

27 November 2015

Original: English

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

1. Notifying Member: <u>EUROPEAN UNION</u>
If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):

2. Agency responsible: European Commission

Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:

European Commission EU-TBT Enquiry Point Fax: +(32) 2 299 80 43

E-mail: grow-eu-tbt@ec.europa.eu

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/tbt/

- 3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [X], 5.7.1 [], other:
- 4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Cellulose insulation mixtures and articles containing inorganic ammonium salts
- 5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Draft Commission Regulation amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) as regards inorganic ammonium salts (4 pages + Annex 2 pages, in English)
- **6. Description of content:** This draft Regulation relates to a new entry (65) of Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.

The new entry would restrict the placing on the market and use of cellulose insulation mixtures and articles containing inorganic ammonium salts. A limit value (3 ppm by volume) would be introduced to regulate the maximum emission of ammonia from the cellulose insulation under certain conditions. Additionally, compliance with the maximum loading rate used in the test done prior to marketing is required when cellulose insulation mixtures are used, in order to ensure that the ammonia emission limit is not exceeded. The maximum loading rate should be communicated by the supplier of the cellulose insulation mixture to recipients or end users. An exemption would be made for cellulose insulation mixtures containing inorganic ammonium salts that are only used for the production of cellulose insulation articles, since the resulting articles themselves need to comply with the ammonia emission limit prior to their placing on the market and use.

The application of the restriction is deferred for two years to allow industry sufficient time to comply with the obligations described above. However, in the territory of a Member State that already has in place national measures restricting ammonium salts in cellulose insulation that have been authorised by the Commission pursuant to the REACH safeguard procedure, the restriction would apply immediately.

7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: Inorganic ammonium salts used as additives in cellulose insulation mixtures and articles can lead to emission of ammonia under certain conditions. Emission of ammonia above the specified limit of 3 ppm by volume poses a risk to human health that needs to be addressed.

The proposed restriction is expected to reduce emissions of ammonia from cellulose insulation containing inorganic ammonium salts and no major costs to the manufacturers are expected.

8. Relevant documents:

- Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH Regulation): http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1423064258789&uri=CELEX:32006R1907
- The opinions of the Committees for Risk Assessment (RAC) and Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC): http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/522a9f94-058a-4bef-9818-f265a1d2d64d

Further background information is available at: http://echa.europa.eu/previous-consultations-on-restriction-proposals/-/substance-rev/1895/term

9. Proposed date of adoption: First quarter of 2016

Proposed date of entry into force: 20 days from publication in the Official Journal of the EU (the restriction will begin to apply two years after the date of entry into force except as indicated in point 6 above)

- 10. Final date for comments: 60 days from notification
- 11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:

European Commission EU-TBT Enquiry Point Fax: + (32) 2 299 80 43

E-mail: grow-eu-tbt@ec.europa.eu

The text is available on the Website: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/tbt/

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2015/TBT/EEC/15_4714_00_e.pdf https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2015/TBT/EEC/15_4714_01_e.pdf