



Newsroom 2015 News Releases

EPA Proposes Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements on Nanoscale Materials in the Marketplace/For the first time the agency will use TSCA authority to collect health and safety information on nanoscale chemicals already in use

Release Date: 03/25/2015

Contact Information: Cathy Milbourn(News Media only) milbourn.cathy@epa.gov (202) 564-7849 (202)-564-4355

WASHINGTON D.C., – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing one-time reporting and recordkeeping requirements on nanoscale chemical substances in the marketplace.

“Nanotechnology holds great promise for improving products, from TVs and vehicles to batteries and solar panels,” said Jim Jones, EPA’s Assistant Administrator for Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. “We want to continue to facilitate the trend toward this important technology. Today’s action will ensure that EPA also has information on nano-sized versions of chemicals that are already in the marketplace.”

EPA currently reviews new chemical substances manufactured or processed as nanomaterials prior to introduction into the marketplace to ensure that they are safe. For the first time, the agency is proposing to use TSCA to collect existing exposure and health and safety information on chemicals currently in the marketplace when manufactured or processed as nanoscale materials. The proposal will require one-time reporting from companies that manufacture or process chemical substances as nanoscale materials.

The companies will notify EPA of:

- certain information, including specific chemical identity;
- production volume;
- methods of manufacture; processing, use, exposure, and release information; and,
- available health and safety data.

Nanoscale materials have special properties related to their small size such as greater strength and lighter weight, however, they may take on different properties than their conventionally-sized counterpart. The proposal is not intended to conclude that nanoscale materials will cause harm to human health or the environment; Rather, EPA would use the information gathered to determine if any further action under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), including additional information collection, is needed.

The proposed reporting requirements are being issued under the authority of section 8(a) under TSCA. The agency is requesting public comment on the proposed reporting and recordkeeping requirements 90 days from publication in the Federal Register. EPA also anticipates holding a public meeting during the comment period. The time and place of the meeting will be announced on EPA’s web page at: <http://www.epa.gov/oppt/nano/>

Additional information and a fact sheet on the specifics of the proposed rule and what constitutes a nanoscale chemical material can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/oppt/nano/>

[Receive our News Releases Automatically by Email](#)

[Search this collection of releases](#) | or [search all news releases](#)

[Get news releases by email](#)

[View selected historical press releases from 1970 to 1998 in the EPA History website.](#)

Recent additions

- 03/27/2015 [EPA Action Ensures that Runoff Doesn’t Harm Nearby Streams at North Reading, Mass. Construction Site](#)
- 03/27/2015 [EPA Funding to Temple University will help Revitalize Philadelphia’s North Kensington Area](#)
- 03/26/2015 [NEWS ADVISORY: EPA Issues Pesticides Warning in Caribbean; Methyl Bromide Suspected of Making Four People Ill on St. John, U.S. VI](#)
- 03/26/2015 [EPA acts to protect Puget Sound shellfish beds from manure runoff, fines Lynden dairy](#)
- 03/26/2015 [EPA’s Energy Star Names Odessa, TX, as Nation’s Top Small City for Energy Efficient Buildings](#)