Implementing the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act - Fiscal Year 2017

Fourteenth Annual Report



Maintenance Fees

Accomplishments

Inert Ingredients

Inert Ingredient Actions under PRIA

FIFRA section 33(k)(2)(F) requires EPA to report the number of inert ingredients (inerts) pending review by the agency. Under PRIA 3, all new requests for approval of inert ingredients became subject to registration service fee requirements, and ten new PRIA categories were established specific to inert ingredient approvals. In FY'17, 51 inert ingredient requests were received as covered PRIA 3 applications.

At the end of FY'16, 35 inert applications carried over into FY'17. In FY'17, 46 inert ingredient approval decisions were completed, and at the end of FY'17, 38 inert ingredient approval requests were pending in various stages of review.

Process Improvement in Inert Ingredient Reviews

The agency is continuing work with submitters to help ensure that all inert clearance submissions under PRIA are complete and of high quality, thereby allowing the agency to more efficiently and effectively review the submissions. Many submitters have had pre-submission consultations with the agency where questions regarding submission content can be addressed in advance of a formal PRIA submission.

We made enhancements to the inert ingredient website in FY'17, allowing users to more readily access information on inert ingredients. Updates to the guidance documents for inert ingredients have helped submitters provide the agency with more full and complete PRIA submissions. Also, we have made continual updates to InertFinder, an online database for searching substances used as inert ingredients in pesticide products. InertFinder, which is searchable by chemical name or CAS Registry Number, provides information on the approval status of substances used as inert ingredients for use in food use and nonfood use pesticides, including fragrances in pesticide products, and is available on the agency's website at http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/inertfinder. Similarly, we have updated "The List of Trade Names of Inert Ingredients" http://iaspub.epa.gov/apex/pesticides/f?p=inertfinder:mixtures website to further enhance public access to information related to the EPA approval status of trade name inert ingredients used in pesticide products. Both InertFinder and The List of Trade Names of Inert Ingredients are useful resources for applicants and have been demonstrated to improve the quality of registration applications submitted to the agency.