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U.S. – EPA Revises SNURs for 21 Chemicals

On 30 June 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) modified the significant new use rule (SNUR) requirements under section 5(a)(2) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) imposed on 21 chemicals by allowing certain uses of them without requiring significant new use notices (SNUNs). According to the federal register, EPA revised the SNURs either based on its determination that there is no need to gather additional information on the substances, or because the agency's findings indicate that activities involving the substances do not present an unreasonable risk of injury to human health or the environment as described in section 5(e)(1)(A) of TSCA. The reduced restrictions in this final rule include: oxirane, methyl-, polymer with oxirane, mono (3,5,5,-trimethylhexyl) ether (PMN P-99-669, CAS RN 204336-40-3), to be used as a wetting agent, dispersing agent and defoaming/deaerating agent in waterborne coatings, inks, and paints, water based adhesives, and ultraviolet curable coatings; propane, 1,1,1,2,2,3,3-heptafluoro-3-methoxy- (PMN P-01-320; CAS RN 375-03-1), to be used as a heating transfer fluid, refrigerant, flush cleaning, foam blowing, deposition coatings, histology baths, vapor degreasing, and industrial and commercial aerosol spray cleaning; and 1-propene, 2,3,3,3-tetrafluoro-, more commonly known as HFO-1234yf (PMN P-07-601; P- CAS RN 754-12-1), to be used as a refrigerant in stationary air conditioning equipment. The final rule becomes effective 31 August 2015.

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