



## Welcome to the IC2 E-Bulletin

The Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse (IC2) is a partnership of state agencies that promotes a clean environment, healthy communities, and a vital economy through the development and use of safer chemicals and products. The purpose of the IC2 E-Bulletin is to keep the IC2 Members, Supporting Members, and others informed about the activities of the Clearinghouse, its members, and related national and international programs. It is provided for free through funding by the IC2 members.

The goals of the IC2 are to:

- Avoid duplication and enhance efficiency and effectiveness of state initiatives on chemicals through collaboration and coordination
- Build state agency capacity to identify and promote safer chemicals and products
- Ensure that state agencies, businesses, and the public have easy access to high quality and authoritative chemicals data, information, and assessment methods

IC2 accomplishments as of spring 2010:

- Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed by 10 participating states and 1 local government, committing them to planning for the IC2
- Proposal for governance drafted
- Planning Committee & Workgroups formed & regular conference calls held
- Web Page & logo developed
- Webinars held every 2-3 months; presentations posted
- Conference calls to share state & local program updates held every 2-3 months
- E-bulletin initiated

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- Information clearinghouse data modeled
- Data priorities identified: online access to state lists of priority chemicals; coordination on chemical use data collection & management; coordination with California on Toxics Information Clearinghouse

Currently, the Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA) is acting as the fiscal agent for IC2 and provides organizational and staff support. NEWMOA and the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production at the University of Massachusetts Lowell provide facilitative services for the IC2.

The IC2 has formed a Planning Committee for the purpose of launching the Clearinghouse. The Planning Committee includes representatives of the following ten state environmental agencies with Directors or Commissioners and one local government agency that signed the IC2 MOA indicating support for the formation of the Clearinghouse:

- California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA)
- Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP)
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection (ME DEP)

- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Environment (MI DNRE)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP)
- New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC)
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (OR DEQ)
- Washington Department of Ecology (WA DoE)
- Metro (Portland, OR)

**For more information, contact:** Terri Goldberg, NEWMOA, (617) 367-8558 x302; [tgoldberg@newmoa.org](mailto:tgoldberg@newmoa.org)

## IC2 Webinars

The IC2 has recently sponsored a series of webinars for its members focusing on:

- The Globally Harmonized System (GHS) for Classification & Labeling of Chemicals
- Environmental & Biomonitoring Data Sources from USGS & CDC

During the GHS Webinar Alex Stone, WA DoE presented an overview of the purpose and status of the GHS and Michelle Sullivan, MRS Associates discussed the types of data available and provided some examples.

During the Environmental & Biomonitoring Data webinar, Dana Kolpin of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) described the Agency's efforts to collect and publish environmental monitoring results for targeted chemicals in U.S. water bodies and soil. John Osterloh of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) described their monitoring of human exposure to chemicals and the various reports they have published on the results.

IC2 webinars are free and open to Members and Supporting Members of the IC2. The presentations from these webinars are available at: [www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/events/](http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/events/).

**If you are interested in being notified about upcoming**

**webinars, contact:** Adam Wienert, NEWMOA, (617) 367-8558 x307; [awienert@newmoa.org](mailto:awienert@newmoa.org)

## Safer Alternatives Wiki - [www.ic2saferalternatives.org](http://www.ic2saferalternatives.org)

In September 2008, representatives from a number of state environmental and health agencies gathered to discuss the need for shared resources for assessing the availability of safer alternatives for chemicals of concern. At the two-day meeting, the group decided to work collaboratively to create a protocol for conducting safer alternatives assessments. Since that time a group of state officials has been collaborating on developing the "Safer Alternatives Wiki" to provide such a protocol. From the fall of 2008 to spring 2010, the Wiki development was supported and facilitated by the Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. In the spring of 2010, the IC2 began to provide support and help with developing the Wiki, and the Wiki is now an IC2 project.

The intent of the Safer Alternatives Wiki site is to create a set of flexible, adaptive steps that follow a shared understanding of what constitutes a safer alternative to a chemical of concern. The goal is not to dictate precisely how to conduct the assessment, but rather to lay out basic steps that are generally agreed upon and to provide a set of resources to draw from when an alternatives assessment is performed.

The Wiki covers the following overall steps in a safer alternatives assessment:

- Identify Chemicals of High Concern
- Prioritize Uses for Further Evaluation
- Identify & Prioritize Alternatives
- Pre-Screen Alternatives
- Prioritize Alternatives for Further Evaluation
- Compare Alternatives
- Make a Determination
- Promote the Adoption of Safer Alternatives
- Engage Stakeholders
- Access Available Information Resources
- Logistics & Communication

**To join the Wiki Workgroup, contact:** Pam Eliason, TURI, [pam@turi.org](mailto:pam@turi.org)

## State Updates

### CA Releases Draft Regulation for Safer Consumer Products

In June 2010, the California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) released the Green Chemistry Draft Regulation for Safer Consumer Products for review and comment. The draft regulation specifies the processes for DTSC to scientifically and systematically identify and prioritize chemicals and consumer products, for manufacturers to conduct alternatives assessments, and for DTSC to impose regulatory responses for alternatives selected by manufacturers.

The regulation reflects nearly 16 months of collaboration with stakeholders, including the use of a “wiki” to gather information electronically; numerous formal and informal meetings and workshops; input from the Green Ribbon Science Panel; feedback regarding a “straw” proposal released in late 2009; and the Conceptual Flowchart and Draft Outline for Draft Regulation released in the spring of 2010. Comments on the draft regulation are due by July 15, 2010.

**For more information, visit:**

[www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/GreenChemistryInitiative/gc\\_draft\\_regs.cfm](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/GreenChemistryInitiative/gc_draft_regs.cfm)

### ME Proposal to Designate Bisphenol A as a Priority Chemical

On June 17, 2010, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection posted to public hearing its proposed Chapter 882: *Designation of Bisphenol A as a Priority Chemical and Regulation of Bisphenol A in Children's Products*. The Department requested a public hearing date of August 19, 2010 and a written comment period to extend to August 30, 2010.

During the hearing and public comment period, interested parties will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule. The proposed regulation will:

- designate bisphenol A (BPA) as a priority chemical;
- require manufacturers of certain consumer products that contain BPA to submit information to the department on the extent to which BPA is used and the likelihood that children will be exposed to

BPA as a result of its presence in those products; and

- prohibit the sale of any reusable food or beverage container that contains BPA.

**For more information, visit:**

[www.maine.gov/dep/oc/safechem/rules.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dep/oc/safechem/rules.htm)

### MN Department of Health Publishes Chemicals of High Concern List

The Minnesota Department of Health has published the first Chemicals of High Concern list for Minnesota on its website, containing 1,755 chemicals. The Chemicals of High Concern list, required under Minnesota Statute 116.9402, contains a variety of chemicals that exhibit hazard characteristics such as neurotoxicity, reproductive or developmental effects, carcinogenicity, or persistence and bioaccumulation.

**For more information, visit:**

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/hazardous/topics/toxfreekids/highconcern.html>

## U.S. EPA Updates

### EPA Provides Access to the TSCA Inventory

In March 2010, EPA announced that it was providing free access to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Chemical Substance Inventory. This inventory contains a consolidated EPA list of thousands of industrial chemicals.

**For more information, visit:**

[www.epa.gov/oppt/newchems/pubs/inventory.htm](http://www.epa.gov/oppt/newchems/pubs/inventory.htm)

### EPA Adds Chemicals & Chemical Facilities to Envirofacts

In May 2010, the U.S. EPA announced that it added more than 6,300 chemicals and 3,800 chemical facilities regulated under TSCA to Envirofacts.

The Envirofacts database is EPA's online information resource that includes a facility's name and address, aerial image, a map showing the location of the facility, and links to other EPA information on the facility. The Agency is also adding historic facility information for another 2,500 facilities.

**For more information, visit:**

[www.epa.gov/enviro/facts/tsca/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/enviro/facts/tsca/index.html)

## EPA Issues Chemical Action Plans

EPA is developing chemical action plans that target the Agency's risk management efforts on chemicals of concern. These action plans are based on EPA's review of available hazard, exposure, and use information, and outline the risks that each chemical may present and what specific steps the Agency plans to take to address those concerns. To date, EPA has posted action plans on the following chemicals:

- Bisphenol A (BPA)
- Long-chain perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs)
- Penta, octa, and decabromodiphenyl ethers (PBDEs)
- Phthalates
- Short-chain chlorinated paraffins

*For more information, visit:* [www.epa.gov/oppt/existingchemicals/pubs/enhanchems.html#access](http://www.epa.gov/oppt/existingchemicals/pubs/enhanchems.html#access)

## EPA Revises Confidential Business Information Policies on Chemicals

In late May 2010, EPA announced that the Agency will begin a general practice of reviewing confidentiality claims for chemical identities in health and safety studies and data submitted under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Agency regulations do not extend confidential treatment to health and safety studies or data from health and safety studies, which, if made public, would not disclose processes used in the manufacturing or processing of a chemical substance or mixture.

*For more information, visit:* [www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#documentDetail?R=0900006480af4dd2](http://www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#documentDetail?R=0900006480af4dd2)

## Upcoming IC2 Events

### July 19, 2010 - IC2 Planning Committee Webinar Meeting

The IC2 Planning Committee will hold a webinar meeting on **Monday, July 19, 2010 from 1:30p - 3:30p EST**. The purpose of this IC2 Planning Committee webinar meeting will be to develop a workplan for the IC2 for the upcoming year, plan for the transition to implementing the IC2 governance, and further develop the proposed IC2 databases.

*For additional information and to register for the Webinar, visit:* <http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/webconferences/plancom/>

### July 21, 2010 - IC2 Safer Alternatives Wiki Workgroup Call - Defining "Safer"

The IC2 Safer Alternatives Wiki Workgroup will hold a conference call on **Wednesday, July 21, 2010 from 1:00p - 2:30p EST** to discuss how different states define the terms "safe" and "safer", and how those definitions influence the scope and outcomes of an alternatives assessment study.

*For more information, contact:* Pam Eliason, TURI; [pam@turi.org](mailto:pam@turi.org)

### July 28, 2010 - IC2 Planning Committee Conference Call

The IC2 Planning Committee will hold its next conference call on **Wednesday, July 28, 2010 from 2:00p - 3:00p EST**.

*For more information, contact:* Terri Goldberg, (617) 367-8558 x302; [tgoldberg@newmoa.org](mailto:tgoldberg@newmoa.org)

The IC2 welcomes comments and suggestion on this E-Bulletin. *Please send your thoughts to:* [tgoldberg@newmoa.org](mailto:tgoldberg@newmoa.org)

The IC2 would like to thank the following contributors for their help in writing and producing this E-Bulletin:

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- Ken Geiser, LCSP
- Terri Goldberg, NEWMOA
- Adam Wienert, NEWMOA

To request and address change or to add a name to the E-Bulletin distribution list, *send an email to:* [awienert@newmoa.org](mailto:awienert@newmoa.org)

Visit the IC2 website for more information about IC2 events, Workgroups, and projects: <http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/>