because the significance of the risk is dependent upon both the hazard (or toxicity) of the chemical substance and the extent of exposure to the substance.

EPA estimates occupational exposure and environmental release of the new chemical substance under the intended conditions of use described in the PMN using ChemSTEER (Chemical Screening Tool for Exposures and Environmental Releases <https://www.epa.gov/tsca-screening-tools/chemsteer-chemical-screening-tool-exposures-and-environmental-releases>). EPA uses EFAST (the Exposure and Fate Assessment Screening Tool; <https://www.epa.gov/tsca-screening-tools/e-fast-exposure-and-fate-assessment-screening-tool-version-2014>) to estimate general population, consumer, and environmental exposures.

EPA considers workers to be a potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulation (PESS) on the basis of greater exposure potential compared to the general population. EPA also considers PESS in conducting general population drinking water exposures by evaluating risks associated with water intake rates for multiple age groups, ranging from infants to adults. EPA considers consumers of specific products to be a potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulation on the basis of greater exposure potential compared to the general population who do not use specific products.

For this new chemical assessment, EPA assessed exposure to workers via the dermal and inhalation routes. Releases to water, air, and landfill were estimated. Exposure to the general population was assessed via drinking water and inhalation. Exposures to consumers were not assessed because consumer uses were not identified as conditions of use.

**Risk Characterization:** EPA assesses risks to workers considering engineering controls described in the PMN but in the absence of personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves and respirators. If risks are preliminarily identified, EPA then considers whether the risks would be mitigated by the use of PPE (e.g., impervious gloves, respirator).

Irritation hazards to workers were identified based on information in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS). Risks for this endpoint were not quantified due to a lack of dose-response for this hazard. However, exposures can be mitigated by the use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including impervious gloves and respiratory protection. EPA expects that workers will use appropriate PPE consistent with the SDS prepared by the PMN submitter, in a manner adequate to protect them. Therefore, EPA does not expect unreasonable risk for the irritation endpoint. Irritation hazards to the general population via inhalation or ingestion of drinking water are unlikely as the new chemical substance is not expected to be present at levels that would cause these effects. Risks to consumers were not evaluated because consumer uses were not identified as conditions of use.

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Due to low environmental hazard, EPA believes that this chemical substance is not likely to present an unreasonable risk to the environment even if potential exposures were high.

Because worker exposures can be controlled by PPE, no unreasonable risks to the general population or environment were identified, and there are no expected consumer exposures, EPA has determined that the new chemical substance is not likely to present unreasonable risk to human health or the environment when manufactured to meet the polymer exemption, consistent with the conditions of use described in the PMN.

02/28/19  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffery T. Morris, Director  
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics