



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY
Department of Toxic Substances Control



NEWS RELEASE

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Maziar Movassaghi, Acting Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STATE RELEASES PROPOSED GREEN CHEMISTRY REGULATION

SACRAMENTO, CA – The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is releasing its official proposed regulation to make every day consumer products less toxic. The regulation is a critical element of California's Green Chemistry Initiative. DTSC's adoption of the regulation is required by AB 1879 (Feuer, 2008) which was signed into law by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. The regulation establishes a process for the identification and prioritization of chemicals of concern and the performance of alternatives assessments.

"This regulation propels California to the forefront of the nation and the world with the most comprehensive Green Chemistry program and will lead to safer products for consumers," said Linda Adams, Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA). "I salute our stakeholders and our Green Ribbon Science Panel who gave us their valuable ideas and comments."

This proposed regulation reflects two years of feedback from stakeholders and the public.

Adams, who called for the Green Chemistry Initiative, cited the extensive opportunities for public comment offered during the development of the proposed Regulation for Safer Consumer Products.

"Consumers all want to trust the safety of the products they buy," she said. "DTSC's transparency in this process is a significant step in creating a foundation for that trust," Adams concluded.

DTSC has submitted the proposed regulation package to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review. The proposed regulation includes changes to the June 23, 2010 draft that reflect feedback received from all stakeholders including practitioners of green chemistry. A formal 45-day public comment process will begin when OAL posts the public notice. A hearing will be held on November 1, 2010.

"This regulation will facilitate California's transition from managing toxic chemicals at the end of their lifecycle to designing products and processes that are more environmentally benign," said DTSC Acting Director Maziar Movassaghi. "It represents a landmark policy change that continues California's environmental leadership and fosters a new era in the design of a new consumer products economy."

The regulation is on schedule to meet the legal deadline of January 1, 2011, when it is expected to go into effect. For more information and to access a copy of the regulation, go to: <http://dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/GreenChemistryInitiative/Proposed-Regulation.cfm>.

Written comments on the proposed regulation are due to DTSC by November 1, 2010. and should be sent to: gcregs@dtsc.ca.gov or mailed to: Heather Jones, Office of Legislation & Regulatory Policy, California Department of Toxic Substances Control, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

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NOTE TO EDITORS – AVAILABILITY FOR ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEWS

Acting Director Movassaghi will be available for media interviews on the draft regulation. To set up interviews contact either: Dana Howard (916) 869-5422 choward@dtsc.ca.gov or Charlotte Fadipe (916) 956-2838 cfadipe@dtsc.ca.gov or call (916) 322-5227.

FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES: Contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control by phone at (800) 728-6942 or visit www.dtsc.ca.gov. To report illegal handling, discharge, or disposal of hazardous waste, call the Waste Alert Hotline at (800) 698-6942.

The Mission of the Department of Toxic Substances Control is to provide the highest level of safety, and to protect public health and the environment from toxic harm.