



Peter M. Rooney
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

Air Resources Board

Barbara Riordan, Chairman

P.O. Box 2815 · 2020 L Street · Sacramento, California 95812 · www.arb.ca.gov



Pete Wilson
Governor

December 15, 1998

Dear Sir or Madam:

Update to the AB 1807 Toxic Air Contaminant List

The Air Resources Board (ARB) is currently updating the June 1996 Toxic Air Contaminant (TAC) List. Enclosed for your review is the draft report entitled, *Proposed Update to the Toxic Air Contaminant List* which explains our update process and includes the December 1998 draft Toxic Air Contaminant List. Previously, a draft list was mailed-out for public comment in September 1997 and shared with the Scientific Review Panel on Toxic Air Contaminants (SRP) in December 1997. The draft list was then revised based on comments received. After completion of this second comment period, the list may be revised one more time. The final list will then be sent by memorandum to the Air Resources Board for its information.

The Toxic Air Contaminant List contains several hundred substances which have either been formally identified by the Board as TACs, are being assessed by the ARB and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) staff for identification, or which may be assessed for identification in the future. This list reflects prioritization efforts required by the AB 1807 statutes (AB 1807, Tanner, Chapter 1047, statutes of 1983, Health and Safety Code sections 39650-39675). This list is dynamic and has been updated eight times since 1985.

Based on comments received and suggestions from the SRP, we have made several changes to the September 1997 draft Toxic Air Contaminant List (see Appendix B of the draft report). The list has been revised to: 1) better clarify the list categories to show how a substance moves through the identification process; 2) reflect the work being done by the OEHHA for the Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Program; and 3) reflect California emission inventory data.

As part of the update, we have prioritized all of the substances on the June 1996 Toxic Air Contaminant List and the Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Emission Inventory Criteria and Guidelines list of "Substances for Which Emissions Must be Quantified." The results of this prioritization will assist us in determining which substances will be examined under the Toxic Air Contaminant Identification Program. Four substances are being nominated for review. These substances are: methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE); polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs); styrene; and crystalline silica. These substances can be found in Categories IIa and III of the December 1998 revised draft list (see Appendix B of the draft report). In Category IIa, the nominated substances are marked with the symbol "‡".

We are recommending that in 1999 we: 1) begin a TAC-type of risk assessment for methyl tert-butyl ether; 2) augment the previously SRP approved benzo[a]pyrene risk assessment to add more Potency Equivalency Factors if data are available for selected PAHs; 3) review the

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expected new health studies on styrene; and 4) enter crystalline silica into the identification process and begin a comprehensive risk assessment for the development of a cancer potency value. We have already asked OEHHA to begin development of a noncancer chronic Reference Exposure Level for crystalline silica under the Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Program.

We would appreciate your review of the draft report by January 22, 1999. Please mail your comments to:

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If you have any questions, please call Ms. Janette Brooks, Manager, Substance Evaluation Section, at (916) 322-8278 or Ms. Michele Houghton at (916) 327-2979.

Sincerely,

//s// Donald J. Ames, Assistant Chief
Stationary Source Division

Enclosure

cc: See next page.

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Governor

cc: Scientific Review Panel on Toxic Air Contaminants

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