

Decision number: CCH-D-0000003236-78-02/F

Helsinki, 18 April 2013

DECISION ON A COMPLIANCE CHECK OF A REGISTRATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 41(3) OF REGULATION (EC) NO 1907/2006**For sulfur, CAS No 7704-34-9 (EC No 231-722-6), registration number** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**Addressee:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) has taken the following decision in accordance with the procedure set out in Articles 50 and 51 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH Regulation).

I. Procedure

Pursuant to Article 41(1) of the REACH Regulation ECHA has performed a compliance check of the registration dossier for sulfur, CAS No 7704-34-9 (EC No 231-722-6), submitted by [REDACTED] (Registrant).

This decision is based on the registration dossier as submitted with submission number [REDACTED], for the tonnage band of 1000 tonnes or more per year. This decision does not take into account any updates after 18 January 2013, the date upon which ECHA notified its draft decision to the Competent Authorities of the Member States pursuant to Article 51(1) of the REACH Regulation.

This compliance check decision does not prevent ECHA to initiate further compliance checks on the present dossier at a later stage.

The compliance check was initiated on 28 September 2012 and is targeted at the technical dossier information for the standard information requirements of Sections 8.6.2. of Annex IX of the REACH Regulation.

On 21 November 2012 ECHA sent the draft decision to the Registrant and invited him to provide comments within 30 days of the receipt of the draft decision.

On 20 December 2012 ECHA received comments from the Registrant, merely indicating an intention to update the registration dossier by 21 February 2013. ECHA considered the Registrant's comments received and decided not to amend the draft decision.

On 18 January 2013 ECHA notified the Competent Authorities of the Member States of its draft decision and invited them pursuant to Article 51(1) of the REACH Regulation to submit proposals to amend the draft decision within 30 days of the receipt of the notification.

Subsequently, Competent Authorities of the Member States did not propose amendments to the draft decision and ECHA took the decision pursuant to Article 51(3) of the REACH Regulation.

II. Information required

- 1) Pursuant to Articles 41(1)(a) and (b), 41(3), 10(a)(vii), 12(1)(e), 13 and Annex IX of the REACH Regulation the Registrant shall submit the following information generated with the test methods as indicated on the registered substance subject to the present decision:
 - a. Sub-chronic toxicity study (90-day) in rats, oral route (Annex IX, 8.6.2., test method EU B.26/OECD 408);

ECHA notes that other registrants of the same substance have already submitted in their registration dossiers information from experimental studies involving vertebrate animals in order to fulfil the relevant information requirements. In accordance with Title III of the REACH Regulation, namely the obligations to request access to available information of studies on vertebrate animals (Articles 27 and 30 of the REACH Regulation), the Registrant shall not perform new testing involving vertebrate animals in order to comply with the present decision where such data is already available and is compelled to request this information from other registrants of the same substance.

More specifically, Article 30(1) of the REACH Regulation imposes on the Registrant to request from other substance information exchange forum (SIEF) participants to share the studies involving tests on vertebrate animals already available. The Registrant and the other SIEF participants shall make every effort to ensure that the costs of sharing the information are determined in a fair, transparent and non discriminatory way.

In addition, the Registrant is reminded of the obligation imposed by Article 11 of the REACH Regulation on all the registrants of the same substance to submit registrations for the same substance jointly.

Pursuant to Article 41(4) of the REACH Regulation the Registrant shall submit the required information in the form of an updated IUCLID dossier to ECHA by **18 July 2013**

III. Statement of reasons

Based on the examination of the technical dossier, ECHA concludes that the information therein, submitted by the Registrant for registration of the above mentioned substance for the purpose of registration within the applicable tonnage band of above 1000 tonnes per year in accordance with Article 6 of the REACH Regulation, does not comply with the requirements of Articles 10, 12 and with Annexes I, IX, and XI thereof. Consequently, the Registrant is requested to submit the information mentioned above that is needed to bring the registration into compliance with the relevant information requirements.

1) Missing information related to endpoints

- a. Sub-chronic toxicity study (90-day)

A sub-chronic toxicity study (90 day) is a standard information requirement as laid down in Annex IX, section 8.6.2. of the REACH Regulation.

The technical dossier did not contain any robust study summaries for this endpoint. The data waiving cites 'other justification', but the information provided in the justification for

the data waiving is a brief text stating that:

Sulfur is not soluble in water. It is an inert solid substance which is not expected to bioaccumulate. Moreover, sulfur is widely distributed in nature and this element is a vital component of all living organisms. In addition, sulfur is not likely to be absorbed via skin because of its insolubility in water.

Sulfur is an industrial chemical and inhalation of sulfur dust is the most likely route of exposure to this chemical. Long-term inhalation exposure to sulfur may result in effects on respiratory tract leading to chronic bronchitis.

In the absence of supporting data, this is not a valid adaptation according to column 2 of Annex IX, 8.6.2., or according to Annex XI of the REACH Regulation.

Consequently there is an information gap and it is necessary to provide information for the endpoint of Annex IX, 8.6.2. The Registrant is accordingly requested to submit information for this endpoint generated by the following test on the registered substance: 90-day repeated dose toxicity study in the rat, by the oral route (EU B.26/OECD 408). The requested route of exposure is by oral route in the light of the physico-chemical properties of the substance.

The Registrant is requested to make every effort to obtain from other registrants this information available in joint submission for the same substance for the update of the technical dossier and the CSR.

IV. Timeline for updating the registration dossier

The present decision requires the Registrant to provide information that in accordance with Article 30(1) of the REACH Regulation he is required to obtain by sharing of information. ECHA considers two months to be sufficient time, (1) to request the studies from the respective data owners, (2) to receive the proof of the costs, (3) to make every effort to ensure that the costs of sharing information are determined in a fair, transparent and non discriminatory way, and (4) to pay and be granted permission to refer to the full study reports after receipt of payment by the respective data owner.

V. Information on right to appeal

An appeal may be brought against this decision to the Board of Appeal of ECHA under Article 51(8) of the REACH Regulation. Such an appeal shall be lodged within three months of receiving notification of this decision. Further information on the appeal procedure can be found on ECHA's internet page at http://echa.europa.eu/appeals/app_procedure_en.asp. The notice of appeal will be deemed to be filed only when the appeal fee has been paid.



Jukka Malm
Director of Regulatory Affairs