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• **Aust. Govt. Initiatives for Managing Chemicals**

These initiatives were originally announced in the 2003-2004 budget.

*Editor's Comment:* I have included these initiatives as they provide a succinct summary of the key issues that all of the chemical industry must act on to become sustainable.

- A national program to address persistent chemicals in the environment including endocrine disrupters, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and brominated flame retardants.

- A national framework and standard for the use of industrial residues.

- A whole of lifecycle, national approach to chemicals management, a national environmental risk management framework and national action plans on emissions and classification and labelling of chemicals by 2006.

- A chemicals monitoring database for reporting and monitoring industrial and household chemical use, disposal and environmental fate.

From [www.deh.gov.au/industry/chemicals/](http://www.deh.gov.au/industry/chemicals/)

**Hazmat & Environment Notes are prepared by:**

Jeff Simpson

Hazardous Materials Consultant  
Editor & Publisher

I have edited and published this newsletter since 1985, initially within the Aerospace Industry, and then to all industry using chemicals since 1991.

I work as a Regulatory Affairs and Hazardous Materials Consultant and try to put my concern about chemicals into practice, and influence everyone to make better choices of, and better use of chemicals.

My approach is to provide a short, succinct note on each hazardous material issue, sufficient to allow you to make a decision of whether it is relevant to you. If you need more information contact details / website / etc are provided.

I encourage all readers to make comment on draft regulations, codes and standards.

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## Hazardous Substances

### • Globally Harmonised System, July 2004 Report

Some items from the Report of the 7th UN Sub-Committee of Experts on the GHS of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (14-16 July 2004) and the Working Documents.

The Water-Activated Toxicity Hazard Class (WAT) for the "Substances/mixtures, which in contact with water, release toxic gases" was not adopted as presented and will now be worked on in the next biennium. Download "Group on WAT" from the website below for details.



The proposal by Norway for a new Label pictogram for Organic Peroxides (red top/yellow bottom) has been adopted (the working document with the pictogram can be downloaded).

A proposal for Health Hazards criteria for mixtures containing substances, which have an effect on or via lactation, was discussed and will be submitted for the Dec 2004 meeting.

Concern was raised about excluding from the Precautionary Statements all advice to induce vomiting.

*Safety Data Sheets:* Australia has prepared a paper containing all suggested amendments, to be reconciled in August, and ready for adoption at the Dec 2004 meeting.

*Labelling for Small Packages:* No common understanding was reached on the principles, except that the public must be informed of the danger in a visible and easily understandable way. Work on this will now be in the next biennium.

They agreed that the GHS Criteria for "Substances dangerous to aquatic environment" to replace the current concept of Marine Pollutants, with the IMO amendments in force by January 2007.

From the UNECE website:

[www.unece.org/trans/main/dqdb/dqsubc4/activities.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dqdb/dqsubc4/activities.html)

### • Draft Approved Criteria for Classifying Hazardous Substances

Again became available on the 24 July 2004. This was to confirm a change in terminology from "dangerous" to "hazardous". Aimed to be implemented by the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004.

*Editor's Comment:* Inappropriately directly refers to EU requirements in Appendix 8 from Chapters 1.20 and 3.1.

From: [www.nohsc.gov.au/PublicComment](http://www.nohsc.gov.au/PublicComment).

### • 29<sup>th</sup> ATP European Dangerous Substances List

The additions and changes were republished on the 16 June 2004 in the OJ EU L216. It is a searchable 2.9 Mb pdf file, 308 pages in length. Go to [http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/archive/2004/l\\_21620040616en.html](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/archive/2004/l_21620040616en.html), click on the right hand side lone No. 3 (which is linked to the pdf).

Advised by the UK Chemical Hazards Communication Society's free Email Forum, <http://www.chcs.org.uk>

### • Multiple Chemical Sensitivity - Update

This inquiry will most likely now commence in the first half of 2005 once previous inquiries are finalised.

For further information go to: Sandra Kanck ph: 08-8237-9278, or email: [cathi.tucker@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:cathi.tucker@parliament.sa.gov.au).

The Terms of Reference can be obtained from: <http://www.parliament.sa.gov.au/> and search in quote marks on "Multiple Chemical Sensitivity" which then brings up a pdf file to download.

## Chemical Management - General

### • 'The Future For Our Children' WHO June 2004

WHO Europe 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, Budapest, Hungary, 23-25<sup>th</sup> June 2004.

This continues on from the European Environment & Health Action Plan Note in the April/May 2004 Hazmat Notes and focusses on children.

"The effects of a degraded environment on children's health raise increasing concern. Every year, unhealthy environments cause the death of over 5 million children worldwide."

European ministers made commitments to ensure safer environments for children, through the adoption of a Conference declaration and of a Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE).

Plus there was also a Youth Declaration made by a Youth Parliament which included official youth delegates to the Ministerial Conference representing 19 countries.

*Editor's Comment:* These make very interesting browsing and shows clear directions that the authorities/community expects industry to take. The Youth Declaration highlights specific issues and raises concerns about the process to implement changes.

Three Declarations and the Action Plan can be downloaded from the website below.

From: <http://www.euro.who.int/budapest2004>

### • National Chemical Information Gateway

Organised by the Australian Govt, Dept of Environment and Heritage. The categories of chemical information include.

<a href="#">Household Chemicals</a>	<a href="#">Exposure &amp; Safety</a>
<a href="#">Chemicals by Name</a>	<a href="#">Chemicals in Agriculture</a>
<a href="#">Chemicals and Human Health</a>	<a href="#">Regulators and Legislation</a>
<a href="#">Main Organisations</a>	<a href="#">International Portals</a>
<a href="#">Chemical Databases</a>	<a href="#">Education and Research</a>
<a href="#">Business, Hobbies and Arts</a>	

This website makes very interesting browsing and includes many websites I have referred to over the years. Please advise them of good websites to add,

Keep an eye out for any websites on the Gateway where only the advertising can be accessed, not the data and advise DEH, so they can remove them. The "More Links" for each area could do with some further grouping to make the websites easier to find. They appreciate feedback.

From: [www.deh.gov.au/chemicals-gateway](http://www.deh.gov.au/chemicals-gateway).

## NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

### • Proposal to Declare DEH Phthalate as a PEC.

Diethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP) CAS # 117-81-7 is proposed to be declared as a Priority Existing Chemical (PEC) for a full risk assessment. Australian use and importation information is available, DEHP is imported to Australia at > 10,000 tonnes/year which reflects widespread use. It is the most commonly used single plasticiser worldwide with extensive use in a range of products, articles and medical devices. It also possesses significant reproductive/developmental toxicity and ecotoxicity.

Comment is invited about the proposal to declare this as a PEC to alert industry so there is an opportunity to adjust the scope, or advise of imminent studies, etc that may affect the final PEC declaration. Responses are required by 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 2004.

*From Chemical Gazette 6 July 2004, p57*

### • More Phthalates - Call for Inform'n by NICNAS

Phthalates are a group of chemicals for which concerns have been raised regarding potential adverse effects and their use in a wide range of products and articles. **NICNAS is seeking information on uses of and potential exposure** for the selected phthalates below.

#### High Volume Phthalates:

Diisodecyl Phthalate (DIDP)	26761-40-0 / 68515-49-1
Dimethyl Phthalate (DMP)	131-11-3
Di-isononyl Phthalate (DINP)	28553-12-0 / 68515-48-0
Dibutyl Phthalate (DBP)	84-74-2
Butylbenzyl Phthalate (BBP)	85-68-7
Diethyl Phthalate (DEP)	84-66-2

Toxicity hazard screenings indicate that each possesses significant mammalian toxicity and/or ecotoxicity.

#### Known Hazards & Suspected Low Use Phthalates:

Di-n-Octyl Phthalate (DnOP)	117-84-0
Dimethyl Terephthalate (DMT)	120-61-6
Bis(2-Methoxyethyl) Phthalate	117-82-8
Ditridecyl Phthalate (DTDP)	119-06-2
Diallyl Phthalate (DAP)	131-17-9
Diisobutyl Phthalate (DiBP)	84-69-5
Di-n-Hexyl Phthalate (DnHP)	84-75-3
Dicyclohexyl Phthalate (DCHP)	84-61-7

The limited hazard information available for the majority of the 8 phthalates suggests some mammalian toxicity and/or ecotoxicity.

#### Limited Hazard & Use Information:

Di-C6-10-Phthalate	68515-51-5
Diisooheptyl Phthalate (DIHP)	41451-28-9 / 71888-89-6
Di-C7-9-Phthalate	68515-41-3
Di-C9-11-Phthalate	68515-43-5
Undecylododecyl Phthalate (UDP)	116998-09-5
Diisoundecyl Phthalate (DIUP)	85507-79-5
Diundecyl Phthalate (DUP)	3648-20-2
Diisooctyl Phthalate (DIOP)	27554-26-3
Dinonyl Phthalate (DNP)	84-76-4
Dipentyl Phthalate (DPP)	131-18-0
Di-C7-11-Phthalate	68648-91-9
Diisotridecyl Phthalate (DTDP)	27253-26-5
Di-n-Propyl Phthalate (DPrP)	131-16-8
Diisohexyl Phthalate (DIHexP)	68515-50-4 / 71850-09-4
Di-8-10-Phthalate	71662-46-9

Very limited or no published toxicity data and use information were found for the 15 phthalates listed. The few data available do not indicate significant toxicity.

Persons (called the 'Notifiers') who have **manufactured or imported during the last 12 months** one or more of the chemicals or products containing chemicals in the above lists are **REQUIRED** to provide this information. **Any other persons with information** on these chemicals, including past importers or manufacturers, are encouraged to provide this information. **Both by the 14th Sept 2004.**

IN ADDITION to the specific data requests outlined in the accompanying Gazette notice, **NICNAS also requests a LISTING or BIBLIOGRAPHY of any further safety profile data available** for the High Volume Phthalates; and the Known Hazards & Suspected Low Use Phthalates.

*From Chemical Gazette 6 July 2004, p57-65*

### • NICNAS Registration Now for ALL Companies

**New NICNAS Registration Requirements** for all importers and manufactures of industrial chemicals, by 1 Sept 2004, **regardless of the amount** of relevant industrial chemicals imported or manufactured in that year.

The most significant change affecting the industry is the new requirement for all importers and/or manufacturers of industrial chemicals to register with NICNAS.

The new NICNAS registration requirement will introduce three levels of registration:

- **Tier 1** (new category)
- **Tier 2** (previously called Company Registration - lower)
- **Tier 3** (previously called Company Registration - upper)

**Tier 1 registration** will apply to all importers and/or manufacturers who previously did not meet the Company Registration threshold level of \$500,000. From 1 September 2004 an importer and/or manufacturer importing a relevant industrial chemical for commercial purposes will be required to register with NICNAS. An annual NICNAS administration fee of \$353 will apply. NICNAS will shortly be contacting individuals and businesses to advise them of these changes and assist them in understanding the new requirements if they apply to their business activities. **Note:** A penalty applies for late registrations.

*From Chemical Gazette 6 July 2004*

### • NICNAS Low Regulatory Concern Chemicals Amendments

Passed in June, will come into effect in mid August 2004. Some of the measures that will occur are:

- 1/ Audited Self-Assessed Assessment Certificate** for: polymers of low concern; low regulatory concern polymers; non-hazardous chemicals; and as prescribed;
- 2/ A Range of New Permits:** a low hazard permit for chemicals of low volume; an early introduction permit system for low hazard and low risk chemicals; and a new permit category for controlled use chemicals;
- 3/ New LRCC Exemptions** including: **a/** a transshipment exemption for chemicals off-loaded and unopened for a short period; **b/** an exemption for non hazardous and low hazardous non-cosmetic chemicals for specified volumes; **c/** an exemption for low concentration non-hazardous cosmetic chemicals imported in specified mixtures of 1% or less; **d/** and an increase to the current exemption for

research, development and analysis and the general exemption for low volume chemicals.

**4/ New NICNAS Registration Requirements for all importers and manufactures of industrial chemicals, by 1 Sept 2004, regardless of the amount of relevant industrial chemicals imported or manufactured in that registration year.**

From [www.nicnas.gov.au](http://www.nicnas.gov.au) Home Page & Media Page  
Also in the Chemical Gazette 6 July 2004

- **Essential Uses of Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and its Derivatives**

The only essential uses reported to NICNAS, since Nov 2003, is the use of PFOS and its derivatives, is as PFOS as an ingredient in certain Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) and Alcohol Type fire fighting foams. AFFF and ATC fire fighting foam is used to extinguish Class B fires.

There is a limited and decreasing use of PFOS reported in Australia. There may be specialty PFOS applications (or devices containing PFOS-based chemicals) in Australia that have not been reported to NICNAS as importers and users may not know if products contain these chemicals.

NICNAS recommends all labels and Material Safety Data Sheets include details of PFOS chemicals in the product.

From Chemical Gazette 1 June 2004

- **18<sup>th</sup> OECD SIDS Initial Assessment Meeting**

**(SIAM).** NICNAS participated to ensure access and input to hazard assessment reports conducted by other countries. These reports are the basis for national priority existing chemical (PEC) reports giving shorter assessment time without the need to review original toxicity studies.

Eighty-three chemicals were listed for discussion and seventy-eight chemicals had SIDS Initial Assessment Profiles (SIAPs) agreed at the meeting.

Chemical profiles that caught my attention are:

E.D.T.A.; Tetrasodium E.D.T.A.; Ethylene Glycols; 2-Phenoxyethanol; Short Chain Alkyl Methacrylate Esters; Adipic Acid; Gluconates; Maleic Anhydride; Maleic Acid; Soluble Silicates

To access the whole list go to the Gazette or to:

UNEP Chemicals has published initial assessments for 27 substances in February 2004 and for another 29 substances in April 2004. These reports can be accessed at [www.chem.unep.ch/irptc/sids/OECD/SIDS/sidspub.html](http://www.chem.unep.ch/irptc/sids/OECD/SIDS/sidspub.html) Another batch of assessments for 33 substances are currently being processed by UNEP

For more information on SIAM 18, contact Sneha Satya by ph: 02-8577-8880, email: [sneha.satya@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:sneha.satya@nicnas.gov.au)

More information on the OECD SIDS program can be obtained from the OECD website at: [http://www.oecd.org/topic/0,2686,en\\_2649\\_34379\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_37465,00](http://www.oecd.org/topic/0,2686,en_2649_34379_1_1_1_37465,00).

From Chemical Gazette 1 June 2004

- **Octabromobiphenyl and Decabromobiphenyl as Priority Existing Chemicals**

Octabromobiphenyl (CAS No. 27858-07-7) and Decabromobiphenyl (CAS No. 13654-09-6) are listed in Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention. Annex III contains

chemicals that have been notified as severely restricted or banned due to health or environmental reasons by other countries participating in the voluntary Prior Informed Consent Procedure of the Rotterdam Convention which into force for Australia on 18 August 2004.

PBBs were used overseas in the formulation of flame-retardant resins that are then used in plastics, furniture or building construction applications.

PBBs are known to accumulate in food chains, and there is evidence of chronic toxicity and carcinogenicity in animals. PBBs are also embryotoxic and teratogenic. Due to possible hazard to human health PBBs have been banned or severely restricted in several countries.

See the NICNAS process following Tris-(2,3-Dibromopropyl) Phosphate.

From Chemical Gazette 6 July 2004

- **Tris-(2,3-Dibromopropyl) Phosphate as a Priority Existing Chemical**

Tris-(2,3-Dibromopropyl) Phosphate (CAS No. 126-72-7).

Tris-(2,3-Dibromopropyl) Phosphate is listed in Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention. Annex III contains chemicals that have been notified as severely restricted or banned due to health or environmental reasons by other countries participating in the voluntary Prior Informed Consent Procedure of the Rotterdam Convention which into force for Australia on 18 August 2004.

Overseas, tris-(2,3-Dibromopropyl) Phosphate was used as a flame retardant in sleepwear, carpets, rugs and mattresses.

Tris-(2,3-dibromopropyl) phosphate is absorbed via the skin, and is considered a possible carcinogen to humans. Several countries have either banned or severely restricted its use in textiles.

**Process for Both the above PECs**

The extent and types of use of these chemicals in Australia is not known. No response indicating manufacture, import or use of these chemicals was received by NICNAS during a call for information in May 2004. Declaration and assessment as priority existing chemicals will assist in formulating Australia's response for the purposes of the Convention.

The response can be either 'consent to import'; 'Not to consent to import'; or 'To consent to import only subject to specified conditions'.

If no applications are received for the priority existing chemicals, and Director has not caused the chemical to be assessed, the Director must remove the particulars of the chemical from the Inventory.

The assessment will identify the extent and types of use and health and environmental hazards of these chemicals. The potential for environmental, occupational and public exposure in Australia will also be identified so that the risk of adverse effects to the environment, workers and the public can be determined.

Those who have manufactured, imported or formulated the specified chemicals in the two years prior to this notice are required to provide information by the 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 2004.

**Contact Officer:** Dr Janith Wickramaratna, ph (02) 8577 8846 or fax (02) 8577 8888 or email: [janith.wickramaratna@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:janith.wickramaratna@nicnas.gov.au)

For further information or assistance, please contact Dr Jane Weder on (02) 8577 8895 or fax (02) 8577 8888 or email: [jane.weder@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:jane.weder@nicnas.gov.au)

*From Chemical Gazette 6 July 2004*

## • List of current Priority Existing Chemicals

Which are currently undergoing Full Assessment

Formaldehyde	50-00-0
Sodium Cyanide	143-33-9
Triclosan	3380-34-5
Octabromobiphenyl	27858-07-7
Decabromobiphenyl	13654-09-6
Tris(2,3-Dibromopropyl) Phosphate	126-72-7

Formaldehyde has been held up by the newly released IARC classification of Formaldehyde as a Probable Human Carcinogen in June 2004. Triclosan has also been delayed.

*From Chemical Gazette 3 August 2004 + phoned 9/8/04*

## Therapeutic Goods (Medicines)

### • Cosmetic or Therapeutic Chemical?

A review of the policy framework for regulating products at the cosmetic/therapeutic interface is being undertaken jointly by NICNAS and the Non-prescription Medicines Branch of the TGA.

The review covers the following product categories:

1/ Antiperspirants; 2/ Mass market antidandruff shampoos; 3/ Sunscreens (including moisturisers containing a sunscreen); 4/ Antibacterial skin washes; 5/ Antibacterial skin cleansers (anti-acne products); 6/ Toothpastes and mouthwashes; and 7/ any other product categories that may be candidates for reform.

We are advised a draft discussion paper should have been available for a period of public comment in July 2004, followed by the final report and a regulatory impact statement in October 2004. *Editor's Comment:* The Draft Paper was not available to download as at 15<sup>th</sup> Aug 2004.

*From:* [www.tga.gov.au/docs/html/tqanews/news44/tqanews44.htm](http://www.tga.gov.au/docs/html/tqanews/news44/tqanews44.htm) and [www.tga.gov.au/consult/2004/cosmeticrev.htm#pdf](http://www.tga.gov.au/consult/2004/cosmeticrev.htm#pdf)

### • SUSDP No.19, 1 June 2004

A consolidation of Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons (SUSDP) No.18 and its three Amendments, dated 1st June 2004 (issued July 2004) is now available for purchase on subscription, but as a hard copy only. *Editor's Comment:* We need this as a searchable pdf file.

Cost \$85.50. Contact the SUSDP Publication Officer, ph: 02-6269-1035; email: [nmm@nationalmailing.com.au](mailto:nmm@nationalmailing.com.au)

*From* [www.tga.gov.au/ndpsc/susdp.htm](http://www.tga.gov.au/ndpsc/susdp.htm)

## Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

### • Draft Outcomes of the Review of Approvals and Registrations Related to Endosulfan

Endosulfan is a broad-spectrum organochlorine insecticide/acaricide that has been registered in Australia for control of a large variety of insects and mites in horticultural and agricultural crops, including cotton, cereal, oilseeds, fruit, vegetables and other crops. It has been widely used in Australia for over 35 years. Endosulfan products are not registered for home garden use.

Following the evaluation of additional data, the APVMA has found that the major concern with endosulfan relates the potential risk its use poses to dietary exposure and to trade from residues in food commodities.

A key issue from the review is the potential for by-products of cotton that has been treated with endosulfan, to be fed to livestock and cause residue violations in the meat. In assessing the use of endosulfan on cotton, two alternative approaches are considered in the draft report:

1. continue to permit uses on cotton, with a label restraint against uses where crops will or may be fed to livestock; or
2. delete uses on cotton because of the risk of violative residues in meat.

*For more details contact the APVMA ph: 02-6272-3213*

*From, P36, 1 June 04 Ag&Vet Gazette*

### • Draft Outcomes Related to Carbaryl

Carbaryl is a carbamate insecticide that is used for the control of insect pests in a broad range of agricultural and domestic situations, including stored grain, ornamentals, lawns, fruit and vegetables and around public buildings. To a lesser extent it is also used in the control of insects on domestic animals.

The APVMA has found that **the major concern with this chemical relates to:**

– the potential risk of exposure to users from some dust formulations of carbaryl, that may be an undue hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling and could have an effect that is harmful to human beings; and the potential for some uses of carbaryl to contain residues in fruit and vegetables that exceeds the safety threshold; and

– home garden products that could have an effect that is harmful to human being as they exceed the safety concentration threshold.

### Changes to Product Registrations:

- \* Veterinary dusts registered for the treatment of animals, birds, poultry, carpets, rugs and animal bedding are to be **cancelled**,
- \* Products for use in domestic/home garden situations are to be restricted to a maximum carbaryl concentration;
- \* Use of carbaryl (all forms) is to be **prohibited for indoor use on domestic premises**,
- \* The use of carbaryl products on food producing plants in the home garden is to be **cancelled**.

*From* [www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0406p41.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0406p41.pdf)

## • Ag Active Constituents & Product Seminar

Seminars on the APVMA's quality scheme for agricultural active constituents and agricultural chemical products. Covering the data requirements for agricultural actives and products, process changes for agricultural active applications and product applications, new conditions for active approvals and product registrations and re-considerations of existing active approvals and product registrations.

Melbourne, 26<sup>th</sup> Aug 2004, Nufarm, Laverton, 10-3pm, free.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/nav/industry\\_seminar.shtml](http://www.apvma.gov.au/nav/industry_seminar.shtml)  
and [www.apvma.gov.au/actives/ag\\_ga\\_july\\_04.shtml](http://www.apvma.gov.au/actives/ag_ga_july_04.shtml)

## • New Ag&Vet Active Constituent, June 2004

**Pyridalyl:** An insecticide with an unknown mode of action that causes loss of vigour and death within 2-3 hours in lepidopterous larvae and is effective in the control of lepidopterous pests and thrips in cotton and vegetables.

Name: 2,6-Dichloro-4-(3,3-dichloroallyloxy)phenyl-3[5-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridyloxy]propyl ether  
CAS: 179101-81-6  
Formula: C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>; Molecular Weight: 491.12  
Schedule S6 on the basis of its strong skin sensitisation potential.

Dr Paul Sethi, Chemistry Manager, Chemistry and Residues Program, APVMA, ph: 02-6272-3987, fax: 02-6272-3551, email: [paul.sethi@apvma.gov.au](mailto:paul.sethi@apvma.gov.au)

From [www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0406p13.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0406p13.pdf)

## Dangerous Goods

### • 7<sup>th</sup> Australian Dangerous Goods Code Delayed

The Draft 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of the ADG Code has been further delayed, and is now hoped to be available for public consultation from the end of September to mid November 2004. I now expect it to be published by the National Transport Commission about July 2005.

When available it will be able to be accessed from the Australian Govt Dept of Transport & Regional Services website: [www.dotars.gov.au/transreg/str\\_dgoodsum.htm](http://www.dotars.gov.au/transreg/str_dgoodsum.htm) and on the NTC website: [www.ntc.gov.au/](http://www.ntc.gov.au/)

### • Ammonium Nitrate Security Issues, 25<sup>th</sup> June 04

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed, on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2004, on a national approach to ban access to ammonium nitrate for other than specifically authorised users.

The agreement will result in the establishment in each jurisdiction of a licensing regime for the use, manufacture, storage, transport, supply, import and export of ammonium nitrate, to ensure that ammonium nitrate is only accessible to persons who have a demonstrated legitimate need for the product, are not of security concern and will store and handle the product safely and securely.

COAG agreed that the States and Territories would use their best endeavours to ensure the legislative arrangements for the licensing regime would be in place by 1 November 2004, with administrative arrangements to be finalised as soon as possible thereafter. COAG also noted that the Australian Government would continue to

undertake investigations on the viability of completely banning ammonium nitrate fertilizers of security concern as a matter of priority, taking into account whether effective, non-detonable, alternatives can be developed, and provide information on any alternatives to the States and Territories.

A national set of "Principles for the Regulation of Ammonium Nitrate" can be found in Attachment D from: [www.coag.gov.au/meetings/250604/#attachments](http://www.coag.gov.au/meetings/250604/#attachments)

From [www.coag.gov.au/meetings/250604/index.htm](http://www.coag.gov.au/meetings/250604/index.htm)

### • WA Dangerous Goods Safety Bill Passed

This Bill is to replace the outdated WA *Explosives and Dangerous Goods Act 1961*. It amalgamates the provisions of the WA *Explosives and Dangerous Goods Act 1961* and the WA *Dangerous Goods (Transport) Act 1998* to create a single consolidated WA Dangerous Goods Safety Act. It primarily relates to the safe storage, handling and transport of dangerous goods for related purposes.

Assented 10<sup>th</sup> June 2004. Drafting of regulations has recommenced. As at the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2004 it was not proclaimed as yet.

From [www.parliament.wa.gov.au/parliament/Bills.nsf/Bills](http://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/parliament/Bills.nsf/Bills) and search on "Dangerous Goods Safety".

### • NSW Dangerous Goods & Explosives Regul'ns

There is a tripartite consultative committee meeting monthly to progress the drafting of these new regulations. When a public comment draft is become available is still not known.

From PACIA and AIDGC contacts.

## Environmental Notes on Chemicals

### • WA Envir. Prot'n (Controlled Waste) Regs 2004

These WA regulations were gazetted on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2004 and can be found at WA State Law Publisher website, go to: [www.slp.wa.gov.au/statutes/av.nsf/doi](http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/statutes/av.nsf/doi) and select from the left side list of Dept of Environment legislation.

These regulations apply to a controlled waste (see the Schedule) that is produced by or as the result of:

- an industrial or commercial activity;
- a medical, nursing, dental, veterinary, pharmaceutical or other related activity;
- activities carried out on or at a laboratory; or
- an apparatus for the treatment of sewage.

From the WA Regulations at [www.slp.wa.gov.au](http://www.slp.wa.gov.au)

### • Dioxins in Australia, Reports, May 2004

To help us all get a better perspective of the risks posed by Dioxin emissions in Australia the Aust. Govt. Dept. of Environment & Heritage has published a series of reports from studies commenced in 2001 to measure emissions from sources such as bushfires, and dioxin levels in the environment, food and population.

The main overview reports are:

Ecological Risk Assessment of Dioxins in Australia – Technical Report No. 11, 162 pages, 1.06 Mb pdf.

Human Health Risk Assessment of Dioxins in Australia - Technical Report No. 12, 212 pages, 1.28 Mb pdf.

Dioxins In Food Dietary Exposure Assessment and Risk Characterisation, Technical Report Series No. 27, 79 pages, 562 Kb pdf.

A 20 page Community Summary is also available, 618 Kb.

10 other Dioxin Reports covering emissions and exposure levels are available.

All these pdf files are downloadable via: [www.deh.gov.au/industry/chemicals/dioxins/](http://www.deh.gov.au/industry/chemicals/dioxins/)

For information: National Dioxins Program, Chemical Policy Section, Dept of the Environment & Heritage, ph: 1800-803-772, email [dioxins@deh.gov.au](mailto:dioxins@deh.gov.au).

From the DEH website: [www.deh.gov.au/industry](http://www.deh.gov.au/industry)

## • Classification of Wastes- EPA Victoria

This EPA Victoria bulletin deals with the wastes which are taken off-site for treatment and disposal. It provides an overview of the proper storage, transport, treatment and disposal of waste in Victoria. It does not address wastes normally disposed of to sewer including trade waste.

Download the 8 page bulletin from: [www.epa.vic.gov.au/publications/](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/publications/) and search the catalogue using "448.1". This directs you to a downloadable 293 Kb pdf file updated in Feb 2004.

From [www.epa.vic.gov.au/IndustryUpdate/](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/IndustryUpdate/) 13<sup>th</sup> Ed.

## Seminars, Conferences, Courses

### • Report on HazMat 2004 Conference, 5-6<sup>th</sup> May

HazMat 2004 continued as a very successful hazardous chemical regulations and issues focussed conference. The FPAA conference is supported by many chemical industry associations. There were about 150 participants including speakers plus we continued with a mini Trade Show.

The presentations were structured so International and Australian Chemical Management were on Day 1 and Chemical Incident Prevention and Response were on Day 2. There were great opportunities to network during the breaks. The participants went away happy with the content and networking the conference offered & many commented they would be attending in Sydney in May 2005.

The conference papers are available on CD, which can be purchased from the FPAA by emailing them at: [events@fpaa.com.au](mailto:events@fpaa.com.au).

Jeff Simpson, HazMat Technical Committee Co-ordinator

### • Waste & Manufacturing, 30-31 Aug 2004

Waste Minimisation, Cleaner Production & the Bottom Line.

Key Topics: 1/ Identifying wasted resources / improving efficiency; 2/ Sustainability and the balance sheet; 3/ Technology for resource recovery and waste management; 4/ Setting realistic waste reduction goals and strategies to achieve them; 5/ Developing a Zero Waste approach; 6/ Using Market Based Instruments to achieve waste policy goals; 7/ The National Packaging Covenant Mark II.

30-31 August 2004, Darling Harbour, Sydney. Costs: \$2524.50. For information go to [www.iir.com.au](http://www.iir.com.au), ph 02-

9923-5090, or contact Customer Service: Tel: (02) 9923 5090. Email: [info@iir.com.au](mailto:info@iir.com.au).

### • Dangerous Goods Storage & Handling, 3 Sept 04

Seminar in Sydney, organised by the Australasian Institute of Dangerous Goods Consultants (AIDGC). Covering: Regul'ns; Standards; Passive Fire Protection; & Incidents.

Cost \$300 (no GST); details / to register: [www.aidgc.com/](http://www.aidgc.com/)

### • Terrestrial Environment Chem Bioavailability, 9/04

This workshop, 13-15<sup>th</sup> Sept 2004, SA, is organised by the Centre for Environmental Risk Assessment and Remediation, University of SA, precedes the Contaminated Site Remediation Conference, at the same venue.

It covers: 1/ Definitions of Bioavailability; 2/ Bioavailability Dynamics and Molecular Mechanisms; 3/ Speciation, Bioavailability – Toxicity Relations; 4/ Bioavailability and Ecological Risk Assessment and Policy implications; 5/ Bioavailability and Human Health Risk Assessment and Policy implications; 6/ Remediation Strategies, Bioavailability considerations; 7/ Bioavailability based Guidelines.

Cost \$550, For information contact Dr M Megharaj; ph: +61 8-8302-5044, email: [Megharaj.Mallavarapu@unisa.edu.au](mailto:Megharaj.Mallavarapu@unisa.edu.au) or a pdf file from [www.cerar.com](http://www.cerar.com).

### • Contam. Site Remediation Conference, Sept 04

This 3 day conference, 16-18<sup>th</sup> Sept 2004, organised by the Centre for Environmental Risk Assessment and Remediation, University of SA, covers: 1/ Regional Perspectives of Contaminated Site Management; 2/ Contaminant Dynamics and Lifecycle Assessment; 3/ Current and Emerging Remediation Technologies; 4/ Risk-Based Land Management: Principles and Applications; 5/ Risk Based Land Management: Environmental Liability and Policy Implications.

Cost \$550, For information contact Dr Gary Owens. ph: +61 8-8302-5043, email: [gary.owens@unisa.edu.au](mailto:gary.owens@unisa.edu.au) or a pdf file from [www.cerar.com](http://www.cerar.com).

### • Environmental Compliance Course, 28 Sept 04

This University of South Australia one-day course is intended to provide a comprehensive overview of the SA Environmental Protection obligations now facing industry. Cost \$330. For general enquiries contact Sandra Walker ph: 08-8302-0801, email: [sandra.walker@unisa.edu.au](mailto:sandra.walker@unisa.edu.au). For course content enquiries contact Rob Fowler, ph: 08-8302-0554, email: [rob.fowler@unisa.edu.au](mailto:rob.fowler@unisa.edu.au). From [business2.unisa.edu.au/intbusiness/Short\\_courses/compliance.htm](http://business2.unisa.edu.au/intbusiness/Short_courses/compliance.htm)

### • CHEMECA 2004: Sydney, 27-29 Sept 2004 Sustainable Processes Conference

A 3 day conference focusing on harnessing the knowledge, skills and innovation of Chemical Engineers and Industrial Chemists to ensure that the environment inherited by future generations will be better place for all living things.

Cost \$1495. Australian Technology Park, Sydney. More details contact [chemeca2004@tourhosts.com.au](mailto:chemeca2004@tourhosts.com.au); website: [www.tourhosts.com.au/chemeca2004/](http://www.tourhosts.com.au/chemeca2004/)

• **Symposium on Epidemiology, Melb, Oct 2004**

Epicoh 2004 - 13-15 October 2004. **Reducing the Global Burden of Occupational Disease and Injury.** The conference is convened on behalf of Scientific Committee on Occupational Epidemiology of International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH). *Cost \$925 (Member \$825).*  
 Email: [epicoh2004@monash.edu.au](mailto:epicoh2004@monash.edu.au);  
 Web: [www.med.monash.edu.au/epidemiology/epicoh/index.html](http://www.med.monash.edu.au/epidemiology/epicoh/index.html). Register: ph 61-3-9887-8003;  
 Email: [convention@optushome.com.au](mailto:convention@optushome.com.au)

• **Occupational Hygiene - A Change in the Air?**

4-8 Dec 2004 - AIOH 2004 Conference at Fremantle, WA. To consider the broadening role of Occupational Hygienists to monitor and assess workplace hazards that may impact on employees, and also the environment & public outside the workplace. *Key Topics:* Addressing Risk: Occupational & Environmental; "What do the Numbers Mean?"; Legislation, Interpretation & Practice  
 Contact AIOH, ph: 61-3-9335-2577, email / website: [admin@aioh.org.au](mailto:admin@aioh.org.au) / [www.aiohconference2004.org.au](http://www.aiohconference2004.org.au)

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