



NAFTA Technical Working Group on Pesticides
Grupo de Trabajo Técnico del TLCAN sobre Plaguicidas
Le groupe de travail technique de l'ALENA sur les pesticides

PROJECT SHEET

SUBCOMMITTEE: Joint Review

PROJECT TITLE: **Co-operative Re-evaluation / Re-registration of the Heavy Duty Wood Preservatives (HDWP) Pentachlorophenol, Creosote and Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA)**

PROJECT ID: JR06-94-1105

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INITIATION: December 1994

UPDATED: June 2006

Pentachlorophenol

The Preliminary Risk Assessment (PRA) of pentachlorophenol and the PRA of the contaminants of pentachlorophenol, released for public comment in November 2004 and March 2005, respectively, are under revision based on stakeholder comments received during the comment period. Risk management options are also being examined. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) drafted a benefits assessment with input from Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA).

Creosote

The PRA for creosote, released December 2003 is under revision based on stakeholder comments, and risk management options will be examined. The EPA and PMRA in close cooperation reviewed the protocols for studies to refine the dermal penetration estimate used in the PRA. The thermal treatment of wood has been removed from labels of all products in both countries. The EPA drafted a benefits assessment with input from the PMRA.

Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA)

The draft Probabilistic Risk Assessment for Children Who Contact CCA-Treated Playsets and Decks, released November 2003, is under revision based on comments from stakeholders, and the EPA convened a Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) in December 2003 to seek independent expert scientific advice on the data and methodology used in this assessment. A response to the SAP comments was released October 2005. An interim study of the efficacy of sealants in mitigating exposure to arsenic was released in spring 2005. Registrants in both countries have voluntarily withdrawn residential and playground uses of CCA-treated wood.

The PRA of occupational exposure to CCA, released March 2004, is under revision based on stakeholder comments, and risk management options are being examined. The EPA drafted a benefits assessment with input from the PMRA.

In September 2005, the PMRA attended a second SAP convened by the EPA to seek independent expert advice on the risk assessment of arsenic.

GOAL:

To achieve harmonized decisions on the re-evaluation of heavy duty wood preservatives in Canada and the United States through the exchange of information on the risk assessment and risk management of these products.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The objectives of the project are as follows:

- to identify active ingredients and uses being re-evaluated in each country;
- to exchange information on data requirements, decision-making processes, re-evaluation status and alternative products; and
- to develop a joint work plan to complete the re-evaluation of these products.

Further expansion of the project would be considered on an ongoing basis as resources permit. Work on pentachlorophenol, creosote and CCA will continue as part of the project.

Registrants have joined forces to produce data collectively and have also provided written support for exchange of data review documents between the PMRA and EPA.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

This project has been initiated to address common challenges related to the reassessment of these wood-treatment products. Registration decisions resulting from the reassessments are expected to have a significant impact on the wood preservation sector and wood products industry. There are several international and bilateral initiatives, involving the active ingredients and their contaminants, that would suggest that the use of this group of products be closely examined and, if possible, a North American position be developed regarding uses.

Work Plan

SUBCOMMITTEE: Joint Review

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UPDATE: November 2005

Pentachlorophenol—targeted completion date: 2006		
GOAL	ACTIVITIES	TIMEFRAME
Cooperative re-evaluation of pentachlorophenol	Review and peer review Worker Exposure Study. Action: Cal/EPA (lead), EPA and PMRA (peer review)	
	EPA forwarded review of worker exposure study to Cal/EPA and PMRA.	March 2001
	PMRA sent comments to EPA: several outstanding issues (pharmacokinetics still to be resolved).	November 2001
	Copy of environmental section of PMRA's Proposed Acceptability for Continuing Registration document sent to EPA.	September 2001
	Complete science chapters (via contract work) ¹ on microcontaminants for inclusion in pentachlorophenol Reregistration Eligibility Decision and send to PMRA and Cal/EPA. Action: EPA	March 2003
	Review and provide comments (to EPA) on draft science chapters including microcontaminants. Action: PMRA and Cal/EPA	April 2003
	Preliminary Risk Assessment released for public comment. Action: EPA (peer review PMRA)	November 2004
	Preliminary Risk Assessments of dioxin/furan and HCB microcontaminants released for public comment. Action: EPA (peer review PMRA)	March 2005

¹ EPA and PMRA are involved in this task.

GOAL	ACTIVITIES	2006
	Finalization of the risk assessments considering stakeholder comments and proposal of risk management options.	2006
Creosote—targeted completion date: 2006		
GOAL	ACTIVITIES	TIMEFRAME
Cooperative re-evaluation of creosote	Review and peer review Worker Exposure Study. Action: PMRA (lead); EPA, Cal/EPA (peer review)	November 2002
	PMRA, EPA, Cal/EPA discussion of issues related to study review.	Fall 2002
	Provide Canadian environmental review document to EPA for peer review. Action: PMRA	September 2001
	Provide comments to EPA on their environmental science chapters. Action: PMRA	September 2001
	Complete science chapters and forward to PMRA and Cal/EPA. Action: EPA	September 2002
	Review and provide comments (to EPA) on science chapters. Action: PMRA (HED and EAD) and Cal/EPA	October–November 2002
	PRA released for public comment. Action: EPA (PMRA peer review)	December 2003
	Resolution of specific issues: cancer potency factor and dermal penetration estimates.	Ongoing
	Finalization of the risk assessments and proposal of risk management options.	2006

CCA—targeted completion date: 2006

GOAL	ACTIVITIES	TIMEFRAME
Cooperative re-evaluation of CCA	Complete the review of pertinent available toxicology data and conduct peer review. Action: EPA and PMRA	May 2000
	EPA forwarded preliminary exposure/risk assessment to PMRA (playgrounds only).	June 2001
	SAP consultation held (playgrounds only)	October 2001
	Review and peer review Worker Exposure Study. Action: EPA (lead); PMRA and Cal/EPA (peer review)	June 2002
	PMRA review of occupational exposure study.	September 2002
	Finalize sampling and bioavailability protocols for additional sampling.	September 2002
	Provide Canadian environmental review document to EPA for peer review. Action: PMRA	September 2001
	Provide EPA environmental risk assessment to PMRA for peer review. Action: EPA	September–October 2002
	Conduct joint discussions on the peer-reviewed data reviews and finalize environmental risk assessment. Action: EPA and PMRA	October–November 2002
	Complete science chapters and forward to PMRA and Cal/EPA. Action: EPA	November 2002
	Review and provide comments (to EPA) on science chapters. Action: PMRA (HED and EAD) and Cal/EPA	Preliminary comments December 2002 (revised PRA fall 2003)
	Release draft of children’s probabilistic risk assessment. Action: EPA (PMRA)	November 2003
	SAP on children’s probabilistic risk assessment.	December 3–5, 2003

GOAL	ACTIVITIES	TIMEFRAME
	Release Preliminary Occupational and Environmental Risk Assessment. Action: EPA	March 2004
	SAP on arsenic risk assessment.	September 2005
	Respond to SAP comments on children's risk assessment.	October 2005
	Examine sealant efficacy for mitigation.	Preliminary results dated April 2005; ongoing
	Finalization of the risk assessments and proposal of risk management options.	2006
Value/benefits assessment for chromated copper arsenate, pentachlorophenol and creosote	Complete analysis of available information related to the value/benefits for CCA products. Prepare and revise draft CCA Value Assessment. Peer review and send copy to EPA.	October 2002
	Complete peer review and send draft pentachlorophenol document to EPA's Biological and Economic Analysis Division (BEAD).	April 2001
	Revise format for creosote draft Value Assessment Peer Review and send to EPA.	October 2002
	EPA draft benefits assessments for CCA, penta and creosote peer reviewed by PMRA.	March 2005
Communication/consultation for all substances	Complete stakeholder identification.	Done
	Prepare Re-evaluation Decision Document and Reregistration Eligibility Decision for publication.	Dates to be determined