



### In This Issue

<a href="#">IC2 Supporting Membership</a> .....	1
<a href="#">State Priority Chemicals Resource</a> ...	1
<a href="#">State Chemicals Policy Database</a> .....	1
<a href="#">IC2 Safer Alternatives Assessments Wiki</a> .....	2
<a href="#">State Updates</a> .....	2
<a href="#">News from U.S. EPA</a> .....	4

## IC2 Supporting Members

The IC2 welcomes the following new Supporting Members:

- Californians for a Healthy & Green Economy (CHANGE)
- UCLA Sustainable Technology & Policy Program

The IC2 invites businesses, non-governmental organizations, academic researchers, consultants, and others to join. Supporting Members sign a Memorandum of Agreement demonstrating support for the principles of the Clearinghouse and provide annual dues to help fund baseline activities. All IC2 Supporting Members are eligible to participate in the IC2 Council and in IC2 Workgroups.

For more information about becoming a Supporting Member, visit [www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/membership.cfm](http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/membership.cfm) or contact Adam Wienert, (617) 367-8558 x307, [awienert@newmoa.org](mailto:awienert@newmoa.org).

## State Priority Chemicals Resource

The IC2 launched the State Priority Chemicals Resource in December: [www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/projects/resource/](http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/projects/resource/).

Various IC2-member states have developed and published lists of priority chemicals to fulfill the requirements of their chemical policy legislation. To provide support and assistance to these efforts and those of states that are in the process of developing similar lists, including California and Oregon, the IC2 has developed an online, searchable resource that allows users to:

- Search for chemicals on one or more of the state lists
- Identify source lists
- Identify hazards and toxicity characteristics associated with the chemicals
- Find useful information resources

There are two ways to access the information in the Resource:

- Browse state lists - Access the full listing of chemicals published by each state and the subset of chemicals each state has identified for further action
- Advanced search - Search by state, Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) number, source lists on which the chemicals appear, listing reasons, or any combination of these search criteria

## State Chemicals Policy Database

The IC2 has updated the State Chemicals Policy Database with state legislation that was proposed or enacted in 2011 : [www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/chempolicy/index.php](http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/chempolicy/index.php).

## State Chemical Policy Database (cont.)

Originally developed in 2007 by the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production, the IC2 now hosts and maintains this online Database. It can be searched by state, region, status (e.g., enacted, proposed, and failed), policy category (e.g., pollution prevention, single chemical restriction, and others), chemical, and product type (e.g., children's products, cleaning products, and others).

## IC2 Safer Alternatives Assessments Wiki

The [Safer Alternatives Assessments Wiki](#) is designed to provide a dynamic tool to support those involved in the developing field of alternatives assessment. These assessments involve identification of potential alternatives, followed by a determination about whether they are safer, functionally equivalent, and economically feasible.

The goal of this Wiki is to promote a consistent process that enables states and others to use each others' studies and minimize duplication and maximize dissemination of valuable information on safer alternatives to chemicals of concern.

The Wiki evolved out of a 2008 meeting convened by the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production. Representatives from a number of state agencies gathered to discuss the need for shared resources and to draft

## IC2 E-Bulletin

The Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse (IC2) is an association of state, local, and tribal governments 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 Members, Supporting Members, and others informed about the activities of the Clearinghouse, its members, and related national and international programs. It is published approximately 4 times per year and is provided free. Funding for the *IC2 E-bulletin* is provided by the Clearinghouse membership.

Previous issues are available at: [www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/pubs/](http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/pubs/).

common language for assessing the availability of safer alternatives for chemicals of concern. During the meeting, the group decided to work collaboratively to create a protocol for conducting safer alternatives assessments.

The Wiki presents a set of flexible, adaptive steps that follows 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 generally agreed-upon basic steps, and to provide a set of resources for users to draw from when performing an assessment.

Rather than creating a single hard copy document, the Wiki was developed collaboratively by members of state agencies and affiliated groups so that it could be constantly updated and expanded.

In 2010, the IC2 took over responsibility for updating and maintaining the Wiki. Future plans for the Wiki include the integration of some existing alternatives assessment using such tools as the [Green Screen](#) and the Washington Department of Ecology's Quick Chemical Assessment Tool (QCAT).

For more information, visit [www.ic2saferalternatives.org/](http://www.ic2saferalternatives.org/).

## State Updates

### California's Proposed Green Chemistry Regulations

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has proposed a revised green chemistry regulation that is intended to provide consumers with information about harmful chemicals in products and encourage manufacturers to replace them with safer alternatives. The regulations are required under a 2008 State law. The revised regulations would:

- Expand the list of chemicals of concern from about 800 to around 3,000
- Limit the scope of products initially affected
- Exempt products that contain some particularly hazardous chemicals if they contain less than 0.01 percent (not one-tenth of a percent as previously proposed)
- Expand who is responsible for complying with the regulation to include importers and those who control the product design

Under the revised proposal only two to five types of products with the greatest exposure potential will be initially affected. The new proposal is the result of numerous meetings of the California Green Ribbon Science Panel as well as extensive input from industry, environmental groups, and the public.

For more information on the draft regulations, visit [dtsc.ca.gov/SCPRegulations.cfm](http://dtsc.ca.gov/SCPRegulations.cfm).

### **Massachusetts Changes TURA List of Toxic or Hazardous Substances**

The Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Program has made the following changes to the list of covered toxics:

- Added 16 chemicals that the U.S. EPA has added to the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) List
- Designated formaldehyde as a Higher Hazard Substance
- Created a separate category specifically for hexavalent chromium compounds
- Designated hexavalent chromium compounds as Higher Hazard Substances

For copies of the regulations, visit [www.mass.gov/eea](http://www.mass.gov/eea).

Reports on formaldehyde and hexavalent chromium are available at: [www.turi.org/About/Library/TURI-Publications/Toxics-Use-Reduction-Policy-Analysis/Higher\\_Hazard\\_Substances\\_Policy\\_Analyses](http://www.turi.org/About/Library/TURI-Publications/Toxics-Use-Reduction-Policy-Analysis/Higher_Hazard_Substances_Policy_Analyses).

### **Massachusetts' n-Propyl Bromide Fact Sheet**

The Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) recently published a Fact Sheet on n-Propyl Bromide. This Fact Sheet is part of a series that is designed to help Massachusetts companies, community organizations, and residents understand the use, health and environmental effects, as well as the availability of safer alternatives for various chemicals of concern.

N-propyl bromide (nPB) or 1-bromopropane, is a relatively new solvent that is used in vapor degreasing, metal cleaning, and dry cleaning; as a solvent carrier in adhesives; and as a chemical intermediate. The U.S. EPA classifies nPB as a volatile organic compound (VOC). nPB has received minimal regulatory attention to date.

Use of nPB is increasing as an alternative for other solvents that have become more strictly regulated, such as

methylene chloride, perchloroethylene (perc), and trichloroethylene (TCE). This trend is of concern because evidence has emerged linking nPB to a range of human health hazards. In 2009, nPB was added to the list of Toxic or Hazardous Substances subject to regulations under the Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA).

To access this Fact Sheet, visit [www.turi.org/About/Library/TURI-Publications/Massachusetts\\_Chemical\\_Fact\\_Sheets/n-Propyl\\_Bromide\\_Fact\\_Sheet](http://www.turi.org/About/Library/TURI-Publications/Massachusetts_Chemical_Fact_Sheets/n-Propyl_Bromide_Fact_Sheet).

### **Oregon's Green Chemistry Center**

The Center for Sustainable Materials Chemistry will be awarded \$20 million to help train students in green chemistry. Green chemistry is the process of designing and manufacturing products to be safer and more efficient, which benefits employees, managers, and consumers by reducing harmful chemicals and a company's liability. Key industries in Oregon have already implemented, or are actively seeking more sustainable chemicals, materials, and products, and this funding will support their efforts.

Last year, the Oregon Environmental Council convened the Oregon Green Chemistry Advisory Group, bringing together leaders from academia, industry, and agencies to examine the green chemistry landscape and opportunities. The recommendations of that group were summarized in a paper, *Advancing Green Chemistry in Oregon*, and included:

- Increasing awareness among key decision makers
- Enhancing Oregon's workforce in green chemistry techniques
- Expanding public and private research
- Committing state and local resources to support innovation

The NSF grant is a significant milestone toward achieving these goals. For more information, visit [www.oeconline.org/our-work/economy/green-chemistry](http://www.oeconline.org/our-work/economy/green-chemistry).

### **Washington Study on Toxics in Puget Sound**

In early November, the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the Puget Sound Partnership (Partnership) released a study on what is known about

toxic chemical pollution in the Puget Sound region. The report, titled “Assessment of Selected Toxic Chemicals in the Puget Sound Basin,” is the final component of a multi-year, multi-agency effort that started in 2006 to understand where toxic chemicals come from, how they get to Puget Sound, and the potential harm they cause to people, fish, and other creatures.

While there are many chemicals in use today, the Assessment focused on 17 chemicals or chemical groups because they are commonly detected in the Sound, harmful to fish and other life, and may represent how similar chemicals reach the Sound. The report evaluated a variety of ways that toxic chemicals reach the Sound. These include surface water runoff, groundwater releases, air deposition, and wastewater treatment plant discharges. Overall, the study found that toxic chemical pollutants come from many scattered and hard-to-reach sources throughout the Sound. Examples of key sources of toxic chemicals include:

- Copper, cadmium, zinc, and phthalates from roofing materials (phthalates are a group of chemicals commonly found in plastics)
- Copper from urban pesticide use, brake pads, and boat paint
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) from creosote-treated wood, wood smoke, and vehicle exhaust
- Petroleum-related compounds from motor oil drips and leaks from cars and trucks, as well as routine fuel and oil spills on land and in the water

The Washington State legislature is working on reducing many toxic chemicals, including banning or phasing out the allowable uses of such pollutants as:

- Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) in flame retardants
- Copper in brake pads and boat paint
- Lead tire wheel weights
- PAHs in coal tar-based pavement sealants
- Phosphorus in lawn fertilizers
- Bisphenol A (BPA) in baby bottles

For more information, visit [www.ecy.wa.gov/puget\\_sound/toxicchemicals/index.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/puget_sound/toxicchemicals/index.html).

## News from U.S. EPA

### **EPA Releases Formerly Confidential Chemical Information**

EPA is publically releasing hundreds of studies on chemicals that had been treated as confidential business information (CBI). The change is part of EPA's plan to make public the chemicals that are not entitled to CBI status. Releasing the data will expand the public's access to critical health and safety information on chemicals that are manufactured and processed in the U.S. Newly available information can be found using EPA's [Chemical Data Access Tool](#).

Since 2009, 577 formerly confidential chemical identities are no longer confidential and more than 1,000 health and safety studies are now accessible to the public that were previously unavailable or only available in limited circumstances. In 2010, EPA issued new guidance outlining the Agency's plans to deny confidentiality claims for chemical identities in health and safety studies under the federal Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) that are determined to not be entitled to CBI status. EPA has been reviewing CBI claims in new and existing TSCA filings containing health and safety studies.

Consistent with the guidance, the Agency will request that the submitter voluntarily relinquish the CBI claims and make the newly released studies available to the public. EPA also challenged the chemical industry to make available information that was previously

### Conference on the TRI & Environmental Conditions in Communities

The National Training Conference on the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) and Environmental Conditions in Communities will be held on April 11-13, 2012, in Washington, D.C., at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill. The Conference will focus on pollution prevention (P2) and using TRI data to promote sustainability. It will include sessions on environmental data and conditions and trends in ecological and human health. The co-sponsors of the conference include The Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), National Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NPPR) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

For more information, visit [www.chemicalright2know.org](http://www.chemicalright2know.org).

classified as CBI. To date, more than 35 companies have agreed to review previously submitted filings containing health and safety studies and determine if any CBI claims may no longer be necessary.

For additional information, visit: [www.epa.gov/oppt/existingchemicals/pubs/transparency.html](http://www.epa.gov/oppt/existingchemicals/pubs/transparency.html).

### **EPA Responds to Petition on Oil & Gas Exploration & Production Chemicals**

On August 4, 2011, EPA received a petition from 120 public health and environmental organizations requesting that the Agency require manufacturers and processors of oil and gas exploration and production chemicals to:

- conduct toxicity testing
- maintain and submit records on the chemical substances and mixtures, and any data on environmental or health effects and exposures

On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, EPA granted a portion of the petition and will require companies to submit health and safety related information on chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing in the future. While EPA has not granted the entire petition, EPA will launch a stakeholder and public engagement process to seek input on the design and scope of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) reporting requirement. EPA is exploring an approach that would minimize the reporting burden and costs, take advantage of existing information, and avoid duplication of efforts.

For more information, visit <http://www.epa.gov/oppt/chemtest/pubs/petitions.html>.

### **EPA to Improve Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program**

EPA is releasing an overview summary of the Agency's work plan to improve the scientific methods used to evaluate chemicals that may impact the endocrine system in people and animals. This work plan relies on scientific advancements in computational modeling, molecular biology, toxicology, and advanced robotics. By incorporating these scientific advancements into evaluating chemicals under the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP), EPA will prioritize and screen chemicals with greater speed, efficiency, and accuracy, while minimizing the use of laboratory animals.

The work plan, referred to as EDSP21, follows recommendations made by the National Research Council (NRC) in a 2007 report on toxicity testing. Since EPA is required to complete registration review of registered pesticides by October 2022, new tools are needed to more quickly and efficiently screen and assess these pesticides. Development and validation of these new tools will be a multiyear process. As these new tools become ready for use, the EDSP will begin to rely on computational toxicology methods and high throughput screens to more quickly and cost-effectively assess potential chemical toxicity while minimizing the use of conventional whole animal studies.

For more information, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/endo/pubs/regaspects/index.htm#edsp21>.

The IC2 welcomes comments and suggestions on this *E-Bulletin*; just email [awienert@newmoa.org](mailto:awienert@newmoa.org). To request an address change or to add a name to the *E-Bulletin* distribution list, **send an email to:** [rsmith@newmoa.org](mailto:rsmith@newmoa.org).

Visit the IC2 website for more information about IC2 events, Workgroups, and projects: [www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/](http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/ic2/).