



Re-evaluation Note

REV2005-03

Update on the Re-evaluation of the Heavy Duty Wood Preservative Pentachlorophenol

The purpose of this Re-evaluation Note is to notify registrants, pesticide regulatory officials and the Canadian public of the current status of the re-evaluation of pentachlorophenol (also known as penta) and three contaminants of pentachlorophenol, namely hexachlorobenzene (HCB), dioxin and furans, produced during the manufacture of pentachlorophenol. Pentachlorophenol is one of three heavy duty wood preservatives under re-evaluation in Canada (Announcement [A92-02](#), *Re-evaluation of Heavy Duty Wood Preservatives*). Pentachlorophenol, along with the other heavy duty wood preservatives, creosote and chromated copper arsenate (CCA), is under co-operative re-evaluation between Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

(publié aussi en français)

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The USEPA has released, for public comment, preliminary health and environmental risk assessments for three contaminants of pentachlorophenol, namely HCB, dioxin and furans (Docket Numbers OPP-2004-0402-0025 to 2004-0402-0038, 30 March 2005, www.epa.gov/epahome/dockets.htm). As part of the co-operative re-evaluation of pentachlorophenol, the PMRA directs all interested parties to the USEPA website to obtain the documentation for these preliminary risk assessments as well as directions for providing comments. The public comment period will last 60 days from the date of release. Any comments should be provided to the USEPA as per these directions and copied to the PMRA.

The PMRA has been working closely with the USEPA on the re-evaluation of pentachlorophenol and these contaminants. The USEPA consultation process includes releasing preliminary risk assessments for comment by stakeholders and the public, prior to finalizing the risk assessments. The preliminary risk assessment document for these contaminants of pentachlorophenol outlines the health and environmental risk assessments; however, it is not a decision or risk management document.

The PMRA invites and encourages the public and all interested parties to provide comments on the preliminary risk assessment of these contaminants to both the PMRA and the USEPA. The PMRA and the USEPA will review all comments following completion of the public comment period and revise the risk assessments as appropriate.

The preliminary risk assessment for the active ingredient pentachlorophenol was published for public comment in November 2004, as indicated in [REV2004-04](#), *Update on the Re-evaluation of Pentachlorophenol Heavy Duty Wood Preservatives*. The comment period has now closed, but that risk assessment has not yet been finalized.

Risk management/mitigation options will be developed following the publication of the final risk assessments of these contaminants as well as the active ingredient pentachlorophenol.