

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 1 7 2007

OFFICE OF PREVENTION, PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

## **MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT:

Appropriate methods for making information and documents regarding

40 C.F.R. § 761 approvals available to the public

FROM:

Maria J. Doa, Director

National Program Chemical's Division (7404T)

TO:

Regional TSCA Division Directors

The PCB Program, as a practice, provides notice to local communities regarding certain PCB actions that could affect the community. To date, your staff commonly has relied on publication in local newspapers when the Region wishes to provide notice that it is considering a particular application for a PCB approval pursuant to 40 CFR § 761. However, with the increased prevalence of internet-based communication, a significant portion of the population now relies on websites and internet search tools to locate information from government institutions. To take advantage of this communication medium, we would like to start notice of PCB approval applications and other related information on EPA websites. We believe internet posting will prove a highly effective and efficient vehicle for informing the public.

Thus, it is no longer necessary for the full text of approval applications and approval notices to be published in local newspapers. Rather, in most cases a brief newspaper notice announcing the appropriate web links to the information should be sufficient. This notice should specify what information is available and how the information can be accessed electronically. However, this new web-based approach may not be practicable or appropriate in every case, so on a case-by-case basis, you should continue to select among the available media for those approaches that best fit each approval situation.

cc: PCB Coordinators