Newsletter

Global Chemical, Environmental, Social, and Governance Regulations, Policies, and Standards

IAEG

Vol.6, Issue 5

NEWSLETTER

Global Chemical, Environmental, Social, and Governance Regulations, Policies, and Standards
Issue 5 – 2026

WHO IS IAEG?

The International Aerospace Environmental Group (IAEG) is a non-profit organization of global aerospace companies created to collaborate on and share innovative environmental solutions for the industry. The group works to promote the development of voluntary consensus standards and provide accessible solutions for key environmental issues.

Members of IAEG recognize that there are currently a wide variety of different laws and regulations impacting health and the environment worldwide. The complexity and variability of requirements and guidance have led to an increased burden for the industry and its supply chain.

IAEG work groups address such issues as chemical material declarations and reporting requirements, the development of alternative technologies, and greenhouse gas reporting and management. They create a forum for diverse and often competitive businesses to come together and share information on global environmental requirements. In addition, IAEG provides opportunities for wider education on environmental issues and the supply chain via its meetings agendas and bespoke seminars.

IAEG WORK GROUP 9 NEWSLETTER

The Aerospace and Defense (AD) industry is committed to developing an approach to help the AD industry evaluate emerging global chemical, environmental, social, and governance regulations and their impact on compliance and potential operational risk for companies and their supply chain. The objectives are to:

- Maintain a list of global regulations, policies and standards considered and to be considered, including executive summaries of those regulations.
- Develop a method to evaluate designated emerging regulations potential impact on compliance and/or operational risk, business continuity, and/or impact on supply chain.
- Develop summaries of the associated timeline for regulations (e.g., deadlines) and highlight the specific impacts.
- Develop communication materials and conduct informational webinars, as appropriate, for member companies and/or AD supply chain companies, as appropriate.

This Newsletter summarizes chemical, environmental, social, and governance regulations relevant to the AD industry. Contact Lisa Brown at myrna.l.brown@lmco.com for any questions on this Newsletter. For general assistance on IAEG matters, contact Damien Labadie at damien.labadie@aelyans.com.

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ASIA

China

Announcement No. 9 of 2026 approves 690 new technical specifications and standards across fourteen industrial sectors (effective)

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) of the People's Republic of China issued Announcement No. 9 of 2026, officially approving 690 new technical specifications and standards distributed comprehensively across fourteen industrial sectors. The breakdown of these newly approved standards is as follows: machinery (120), communications (109), textiles (92), ferrous metallurgy (81), non-ferrous metals (61), building materials (61), chemical (56), automotive (46), electronics (35), petrochemical (11), rare earth (9), gold (4), light industry (4), and military and civilian products (1). Notably, this includes the newly introduced "Technical Specification for Artificial Intelligence Deep Synthetic Image Systems". Additionally, the update formally institutes one amendment to the communications industry standard, specifically the "Implementation Guidelines for the Classification and Filing of Network Security Protection for Telecommunications Networks and the Internet". Finally, it approves twenty-eight foreign language versions of industry standards (including "Regenerated Cobalt Powder for Powder Metallurgy"), which cover the communications (25), non-ferrous metals (2), and rare earth (1) sectors.

MIIT officially published the announcement on 28 April 2026. The approved amendment to the telecommunications industry standard officially took effect immediately upon the date of publication. No penalties are provided on the announcement.

More information can be found here in Chinese.

Addition of five chemicals to the Catalogue of Hazardous Chemicals (published)

On 16 April 2026, the Ministry of Emergency Management (MEM), together with nine other authorities, published Announcement No. 3 of 2026, dated 9 April 2026, which added five chemicals to the List of Hazardous Chemicals (2015 Edition). On 30 April 2026, MEM published a follow-up notice, dated 28 April 2026, on safety supervision work for the five newly added hazardous chemicals.

The follow-up notice includes a Classification Information Table for five hazardous chemicals and sets out the substance names, English names, CAS numbers, and hazard classifications. The five chemicals are:

- 3-chloropropyne; 3-chloroprop-1-yne (CAS No. 624-65-7)
  - flammable liquid, Category 2
  - acute toxicity (oral), Category 3
  - acute toxicity (inhalation), Category 3
  - skin corrosion/irritation, Category 1B
  - serious eye damage/eye irritation, Category 1
  - hazardous to the aquatic environment (long-term), Category 3

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- 2-iodoxybenzoic acid; o-iodoxybenzoic acid (CAS No. 61717-82-6)
  - explosive, Category 1.1
  - skin corrosion/irritation, Category 2
  - serious eye damage/eye irritation, Category 2
  - specific target organ toxicity - single exposure, Category 3
- 4-nitrobenzyl 2-diazoacetoacetate; p-nitrobenzyl 2-diazoacetoacetate (CAS No. 82551-63-1) - explosive, Category 1.1
- methanesulfonyl azide (CAS No. 1516-70-7) – explosive, Category 1.1
- 2-nitro-3-methylbenzoic acid; 3-methyl-2-nitrobenzoic acid (CAS No. 5437-38-7)
  - skin corrosion/irritation, Category 2
  - serious eye damage/eye irritation, Category 2
  - specific target organ toxicity - single exposure, Category 3

The notice requires provincial emergency management departments to organize investigations and carry out safety supervision work in accordance with relevant laws and regulations. Relevant enterprises must handle hazardous chemical safety production licenses, hazardous chemical business licenses, and hazardous chemical safety use licenses, as applicable and in accordance with laws and regulations, by 31 July 2026.

More information can be found in Chinese in this announcement, this notice. The attachment to the notice can be found her in Chinese and in English.

Guidelines for Green Design of Industrial Products (2026 Edition) (published)

On 17 April 2026, five Chinese government departments have jointly issued the "Green Design Guidelines for Industrial Products (2026 Edition)" to collaboratively promote carbon reduction, pollution control, and sustainable green growth (the notice can also be found here in Chinese). Formulated in accordance with the "Action Plan for Green and Low-Carbon Development of Manufacturing (2025-2027)," the document aims to guide the ecological design of industrial products to minimize energy consumption and environmental impact across the entire product lifecycle, spanning from design and production to distribution, use, and recycling. The guidelines contain two primary appendices:

- Appendix 1 provides a "Green Design System Architecture Diagram for Industrial Products," which visually outlines the focus areas across the product lifecycle
- Appendix 2 outlines "Typical examples of green design solutions," providing extensive tables of industry-specific applications and technical recommendations across fifteen sectors, including automotive, construction machinery, home appliances, lithium batteries, packaging, and textiles

The Guidelines establish key directions for product development, standardizing principles for long-lifespan, harmless, lightweight, energy-saving, water-saving, material-saving, noise-reduction, space-saving, easily recyclable, reusable, and zero-carbon designs. Manufacturers are expected to integrate these green design concepts into their research and development stages by eliminating toxic and harmful substances, substituting them with low-carbon or renewable alternatives, and optimizing product structures. Furthermore, manufacturers are encouraged to use modular, replaceable, and standardized structural designs to facilitate non-destructive disassembly and remanufacturing. While the guidelines are primarily focused on the design and manufacturing phases, the principles affect the broader supply chain including distribution and recycling by requiring clear material identification labeling (such as QR code "digital passports") to assist downstream stakeholders in rapid sorting, processing, and cascade utilization. There are no penalties associated with this update.

Japan

Addition of 171 substances to the Industrial Safety and Health Act Chemical Substances List (published)

On 27 March 2026, Japan added 171 substances to the Industrial Safety and Health Act (ISHA) newly announced Chemical Substances list, including their official gazette serial numbers, chemical names, and structural formulas. The list provides detailed identifiers, including classification codes, CAS numbers, official gazette numbers, and chemical structural formulas. The ISHA regulates chemical substances to manage workplace safety in Japan. It outlines requirements for businesses and research institutions to accurately identify and manage hazardous substances that potentially impact worker health.

More information can be found here in Japanese.

Updates to the globally harmonized system classification results (published)

Japan's National Institute of Technology and Evaluation (NITE) has updated its integrated globally harmonized system (GHS) classification to reflect revised government GHS classification results for fiscal year 2025 (Reiwa 6). The updates incorporate corrections and revisions issued by the Japanese government during 2025. The GHS Comprehensive Information Provision Site serves as the central platform for publishing Japan's official and integrated GHS classifications. NITE first reflected the FY2025 government classifications in July 2025, followed by subsequent updates in September and December 2025 to incorporate partial revisions.

The update ensures that NITE's integrated GHS database reflects the latest government hazard classifications for substances, supporting consistent hazard communication, SDS preparation and regulatory compliance. The site also confirms that classification results are now provided primarily via HTML-based access, reflecting changes in system support and tools. There are no new compliance obligations introduced by this update; however, companies are expected to rely on the most recent classification results when preparing labels, safety data sheets, and hazard communications under Japan's GHS framework.

More information can be found in Japanese in this announcement from NITE. The classification list can be found here.

South Korea

Partial amendment to the chemical substances list (effective)

The South Korean Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment (MCEE) issued Notice No. 2026-103 on partial amendment to existing chemical substances list, pursuant to Article 2, Subparagraph 3 of the Act on Registration and Evaluation of Chemical Substances. The Notice came into effect on 28 April 2026.

In Schedule 1 of the Notice, the name of the existing chemical substance with KE No. KE-03115 is corrected from bis(2,3-epoxypropy)terephthalate (CAS No. 7195-44-0) to bis(2,3-epoxypropyl)terephthalate (CAS No. 7195-44-0).

In Schedule 2 of the Notice:

- for the existing chemical substance with KE No. 2010-3-4455, 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-propanediol polymer with 3-hydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylpropanoic acid, 1,1'-methylenebis[4-isocyanatocyclohexane],

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- 5-isocyanato-1-(isocyanatomethyl)-1,3,3-trimethylcyclohexane, dimethyl carbonate, 1,6-hexanediol and 2-oxepanone, the CAS number 918866-78-1 is newly added
- the name of the existing chemical substance with KE No. 2011-3-5317 is revised from N,N-bis[2-(4-dimethy-laminobenzoyl)oxyethyl]-N-methylamine to 1,1'-[(methylimino)di-2,1-ethanediyl]bis[4-(dimethylamino)benzoate], and CAS No. 925246-00-0 is added
- original chemical names of 136 existing substances previously listed under generic names for confidential business information (CBI) protection have been reinstated after the protection period has expired

Companies should review the updated list, verify whether any affected substances are present in their products, and update compliance documents and safety data sheets according to those changes. They also should pay close attention to the 136 substances with restored original names, as reassessment may be needed to determine whether registration or exemption obligations change.

Penalties for non-compliance are not provided for the notice.

Notice No. 2026-5 modifies names of three existing chemical designations and adds seventy-four new hazardous substances to K-REACH (published)

South Korea's National Institute of Chemical Safety issued Notice No. 2026-5 (can also be found here in Korean), revising the Designation Notice of Acutely Hazardous Substances, Chronically Hazardous Substances, and Ecologically Hazardous Substances under the Act on Registration and Evaluation of Chemicals (K-REACH). This amendment modifies the substance names for three existing chemical designations under unique numbers 97-1-119, 97-1-379, and 97-1-417. It also adds seventy-four new hazardous substances to the registry under unique numbers ranging from 2026-1-1281 through 2026-1-1354. For businesses manufacturing, importing, or handling these newly listed chemicals, the commercial impact involves a series of mandatory compliance deadlines under the Chemical Substances Control Act.

For the remaining newly designated substances, companies must adjust their operational procedures to meet specific deadlines.

- chemical identification, hazard labeling, import declarations, and official seller notification duties must be finalized by 1 January 2027
- businesses must align their operations with updated handling standards by 1 July 2027
- the preparation and submission of chemical accident prevention and management plans, along with obtaining required business permits and notifications, must be completed by 1 July 2028
- the final technical shift applies to physical infrastructure, as facilities must comply with updated installation and management standards for hazardous chemical substance handling by 1 July 2030

A distinct timeline is set for sodium hypochlorite (CAS No. 7681-52-9) under unique number 2026-1-1354, which establishes an effective date of 1 January 2028, and extends all transitional compliance deadlines for this specific substance by an additional eighteen months.

Penalties for non-compliance under K-REACH include up to five 5 years of imprisonment and fines up to one hundred million South Korean won for the illegal manufacture, import, or use of substances.

More information can be found here in Korean.

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Partial amendment to the Framework Act on Carbon Neutrality and Green Growth for Response to the Climate Crisis (draft)

South Korea has introduced a partial amendment to the Framework Act on Carbon Neutrality and Green Growth for Response to the Climate Crisis to accelerate its national target of cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 40% compared to 2018 levels by 2030. The legislative update bridges gaps between corporate transparency and consumer market behavior by standardizing industrial climate disclosures and establishing a state-backed commercial incentive system designed to stimulate the low-carbon economy.

To eliminate fragmented reporting across industries, the amendment establishes strict transparency mandates for commercial entities. Businesses exceeding greenhouse gas emission thresholds, to be defined by Presidential Decree, are legally required to publicize their carbon neutrality transition plans and annual performance metrics directly on their corporate websites. Simultaneously, the framework introduces a mandatory state-funded incentive infrastructure. National and local governments must issue regional gift certificates and points to reward commercial and public transition activities closely tied to supply chains, such as replacing internal combustion engine fleets with zero-emission vehicles and purchasing certified green products. These changes require companies to ensure alignment with updated hazard information, which may impact classification and labelling of substances, safety data sheets, and risk management and compliance obligations under K-REACH.

The amendment entered into force on 10 March 2026 and applies immediately. Companies handling affected substances should ensure their compliance documentation reflects the updated hazard assessment results. Penalties for non-compliance are governed by K-REACH.

More information can be found here in Korean.

Taiwan

Draft amendment to certain articles of the Hazardous Chemicals Labeling and General Knowledge Regulations (consultation)

The Taiwan Ministry of Labor published Announcement No. 1150251656 (can also be found here in Chinese) regarding consultation on the draft amendments to certain articles of the Hazardous Chemicals Labeling and General Knowledge Regulations and the draft amendments to Appendix 1 of Article 5, Appendix 3 and 4 of Article 12. Comments are due on 6 July 2026.

The amendments were drafted to align with the eighth revised edition of the United Nations Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and with the hazard classification standards of National Standard CNS 15030. The Hazardous Chemicals Labeling and General Knowledge Regulations consist of nineteen articles and establish the basic requirements for how hazardous chemicals must be labelled and what safety information must be provided to ensure proper handling and risk communication.

This announcement consists of several Items:

- draft amendments to certain articles of the Hazardous Chemicals Labeling and General Knowledge Regulations, including an opinion form for the draft amendments
- article comparison table
- draft amendment to Appendix 1 of Article 5

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- draft amendment to Appendix 3 of Article 12
- draft amendment to Appendix 4 of Article 12

More information can be found in Chinese in this notice in the National Gazette.

Amendments to the toxic chemical management framework to control methoxychlor, Dechlorane Plus, and UV-328 (published)

Taiwan announced major amendments (can also be found here in Chinese) to its toxic chemical management framework to control three additional persistent organic pollutants (POPs): methoxychlor, Dechlorane Plus, and UV-328. This update aligns Taiwan's regulatory regime with the Stockholm Convention, enforcing strict prohibitions and phased compliance obligations to mitigate the risks of bioaccumulative and non-degradable chemicals. The framework also expands restrictions on existing regulated substances, broadening mercury prohibitions in line with the Minamata Convention and banning tetrachloroethylene in standard open cleaning agents.

The regulation utilizes a four-annex structure governing substance classifications, operational bans, permitted exemptions, and transitional timelines. Under these provisions, methoxychlor (CAS No. 72-43-5) and Dechlorane Plus (CAS No. 13560-89-9) are designated as controlled substances at a 0.1% concentration threshold with a 50 kilogram (kg) graded handling quantity, carrying full operational bans outside of research and education. UV-328 (CAS No. 25973-55-1) is controlled at full concentration with a 50 kg threshold, restricted entirely except for highly specific, time-limited international trace-level allowances.

The amendment enters into force on 1 July 2026, triggering a phased compliance schedule for existing operators:

- 1 July 2026 – mandatory maintenance of operational and chemical release records begins
- 31 December 2026 – deadline to secure compulsory commercial liability insurance
- 1 July 2027 – deadline to finalize safety data sheets (SDS), product labeling, emergency response equipment, and hazard prevention plans
- 1 October 2027 – submission deadline for joint defense organization structures and detection/alarm system plans
- 1 January 2028 – full compliance deadline, requiring active operational licenses, formal personnel training, and certified transport tracking systems

New operators handling these substances after 1 July 2026 must achieve immediate compliance with no transitional buffer. Non-compliance under the Toxic and Concerned Chemical Substances Control Act will result in administrative fines, operational restrictions, or the immediate revocation of handling permits.

Vietnam

Decree No. 110/2026/ND-CP regarding management of product, packaging recycling, and waste treatment (effective)

Vietnam issued Decree No. 110/2026/ND-CP (can also be found here in Vietnamese) to elaborate on Articles 54 and 55 of the Law on Environmental Protection. The government created this new law to implement Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) obligations. Legislators aim to establish a framework that requires manufacturers and importers to manage products, packaging recycling, and waste treatment to ensure environmental protection. The regulation contains three appendices:

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- Appendix I details the list of products and packaging subject to the rules, alongside their mandatory recycling rates and technical recycling specifications
- Appendix II lists the products, packaging, and specific financial contribution amounts required to support waste treatment activities
- Appendix III provides the required administrative templates, including Form 01 for requesting financial support for recycling activities and Form 02 for requesting financial support for waste treatment activities

The decree requires manufacturers and importers placing specified goods (such as batteries, lubricants, tires, and electronics) on the Vietnamese market to fulfill recycling responsibilities or make financial contributions to the Vietnam Environmental Protection Fund. Affected entities must meet mandatory recycling targets (such as 20% for paper packaging, 22% for rigid PET packaging, and 12% for lead-acid batteries) or pay a financial contribution.

Manufacturers and importers can organize recycling by self-performing the operations, contracting a licensed third-party recycling unit, or authorizing a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO). For hard-to-recycle items, such as single-use batteries, diapers, chewing gum, and single-use plastics, businesses must make direct financial contributions based on fixed rates (e.g., 1% of net revenue or 1,500 VND per kilogram). The regulation exempts entities producing or importing goods for export, temporary import, re-export, or research. The regulation also exempts businesses with a total annual revenue from specified products below VND 30 billion. Furthermore, manufacturers and importers must register an annual recycling plan and report the previous year's results via the National EPR Information System by 1st of April every year.

The decree was published on 1 April 2026 and entered into force on 25 May 2026. Manufacturers and importers of road vehicles must begin fulfilling their recycling responsibilities from 1 January 2027. Mandatory recycling rates face an upward adjustment every three years (capped at a 10% increase), starting from 2029.

Penalties for non-compliance include administrative sanctions in accordance with the law on handling of administrative violations. Additionally, supported recycling entities that fail to meet contract obligations lose eligibility to participate in support proposals for five years.

More information can be found here in Vietnamese.

EUROPE

European Union

Update to REACH to include new restrictions on 2,4-dinitrotoluene in articles (in force)

The European Commission (EC) published Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/859 updating REACH by adding a new restriction on 2,4-dinitrotoluene (2,4-DNT; EC No. 204-450-0, CAS No. 121-14-2,) in articles. The aim is to eliminate consumer and professional exposure to the substance as it is category 1B, non-threshold carcinogen. While 2,4-DNT is no longer produced or used in the European Union (EU), imported articles may still contain it as authorization requirements under REACH do not apply to them.

The amendment consists of an Annex and two articles. Article 1 adds 2,4-DNT to Annex XVII of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 as Entry 83. In REACH, Annex XVII contains the restrictions on the manufacture, placing on the market, and use of certain dangerous substances, mixtures, and articles. Article 2 sets the entry into force as twenty calendar days after publication in the Official Journal, which is 11 May 2026.

From 10 May 2027, articles for consumers or professional users must not be placed on the market, or used, if they contain 0.1% or more 2,4-DNT by weight. The restriction does not apply to:

- explosives (as defined in Directive 2014/28/EU)
- articles for military use
- security ammunition
- food contact materials

Articles already placed on the EU market before 11 May 2027 are exempt to avoid unnecessary recalls and waste.

For motor vehicles, the restriction applies later (from 11 May 2029) to:

- micro gas generators for seat belt pre-tensioners and bonnet actuators
- spare parts for these systems

Vehicles placed on the market between 11 May 2027 and 11 May 2029 may continue to be used if they contain 2,4-DNT only in these components.

Penalties for noncompliance are not specified in this amendment. However, under REACH, penalties are set by Member States, which include fines and imprisonment.

Guidance on Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (consultation)

The European Commission has approved the draft content of a Commission Notice containing guidance for the implementation of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR). The guidance responds to questions raised by Member States and stakeholders and aims to support consistent application of the regulation across the European Union (EU).

The update was issued as a Communication and an Annex to the communication to the EC approving the draft content of the Commission Notice. It complements Regulation (EU) 2025/40 and is expected to be accompanied by supporting explanatory material, including FAQs, but does not amend the legal text. The Communication states that the draft guidance will be formally adopted later, once all language versions are available, and that the updated guidelines will apply only from that point.

The draft guidance provides clarification on selected provisions of Regulation (EU) 2025/40, based on stakeholder questions from Member States and industry. It addresses the scope of the regulation and core definitions, including how packaging, packaging components, manufacturers, producers, and importers are identified. It also explains obligations for economic operators across the packaging lifecycle and provides interpretation of requirements related to sustainability and circularity, including recyclability, packaging design, recycled content, packaging minimization, labeling, re-use, collection, and waste management obligations. The guidance is non-binding and does not introduce new requirements but is intended to facilitate uniform application of the PPWR.

Regulation (EU) 2025/40 entered into force on 11 February 2025 and will apply from 12 August 2026. There are no penalties associated with this update.

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Proposals for the harmonized classification and labeling for N'-(1,3-dimethylbutylidene)-3-hydroxy-2-naphthohydrazide; N-ethyl-N-[2-[1-(2-methylpropoxy)ethoxy]ethyl]-4-(phenylazo)aniline; silver chloride, maleic acid ((2Z)-but-2-enedioic acid), chloroethane, and cobalt compounds (consultation)

On 27 April 2026, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) launched three public consultations (comments due on 26 June 2026) on proposals for the harmonized classification and labeling (CLH) of substances under Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on Classification, Labeling, and Packaging. The CLH process ensures consistent classification of chemical hazards across the European Union (EU) and supports risk management measures for substances used in industrial and commercial applications. The proposals were submitted by Poland, Germany, and Sweden and relate to updated environmental and human health hazard classifications for substances that may pose risks to human health or the environment.

- Poland submitted a proposal for N'-(1,3-dimethylbutylidene)-3-hydroxy-2-naphthohydrazide (EC No. 435-860-1, CAS No. 214417-91-1) to upgrade the substance's environmental classification to Aquatic Chronic 1 with an M factor of 1, indicating high toxicity to aquatic life even at low concentrations, while retaining the existing skin sensitization classification
- Germany submitted a proposal for N-ethyl-N-[2-[1-(2-methylpropoxy)ethoxy]ethyl]-4-(phenylazo)aniline (EC No. 252-021-1, CAS No. 34432-92-3), which currently has no harmonized Annex VI classification, to classify it as Aquatic Acute 1 with an M factor of 10 and Aquatic Chronic 1 with an M factor of 100, reflecting very high toxicity to aquatic life
- Sweden submitted a proposal for silver chloride (EC No. 232-033-3, CAS No. 7783-90-6), which currently has no harmonized Annex VI classification, to include classifications for corrosive effects on metals, skin sensitization, suspected mutagenicity and carcinogenicity, reproductive toxicity, specific target organ toxicity following repeated exposure to the nervous system, and very high aquatic toxicity for both short term and long term exposure

ECHA also launched a public consultation (comments due on 22 June 2026) on a proposal submitted by Austria for the CLH of maleic acid ((2Z) but 2 enedioic acid) (EC No. 203-742-5, CAS No. 110-16-7). The proposal introduces stricter classifications for skin and eye effects and proposes an acute toxicity estimate (ATE) for oral acute toxicity, in addition to the existing classifications.

On 27 April 2026, ECHA opened a public consultation (comments due by 26 June 2026) on a proposal submitted by France to update the CLH of chloroethane (EC No. 200-30-5, CAS No. 75-00-3). This proposal seeks to revise the existing Annex VI classification of chloroethane by introducing additional hazard classes based on updated scientific assessment. Stakeholders are invited to submit comments on the hazard classes open for consultation, specifically reproductive toxicity, and endocrine disruption for both human health and the environment. The current harmonized classification for chloroethane includes flammable gas, pressurized gas, carcinogenicity (Carc. 2), and aquatic chronic toxicity. The proposed update retains these classifications and introduces additional hazard classes, including Repr. 1B (H360FD), endocrine disruptor for human health (ED HH 1, EUH380), and endocrine disruptor for the environment (ED ENV 1, EUH430). Only hazard classes for which sufficient assessment has been provided in the dossier are open for consultation.

ECHA has launched three interconnected public consultations (comments were due on 10 July 2026) on proposals submitted by the Netherlands to update CLH of several cobalt compounds under Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008. The initiatives introduce stricter health hazard classifications for cobalt bis(2-ethylhexanoate) (EC No. 205-250-6, CAS No. 136-52-7), cobalt dihydroxide (EC No. 244-166-4, CAS No. 21041-93-0), cobalt(2+) propionate (EC No. 216-333-1, CAS No.1560-69-6), cobalt(II) 4-oxopent-2-en-2-olate (EC No. 237-855-6, CAS No. 14024-48-7), and cobalt oxide (EC No. 215-154-6, CAS No. 1307-96-6). The proposals aim to update the substances' current entries in Annex VI of the CLP Regulation by introducing Category 1B Carcinogenicity (Carc. 1B, H350) and updating their Reproductive Toxicity classifications to Category 1B (Repr. 1B, H360FD or H360Fd). Additionally, the proposals introduce specific regulatory notes to standardize how these substances are labeled and measured in mixtures. These include:

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- Note A (requiring the official harmonized name on product labels)
- Note 1 (mandating that concentration limits are calculated by the weight of the metallic cobalt element against the total mixture)
- Note 13 (establishing a strict additive rule that triggers a Category 1 reproductive toxicant classification if the total concentration of related metal salts reaches or exceeds 0.3%)

Comments and scientific information relevant to the proposed hazard classifications will be evaluated by ECHA's Committee for Risk Assessment before final opinions are adopted.

Draft initiative to amend and simplify the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (consultation)

On 6 May 2026, the European Commission opened a public feedback period on a draft initiative to amend and simplify the European Sustainability Reporting Standards. Annex I sets out the revised reporting standards and technical simplifications, while Annex II contains an updated glossary. The proposal aims to reduce administrative burden and compliance costs for European Union (EU) companies while maintaining the EU's core sustainability transparency objectives and improving interoperability with global reporting standards.

If adopted, the revised rules would apply from the 2027 financial year, with optional early application from 2026. A key change is a significant reduction in reporting requirements, with mandatory datapoints reduced by 61 percent and greater emphasis placed on quantitative disclosures. The European Commission estimates these changes could lower average reporting costs by 34 percent over five years.

The proposal would also simplify the materiality assessment process by allowing companies to report only information considered material to their business, while omitting immaterial impacts, risks, and opportunities. Additional flexibilities include exemptions for commercially sensitive information, the use of estimates for forward-looking disclosures, and the ability to rely on information obtainable without undue cost or effort.

Draft initiative establishing a sustainability reporting standard aimed at micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (consultation)

On 6 May 2026, the European Commission opened a public feedback period for a draft initiative establishing a sustainability reporting standard for voluntary use. The initiative is aimed at small and medium-sized enterprises (i.e., SMEs) and micro-undertakings that fall outside the scope of mandatory European Union sustainability reporting requirements. The proposal aims to provide these businesses with a simple, standardized framework to report their sustainability impacts, helping them improve their management practices and secure better access to sustainable financing. The initiative also seeks to protect these smaller businesses from the "trickle-down effect" of disproportionate and overlapping information requests from larger corporate partners and banks. It presents two Annexes which contain a full voluntary standard with modules and appendices (Annex I), and a list of disclosures covered by the value chain cap (Annex II).

A central feature of this draft regulation is the introduction of a "value chain cap." If adopted, large companies subject to the CSRD (i.e., Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive) may not require sustainability information from value-chain partners with 1,000 employees or fewer beyond what is included in the voluntary standard. Protected companies also gain a statutory right to refuse information requests that exceed these limits, ensuring they are shielded from disproportionate reporting demands.

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To keep reporting proportionate, the proposed standard is divided into a modular structure: a Basic Module and an optional Comprehensive Module. The Basic Module serves as a minimum requirement and the target approach for micro-undertakings, focusing on fundamental metrics such as energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, waste generation, health and safety, and anti-corruption fines. Companies can also choose to apply the Comprehensive Module to satisfy more detailed data requests from investors or clients. This advanced module covers broader strategies, specific greenhouse gas reduction targets, climate risks, and detailed human rights policies. Only the metrics designated as strictly "necessary" within the standard fall under the value chain cap, and specific exemptions are provided for micro-undertakings with ten or fewer employees.

The current draft remained open for public feedback until 3 June 2026, with formal adoption planned for the second quarter of 2026. Once adopted and entered into force, the standard will be immediately available for smaller companies to use voluntarily. However, the protective value chain cap restricting the data demands of larger corporate partners will officially apply starting from the 2027 financial year.

Draft regulation on batteries and waste batteries to propose list of products exempted from the general removability and replaceability requirements (consultation)

On 28 April 2026, the European Commission published a draft Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 on batteries and waste batteries (comments were due on 26 May 2026). The draft proposes additional derogations from the general requirement that portable batteries incorporated into products must be removable and replaceable by end-users.

Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 requires portable batteries incorporated into products placed on the market to be removable and replaceable by end-users during the lifetime of the product. This requirement is intended to prevent premature obsolescence and increase the collection of waste portable batteries at end-of-life. However, Article 11(2) allows certain products to be designed so that batteries are removable and replaceable only by independent professionals, instead of by end-users.

The draft Delegated Regulation would replace Article 11(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 with an amended list of product categories for which portable batteries may be removable and replaceable only by independent professionals. Product categories of potential relevance include certain wearable electronic devices and products within the scope of Directive 2014/34/EU on equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres. The proposed derogations are linked to considerations such as safety, durability, water resistance, product integrity, and operation in potentially explosive environments.

For the applicable categories, the draft states that the derogations would only apply where required to ensure the safety of the user and the appliance. Once adopted, the regulation will enter into force 20 days after publication in the Official Journal of the European Union. There are no penalties specified in the draft.

Supplement to Regulation (EU) 2025/40 on packaging and packaging waste to introduce targeted exemption for pallet wrapping and straps (consultation)

Regulation (EU) 2025/40 establishes new European Union (EU)wide rules on packaging and packaging waste, including re-use targets for transport packaging formats such as pallet wrappings and pallet straps. On 25 February 2026, the European Commission adopted Delegated Decision (EU) 2026/429 to supplement Regulation (EU) 2025/40 by introducing a targeted exemption for pallet wrappings and straps. The Commission determined that requiring the exclusive use of

reusable versions of these packaging formats would risk disrupting supply chains and impose burdens on companies that would outweigh the environmental benefits.

As a result, the Delegated Decision exempts businesses that use pallet wrappings or straps to stabilize and protect palletized products during transport from the Regulation's 100% reuse requirements. This means these operators are no longer obliged to meet the full reuse obligation for these specific packaging formats.

The decision, which was published in the Official Journal of the EU on 6 May 2026, will enter into force twenty days after its publication, meaning it applies from 26 May 2026. Non-compliance with the primary packaging framework carries penalties determined by Member States, which include administrative fines, product-handling restrictions, and potential supply chain transport halts.

Draft implementing regulations regarding Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism: Carbon priced in a non-EU country (consultation)

The European Commission published a draft implementing regulation with rules for operation of Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). This is under European Union (EU)-wide Regulation 2023/956 that established the CBAM framework introducing carbon price on carbon-intensive goods imported in the EU. Under the initial law, declarants can claim a certificate reduction to avoid double taxation on the same emissions. This draft defines how carbon price paid in a non-EU country can be converted into a reduction in the number of CBAM certificates required. Following a public consultation held in 2025, it standardizes calculations and adds to previously introduced rules.

This regulation lays down detailed rules regarding:

- determination of the carbon price effectively paid for the embedded emissions of each good, and the use of yearly default carbon prices for precursors and indirect emissions
- conversion into euro, at the yearly average exchange rate, of carbon prices expressed in a foreign currency
- calculation of the reduction in the number of CBAM certificates to be surrendered
- evidence required to demonstrate that the carbon price has been effectively paid
- ways in which rebates or other forms of compensation that reduce the carbon price effectively paid are to be considered when determining that carbon price
- qualifications of the independent person referred to in Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/956 who certifies the evidence referred to in Article 7 (the "independent person")
- conditions to ascertain that person's qualifications and independence, their obligations and operational requirements

The certification report is deemed satisfactory or unsatisfactory by an independent person, and from 1 January 2027 it is planned to add this report to the CBAM registry. Misstatements and non-compliance should be corrected by the operator. Comments for the consultation were due on 10 June 2026.

More information on CBAM can be found in Alert 31 from IAEG.

Amendments to Annex I of the European Union Deforestation Regulation (consultation)

The European Commission opened a public feedback period for a draft initiative (comments were due on 1 June 2026) proposing amendments to Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 – the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR). The EUDR establishes mandatory due diligence for operators placing specified commodities and their derived products on

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the EU market, including cocoa, coffee, oil palm, rubber, soya, and wood. The Commission is empowered to update the list of derived products in Annex I. As part of this initiative, the Commission published a draft delegated regulation with an annex listing the exact harmonized system tariff codes, an accompanying staff working document, and a public consultation webpage. The draft delegated regulation proposes the legal text that would enact the changes to the product scope if adopted, while the staff working document presents a quantitative and qualitative cost-benefit analysis, comparing the environmental benefits of reduced deforestation against the recurring administrative compliance costs for companies. Collectively they evaluate thirty-one product codes for potential inclusion or exclusion based on data collected through February 2026.

If adopted, the draft amendments would alter the products subject to mandatory due diligence. Numerous product codes are proposed to be added to the regulation's scope. Companies importing, manufacturing, or trading soluble coffee, soap in the form of bars and flakes, and numerous palm oil derivatives used in the oleochemical industry would be required to comply with the regulation. Conversely, the draft amendments would remove specific products from the scope. Companies dealing in retreaded pneumatic tires would no longer be subject to these specific due diligence obligations, though new rubber treads for tires would remain in scope. Proposals to include biodiesel and animal feed preparations were evaluated but not implemented in the current draft.

The proposed amendments also outline technical fixes and exemptions regarding compliance requirements for commercial operations. The regulation's application would be narrowed to specific biological species. Furthermore, the draft amendments propose exemptions for specific business use cases. Companies would not be required to comply with the regulation for product samples of negligible value used to solicit orders, items undergoing technical analysis or testing, waste products, or second-hand goods. Finally, packaging materials, containers, and marketing materials used exclusively to protect, carry, or accompany another product would be exempt.

More information on the EUDR can be found in Alert 36 from IAEG.

Draft implementing regulation to establish the operational arrangements for the Digital Product Passport Registry (consultation)

The European Commission has published a draft implementing regulation (comments were due by 27 May 2026) under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2024/1781) establishing the operational arrangements for the Digital Product Passport (DPP) registry. This secure platform will store unique identifiers and traceability data for all products mandated to carry a DPP, including batteries.

To interact with the registry, manufacturers, repairers, and recyclers must first become "verified economic operators" via eIDAS-compliant electronic signatures or seals.[1] This status is valid for a maximum of three years, and failure to renew it revokes a company's ability to register passports or upload data. Once verified, businesses must register DPPs at the required model, batch, or item granularity level via a web interface or API.[2] The system automatically validates data completeness and signatures before issuing a unique registration identifier, with downloadable electronic proof of registration available for ninety days.

[1] An eIDAS-compliant electronic signature is a legally recognized digital signature in the EU that meets the standards set by Regulation (EU) No 910/2014, ensuring authenticity, integrity, and legal validity across all Member States.
[2] API stands for Application Programming Interface — a set of rules, protocols, and tools that allows different software systems to communicate with each other.

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Companies retain full legal responsibility for the accuracy, security, and continuous updates of all registry data over the product's lifecycle, even if using authorized third-party agents. Registry data is automatically deleted after ten years unless otherwise mandated by specific EU law. Additionally, the regulation establishes a free, machine-readable semantic repository to ensure interoperability across product groups. To maintain system integrity, the Commission will monitor interactions via logs, provide a helpdesk, and reserve the right to suspend registry access immediately in the event of a cyber-attack or suspected fraud.

Revision of benchmark values for free allocation of greenhouse gas emission allowances (consultation)

The European Commission has opened a consultation (comments due on 8 June 2026) for an initiative aiming to revise the benchmark values governing the free allocation of greenhouse gas emission allowances under the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) for the 2026–2030 period. The initiative will establish updated numerical benchmark values for fifty-four distinct product, heat, and fuel categories, to ensure that future free allocations accurately reflect recent industrial advancements based on the greenhouse gas efficiency of the 10% most efficient installations in 2021 and 2022; the update adjusts the technical "benchmarks" used to calculate free allowances. These benchmarks represent how much pollution the cleanest, most efficient factories produce. By updating them, the European Union ensures that free allowances reflect today's technologies rather than older industry standards. The regulation's Annex divides the fifty-four benchmarks into three distinct tables depending on whether they collect electricity data: product benchmarks without the collection of data on electricity consumption, product benchmarks with the collection of data on electricity consumption, and heat and fuel benchmarks.

The changes also update how electricity use, heat production, and new industrial technologies such as hydrogen made by electrolysis are counted. Some facilities that use very different production methods, like those using direct-reduced iron, are excluded so that the calculations remain fair and comparable.

Key methodological updates include i) the incorporation of intermediary emissions for soda ash, ii) the inclusion of indirect electricity-related emissions for benchmarks previously subject to exchangeability rules, and iii) counting electricity-based heat under heat and fuel benchmarks. Benchmarks are expanded to reflect new technologies, such as water electrolysis hydrogen and alternative sintered ore and cement clinker products.

Restrictions on use and placing on the market of hydrogenated terphenyl as a substance, a constituent of other substances, in mixtures, and in articles (consultation)

The European Union notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of a draft regulation to amend Annex XVII to the REACH Regulation. The amendment restricts the use and placing on the market of hydrogenated terphenyl (PHT; EC No. 262-967-7, CAS No. 61788-32-7). PHT is a very persistent and very bioaccumulative (i.e., vPvB) substance and poses unpredictable, long-term risks to the environment and human health. The regulation aims to minimize emissions and prevent further accumulation of PHT.

PHT has a wide range of uses including:

- heat transfer fluids (HTF) at industrial sites
- thermostats
- plasticizer in the production of articles (e.g., cables, parts of planes & cars, electrical and electronic equipment)
- plasticizer in the production of mixtures (e.g., adhesives, catalysts, encapsulants, inks, paints, and sealants) and in polymer applications
- processing solvent or a laboratory chemical

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The draft regulation expands REACH Annex XVII with the following additions:

- Annex: Adds a new entry detailing the specific restrictions and exemptions for PHT
- Appendix [X] of the Annex: Outlines mandatory technical containment and organizational measures that heat transfer systems must implement to qualify as strictly controlled closed systems.

The amendment prohibits placing PHT on the market and using it under the following conditions:

- as a substance on its own
- as a constituent of other substances, in mixtures, or in articles in concentrations of 0.1% by weight or greater

The regulation includes the following exemptions and deferrals:

- HTF: PHT is permitted as an HTF between 250°C and 350°C at industrial sites – the sites must use a strictly controlled closed system (a.k.a., SCCS), requiring continuous emissions monitoring, leak-tightness, and preventive maintenance.
- Defense: Permanent exemption for all defense applications
- Civilian Aerospace: The restriction is deferred by ten years – civilian aircraft placed on the market before this deadline are permanently exempt
- General Deferral: The restriction is deferred by 18 months for all other uses – mixtures and articles placed on the EU market before this deadline are exempt

Comments must be received by 7 July 2026. The European Commission proposes to adopt the regulation in the fourth quarter of 2026.

United Kingdom

Recommendation to include three substances to Annex XIV of UK REACH (published)

The United Kingdom (UK) Health and Safety Executive, acting as the Agency for UK REACH, has finalized its third recommendation to include three substances in Annex XIV, the list of substances subject to authorization. This follows a public consultation on the draft recommendation published in November 2025. The recommendation has now been submitted to the Appropriate Authorities for a final decision. Annex XIV forms part of the UK REACH framework and includes substances of very high concern that require authorization for continued use. The inclusion in Annex XIV is intended to ensure that such substances are progressively replaced by safer alternatives where technically and economically feasible.

The substances included in this recommendation are:

- 2-ethylhexyl 10-ethyl-4,4-dioctyl-7-oxo-8-oxa-3,5-dithia-4-stannatetradecanoate (DOTE; CAS No. 15571-58-1)
- reaction mass of DOTE and MOTE[3]
- tetraethyllead (TEL; CAS No. 78-00-2)

The following requirements will apply if these substances are added to Annex XIV:

- use and placing on the market of these substances will be prohibited after a specified sunset date unless authorization is granted

[3] 2-ethylhexyl 10-ethyl-4,4-dioctyl-7-oxo-8-oxa-3,5-dithia-4-stannatetradecanoate and 2-ethylhexyl 10-ethyl-4-[[2-[(2-ethylhexyl)oxy]-2-oxoethyl]thio]-4-octyl-7-oxo-8-oxa-3,5-dithia-4-stannatetradecanoat

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- companies wishing to continue use must apply for authorization, demonstrating that risks are adequately controlled or that socio-economic benefits outweigh the risks and no suitable alternatives are available
- authorizations are time-limited and subject to review

There are no penalties associated with this update; however, failure to comply with authorization requirements once implemented may result in enforcement action such as fines.

Survey on Great Britain's Classification, Labeling and Packaging Regulation (consultation)

The United Kingdom (UK) Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is seeking feedback on potential amendments to the Great Britain (GB) Classification, Labeling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation to ensure consistency between Great Britain and Northern Ireland (NI) and support the UK Internal Market. The survey aims to gather operational data from supply chain actors about how incorporating European Union measures into GB CLP may affect businesses and sectors. It is a voluntary survey targeted at manufacturers, importers, downstream users, and distributors in both GB and NI.

The HSE is particularly interested in feedback regarding:

- the EU's six new hazard classes
- refill stations
- digital labelling, including:
  - non-obligatory information
  - replacing telephone numbers with digital contact options

The CLP survey closed on 31 May 2026.

NORTH AMERICA

Canada

Amendments to the Domestic Substances List (in force)

On 9 March 2026, the Department of the Environment, under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA), amended the Domestic Substances List (DSL) through Order 2026-87-20-01 (SOR/2026-43). Under CEPA, substances not listed on the DSL are considered new to Canada and are subject to notification and assessment requirements prior to manufacture or import. The amendment aims to enhance oversight of substances with emerging health or environmental concerns, particularly those used in consumer and cosmetic applications.

The update impacts a total of 223 substances, applying Significant New Activities (SNAc) requirements to fifty-four existing substances and modifying requirements for 161 others across eight SNAc categories. Several substances have been removed or reclassified under new SNAc categories to reflect updated risk assessments. Many substances now have significantly lower reporting thresholds, in some cases reduced to an annual volume of just 10 kilograms or a concentration as low as 0.1% by weight.

Stakeholders must submit a Significant New Activity Notification to the Minister of the Environment at least 90 days before commencing any activity that meets the new thresholds. However, these requirements do not apply if the substance is used solely for research and development, as a site-limited intermediate, or in products manufactured exclusively for export.

The amendment also reorganizes Part 2 of the DSL (Chemicals and Polymers) by splitting it into two divisions: Division 1 for individual substances and Division 2 for groups of substances. A new Schedule 1 details the information required for SNAc notifications.

The amendment was signed on 5 March 2026, registered on 9 March 2026, and published on 25 March 2026. As the amendment is now in force, companies must review product formulations against the updated list to ensure compliance.

On 8 April 2026, Canada published Order 2026-87-03-01 amending the DSL under CEPA by adding four chemicals and polymers to Parts 1 and 3 of the List. Adding these four chemicals indicates they satisfy the statutory safety criteria and no longer require new substance notifications.

The Order amends Part 1 of the DSL by adding the following in numerical order:

- 68439-47-4 N
- 147853-32-5 N

Order 2026-87-03-01 also adds the following masked chemical names with confidential accession numbers to Part 3 of the Domestic Substances List:

- 19637-5 N: phosphorane, pentahalo-, polymer with ammonium halide, P-carbomonocyclicoxy derivs.
- 19813-1 N-P: heteromonocycle, polymer with α-alkenyl-ω-substituted poly(oxy-1,2-ethanediyl), peroxydisulfuric acid ([(HO)S(O)2]2O2) metal salt (1:2)-initiated hydrolyzed, metal salt.

Order 2026-87-03-01 entered into force on 18 March 2026, the day on which it was registered.

Penalties for non-compliance are governed by the Compliance and Enforcement Policy for CEPA, which includes fines and/or imprisonment.

The Watch List Approach outlines the criteria and processes for determining when a substance is added to or removed from the Watch List (published)

The Environment and Climate Change Canada published its Watch List Approach, which outlines the criteria and processes for determining when a substance should be added to or removed from the Watch List. The Watch List itself was created as a new legal requirement under the Strengthening the Environmental Protection for a Healthier Canada Act (S.C. 2023, c. 12), which amended the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA) in June 2023. Section 75.1 of CEPA requires the Minister of the Environment to maintain a list of substances (The Watch List) that the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of Health have reason to suspect can become toxic or have been determined to be capable of becoming toxic. Substances that are already included in Schedule 1 of CEPA (Toxic Substances List) cannot be added to the Watch List. The Watch List does not impose any new regulatory requirements or restrictions on substances and is only intended to increase transparency and signal substances of potential concern. Substances may be proposed for addition to the Watch List through:

- CEPA assessments under Part 5
- reviews of decisions from other jurisdictions
- evaluation of other relevant scientific or commercial information

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A substance may be considered for the Watch List when the Ministers suspect it may become toxic or determine to be capable of becoming toxic. Key considerations include:

- the severity or type of effect
- disproportionately impacted populations
- the physical or chemical properties of the substance
- the function and use of the substance
- the environmental fate of the substance
- the potential for increases or changes in current uses and exposures
- the potential for future uses and exposures

The process includes:

- proposal during publication of a draft assessment, including a public comment period
- publication of the proposed measure and science summary in the Canada Gazette, Part I
- final listing in the CEPA Registry

A substance must be removed from the Watch List if it is added to Schedule 1 (determined to be toxic) and the Ministers no longer suspect it can become toxic.

Although listing does not impose obligations, the government may undertake follow-up actions such as:

- applying Significant New Activity provisions
- conducting environmental monitoring or biomonitoring
- issuing mandatory information-gathering notices under Section 71

There are no penalties associated with this update, as the Watch List does not impose regulatory requirements or restrictions. More information can be found in this overview.

Assessment of bromoethane, chloroethane, trans-1,2-dichloroethene, and 1-bromopropane (consultation)

Canada's Ministers of the Environment and of Health published the final assessment of four substances within the Alkyl Halides Group under the Chemicals Management Plan (CMP) with comments due on 24 June 2026. The assessment concluded that bromoethane (CAS No. 74-96-4), chloroethane (CAS No. 75-00-3), and trans-1,2-dichloroethene (CAS No. 156-60-5) do not constitute a danger to the environment or human health, resulting in no further regulatory action for these three substances. However, the evaluation determined that 1-bromopropane (CAS No. 106-94-5) meets the criteria under Section 64 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA) as a danger to human life or health due to risks of developmental toxicity and neurotoxicity, primarily through inhalation exposure.

Consequently, Health Canada has officially proposed adding 1-bromopropane to Part 2 of Schedule 1 of CEPA and has concurrently released a risk management approach to restrict its use in specific products. The proposed restrictions target commercial and consumer applications where inhalation exposure is highest, specifically:

- silicone mould release spray
- electrical equipment cleaner spray
- automotive air conditioning flush
- textile ink remover spray

A public consultation on this risk management framework is open until 24 June 2026. Affected manufacturers, importers, retailers, and distributors are requested to submit data regarding technical alternatives, as well as relevant socio-economic and technical considerations, before the deadline.

Mexico

Draft standard PROY-NOM-026-ASEA-2026 for substances emitted or transferred by the hydrocarbons sector (consultation)

On 27 April 2026, a public feedback period was opened for the Official Gazette of the Federation for the Draft Mexican Official Standard PROY-NOM-026-ASEA-2026 (can also be found here in Spanish), with comments due by 26 June 2026. The objective of the initiative is to establish the list of substances, reporting thresholds, and technical modification criteria for pollutants emitted or transferred by the hydrocarbons sector. The proposed framework integrates the core draft standard and an appendix outlining the technical criteria for determining the substances that are subject to federal reporting.

The draft standard proposes a specialized reporting framework for companies operating within the hydrocarbons sector, including fixed facilities, large hazardous waste generators, and entities discharging wastewater into national bodies. Rather than offering direct financial benefits or cost savings, the business impact centers on standardized compliance and data tracking obligations. Companies would be required to quantify their emissions, transfers, production, and use of specific pollutants and report this data through an Annual Operating Certificate submitted between 1 March and 30 June each year. The rules would formally apply and enter into force 180 calendar days after the final version is published in the Official Gazette, with no early adoption mechanisms currently outlined.

The draft standard would introduce a defined list of 125 substances subject to federal reporting, comprising eighty-nine previously regulated compounds and thirty-six additional substances associated with the sector. The framework would establish exact reporting thresholds measured in kilograms per year, which would determine the minimum volume that triggers a facility's obligation to report a specific substance. Furthermore, the draft outlines technical criteria for adding or removing substances from this list in the future, relying on defined scientific metrics such as acute and chronic toxicity, teratogenicity, environmental persistence, and bioaccumulation factors.

United States

Modification to the start of the submission period for the PFAS Reporting Rule (published)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a final rule to postpone the start of the reporting period for the "Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Reporting and Recordkeeping Rule" (PFAS Reporting Rule) mandated under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) 8(a)(7). This is intended to give the EPA sufficient time to review submissions to the November 2025 consultation on revisions to this PFAS Reporting Rule and prepare the reporting software.

Under TSCA section 8(a)(7), the EPA must promulgate a PFAS Reporting Rule to require each person who has manufactured (or imported) PFAS between 1 January 2011 and 31 December 2022 to report certain data including:

- the covered common or trade name, chemical identity and molecular structure of each chemical substance or mixture
- categories or proposed categories of use for each substance or mixture

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- total amount of each substance or mixture manufactured or processed, the amounts manufactured or processed for each category of use, and reasonable estimates of the respective proposed amounts
- descriptions of byproducts resulting from the manufacture, processing, use, or disposal of each substance or mixture
- all existing information concerning the environmental and health effects of each substance or mixture
- the number of individuals exposed, and reasonable estimates on the number of individuals who will be exposed, to each substance or mixture in their places of work and the duration of their exposure
- the manner or method of disposal of each substance or mixture, and any change in such manner or method

In November of 2025, a proposal was published to limit the scope of this reporting by adding exemptions that include:

- concentration of PFAS is less than 0.1% w/w
- PFAS imported as part of a finished article
- where PFAS are present as byproducts with no subsequent commercial purpose
- where PFAS are unintentionally present as impurities
- where PFAS are non-isolated intermediates
- small quantities for research and development.

After public comments are reviewed, a final rule will be published, possibly incorporating elements of this proposal.

This is a one-time reporting requirement and must be submitted via the Central Data Exchange (CDX) reporting portal. The data must be reported to the EPA to the extent known to or reasonably ascertainable by them. However, if actual data are not available submitters are permitted to provide reasonable estimates instead. Provisions are made for claims of confidential business information. Records documenting submissions must be kept for five years after the end of the submission period.

The submission period for the PFAS Reporting Rule will begin on 31 January 2027, or 60 days following the effective date of the forthcoming final rule on the substantive requirements of the PFAS Reporting Rule, whichever is earlier. When the submission period begins, manufacturers will have six months to submit their data. For small manufacturers (or importers), if reporting obligations stem exclusively from importing PFAS, this is extended to 12 months.

There are no penalties associated with this update. More information on the reporting requirements can be found in this Fact Sheet from IAEG.

Significant new use rules on two related groups of cobalt lithium manganese nickel oxide, metals-doped Substances (26-2) (consultation)

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a proposed rule (91 FR 22075) to establish significant new use rules (SNURs) under Section 5(a)(2) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) for four chemical substances (comments were originally due on 26 May 2026 but EPA extended the comment period to 10 July 2026). These substances were previously reviewed under premanufacture notices (PMNs) and are currently subject to TSCA Section 5(e) Orders.

The proposal concerns two related groups of substances

- cobalt lithium manganese nickel oxide, metals-doped; PMNs: P-25-73, P-25-152 – proposed CFR: 40 CFR 721.12219
- metal cobalt lithium manganese nickel oxide, metals-doped; PMNs: P-25-137, P-25-151 – proposed CFR: 40 CFR 721.12220

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The SNURs require a person who intends to manufacture, import, or process any of these chemical substances for an activity that is proposed as a significant new use to notify EPA at least 90 days before commencing that activity. This notification, known as a significant new use notice, initiates EPA's evaluation of the conditions of that use for that chemical substance.

Once the evaluation has been concluded, EPA might decide to regulate the use of the substances to ensure human health and the environment are protected. It is only after this final decision has been made that manufacture, import, or processing of the substance for that use can commence, subject to any established conditions.

Draft risk evaluations for 1,3,4,6,7,8-hexahydro-4,6,6,7,8,8-hexamethylcyclopenta [g]-2-benzopyran; phthalic anhydride; o-dichlorobenzene, and p-dichlorobenzene (consultation)

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released draft risk evaluations for 1,3,4,6,7,8-Hexahydro-4,6,6,7,8,8-hexamethylcyclopenta[g]-2-benzopyran (HHCB, commonly known as Galaxolide) and phthalic anhydride, alongside draft hazard assessments for o-dichlorobenzene (oDCB) and p-dichlorobenzene (pDCB), under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). This update initiates public comment periods and independent scientific peer review by the Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC). Under TSCA Section 6, the EPA is required to evaluate high-priority chemicals to determine if they present an unreasonable risk to human health or the environment under their conditions of use, without considering costs or non-risk factors.

These assessments examine four high-priority chemicals: HHCB (CAS No. 1222-05-5; a synthetic musk used as an odor agent in fragrances and cleaners), phthalic anhydride (CAS No. 85-44-9; used to manufacture paints, adhesives, and plastics), and the solvents oDCB (CAS No. 95-50-1) and pDCB (CAS No. 106-46-7). oDCB and pDCB are used in manufacturing and cleaning. The deadline to submit comments for the HHCB and phthalic anhydride in the TSCA dockets was 15 June 2026. Comments on the SACC peer review docket, which encompasses the oDCB and pDCB draft hazard assessments and technical support documents, were due on 29 May 2026.

Update to the Interim guidance on the destruction and disposal of per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (consultation)

On 28 April 2026, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released an updated interim guidance on the destruction and disposal of per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and PFAS containing materials for public comment. The update follows requirements under the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, which directs the EPA to review and update the guidance at least every three years. The guidance reflects the EPA's current understanding of technologies that may be suitable for the destruction, disposal, or containment of PFAS and PFAS containing waste.

The guidance does not establish binding regulatory requirements but provides recommendations intended to reduce potential releases of PFAS to the environment and protect human health. It evaluates three principal large scale management technologies, including underground injection, hazardous waste landfills, and thermal treatment under certain operating conditions. The update also introduces a technology evaluation framework to support the assessment of emerging PFAS destruction technologies and incorporates revised EPA testing methods.

In addition, the guidance identifies key scientific uncertainties, data gaps, and research needs that must be addressed before the EPA can make more definitive recommendations on PFAS destruction and disposal technologies. The document is intended to support decision makers, regulators, waste managers, and affected communities involved in managing PFAS

containing materials and waste streams. The EPA stated that the guidance will continue to be updated annually to reflect developments in PFAS research and treatment technologies.

The comment period for the updated interim guidance is open until 29 June 2026.

Legislators introduce bills to address impact of 6PPD and 6PPD-Q on coho salmon and the environment (consultation)

On 16 April 2026, the United States legislators introduced draft companion bills, H. R. 8357 and S. 4325, in both houses of the U.S. Congress to establish a task force to address the impacts of 6PPD [N-(1,3-Dimethylbutyl)-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine (CAS No. 793-24-8)] and its by-product 6PPD-Q [N-(1,3-Dimethylbutyl)-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine-quinone (CAS No. 2754428-18-5)] on coho salmon and the environment. The chemical 6PPD is widely used in tires as an antiozonant for rubber, but its degradation product, 6PPD-quinone (6PPD-Q), is highly toxic to coho salmon and enters waterways via tire wear particles and storm water runoff.

The bills require the Secretary of Transportation and the EPA Administrator to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to establish the 6PPD Task Force within 60 days of enactment and must submit a report detailing its findings, recommendations, and consulted stakeholders within 180 days of enactment, and annually thereafter. The Task Force must share information on 6PPD impacts, recommend federal funding opportunities for alternatives research, and share best practices for mitigation like street sweeping.

For manufacturers, this update signals federal support and focuses on developing safer 6PPD alternatives, with the legislation mandating that two representatives from both the tire manufacturing industry and tire chemical additive manufacturing industry be appointed to the Task Force.

The bills have been introduced in the Senate and referred to committee. No implementation dates or compliance deadlines are included in the text.

Revisions to the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants regarding ethylene oxide emissions from sterilization facilities (consultation)

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed revisions to the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) addressing ethylene oxide (EtO; CAS No. 75-21-8) emissions from sterilization facilities as part of a residual risk and technology review reconsideration. The proposed revisions follow the EPA's April 2024 Final Rule, which updated the Commercial Sterilization Facilities NESHAP under the Clean Air Act based on a residual risk and technology review. In March 2025, the EPA announced it would reconsider aspects of the 2024 rule and is now proposing amendments that would i) rescind certain risk-based standards, ii) revise requirements for new aeration room vents and compliance demonstrations, and iii) remove a permanent total enclosure requirement. The proposal also includes technical corrections and clarifications to address cross-reference errors, omitted text, and typographical issues identified after publication of the 2024 Final Rule. Comments were due on 15 May 2026.

Bill S.4397 - Sound Science Act of 2026 to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act regarding evaluation and management of risks from existing chemical substances (introduced)

The United States Senate with the primary sponsor US Senator Pete Ricketts introduced a bill S.4397 – Sound Science Act of 2026 – amending the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to change how the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) evaluates and manages risks from existing chemical substances. The main objective of the bill is to ensure that EPA uses sound science and improves coordination with other federal departments when carrying out chemical assessments. TSCA is the primary federal law governing chemical safety, and these amendments adjust several of its core procedures to clarify how testing, risk evaluations, and regulatory decisions should be conducted.

The update would introduce several new requirements:

- testing provisions are revised so that the EPA must use technically feasible methods and focus testing on the intended and known uses of a chemical; the EPA must also use relevant international test guidelines and update its testing strategy list at least every two years
- risk-management provisions are changed so that the EPA must minimize unreasonable risk to the extent reasonably feasible, rather than eliminate it entirely - when selecting regulatory measures, the EPA must consider OSHA workplace standards and choose options that are cost-effective and do not create greater risks
- risk-evaluation requirements are narrowed so that the EPA may consider only hazards and exposures that are more likely than not to result in unreasonable risk; aggregate exposure may be considered only with written justification, and the EPA must consider exposure limits set by other federal departments without assuming noncompliance
- scientific-standards provisions require the EPA to document how its assessments follow TSCA scientific standards and to consult relevant experts when establishing worker-protection measures; peer-review committees must conduct in-person reviews and allow sufficient time for reviewers to complete their work
- judicial review is expanded so that courts may review the scientific assessments underlying the agency's risk evaluations

The bill has been introduced in the Senate and referred to committee. No implementation dates or compliance deadlines are included in the text.

Minnesota extends the PFAS reporting deadline in products (published)

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has extended the deadline for reporting intentionally added per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in products to 15 September 2026 and released version 1.2 of the PFAS Reporting Information System for Manufacturers (PRISM). This administrative update aims to address manufacturers' difficulties in collecting supply chain data and using the PRISM platform by providing additional time and resources, including upgraded reporting guides, virtual office hours, and forthcoming instructional videos, to facilitate compliance with the state's existing PFAS reporting requirements. The scope of this regulation encompasses any manufacturer whose products or components contain intentionally added PFAS and are sold, offered for sale, or distributed in the State of Minnesota. This includes specialized hydraulic fluids, fluoropolymer coatings, fuel system seals, lubricants, high-performance wiring insulation, and avionics assemblies.

The update shifts the initial PFAS reporting deadline from 1 July 2026 to 15 September 2026, and introduces version 1.2 of the PRISM system, which features user interface improvements that do not impact reporting already in progress. Manufacturers unable to meet the new deadline can submit requests for a reporting waiver or a single 90-day extension, which requires detailing circumstances preventing timely reporting, due diligence efforts, and future compliance plans. Waiver applications must specify the affected products, the exact reporting requirements to be waived, and cite publicly

available equivalent data. This update primarily affects manufacturers of PFAS-containing products sold in Minnesota, mandating them to either complete their PRISM data entry or formally request extensions or waivers through the provided MPCA procedures. A flat $800 implementation fee applies per product category reporting submission.

The updated general reporting deadline is 15 September 2026. Forms requesting a reporting extension or a waiver must include applicable fees and be requested no later than 16 August 2026. If a manufacturer is granted the 90-day extension, their final reporting deadline will be 14 December 2026. There are no penalties associated with this extension update.

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