

Decision number: TPE-D-2114313744-53-01/F

Helsinki, 08 January 2016

DECISION ON TESTING PROPOSAL(S) SET OUT IN A REGISTRATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 40(3) OF REGULATION (EC) NO 1907/2006**For benzophenone-3,3':4,4'-tetracarboxylic dianhydride, EC No 219-348-1 (CAS No 2421-28-5), registration number: [REDACTED]****Addressee:** [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 40(1) of the REACH Regulation, ECHA has examined the following testing proposals submitted as part of the registration dossier in accordance with Articles 10(a)(ix) and 12(1)(d) thereof for benzophenone-3,3':4,4'-tetracarboxylic dianhydride, EC No 219-348-1 (CAS No 2421-28-5), submitted by [REDACTED] (Registrant).

- 90-day oral toxicity study (OECD 408), oral route, with additional reproductive parameters;
- Developmental toxicity / teratogenicity study (OECD 414) in rats, oral route.

This decision is based on the registration as submitted with submission number [REDACTED], for the tonnage band of 100 to 1000 tonnes per year. This decision does not take into account any updates after 21 September 2015, i.e. 30 calendar days after the end of the commenting period.

This decision does not imply that the information provided by the Registrant in his registration dossier is in compliance with the REACH requirements. The decision does not prevent ECHA from initiating a compliance check on the registration at a later stage.

ECHA received the registration dossier containing the above-mentioned testing proposals for further examination pursuant to Article 40(1) on 24 May 2013.

ECHA held a third party consultation for the testing proposals from 14 August 2014 until 28 September 2014. ECHA did not receive information from third parties.

ECHA notified you of the draft decision on 15 July 2015 and invited you to provide comments.

You did not comment on the draft decision by 21 August 2015.

On 29 October 2015, ECHA notified the competent authorities of the Member States of its draft decision and invited them to propose amendments to the draft decision under Article 51 of the REACH Regulation.

As no amendments were proposed, ECHA took the decision pursuant to Article 51(3) of the REACH Regulation.

II. Testing required

A. Tests required pursuant to Article 40(3)

The Registrant shall carry out the following proposed tests pursuant to Article 40(3)(a) and 13(4) of the REACH Regulation using the indicated test methods and the registered substance subject to the present decision:

1. Sub-chronic toxicity study (90-day), oral route (Annex IX, Section 8.6.2.; test method: EU B.26/OECD 408) in rats. It is at the Registrant's discretion to perform the intended additional examinations during the testing program.;
2. Pre-natal developmental toxicity study (Annex IX, Section 8.7.2.; test method: EU B.31/OECD 414) in rats or rabbits, oral route.

Note for consideration by the Registrant:

The Registrant may adapt the testing requested above according to the specific rules outlined in Annexes VI to X and/or according to the general rules contained in Annex XI of the REACH Regulation. In order to ensure compliance with the respective information requirement, any such adaptation will need to have a scientific justification, referring to and conforming with the appropriate rules in the respective Annex, and an adequate and reliable documentation.

Failure to comply with the request(s) in this decision, or to fulfil otherwise the information requirement(s) with a valid and documented adaptation, will result in a notification to the Enforcement Authorities of the Member States.

B. Deadline for submitting the required information

Pursuant to Articles 40(4) and 22(2) of the REACH Regulation, the Registrant shall submit to ECHA by **15 January 2018** an update of the registration dossier containing the information required by this decision, including, where relevant, an update of the Chemical Safety Report. [The timeline has been set to allow for sequential testing as appropriate.]

III. Statement of reasons

The decision of ECHA is based on the examination of the testing proposals submitted by the Registrant for the registered substance.

A. Tests required pursuant to Article 40(3)

1. Sub-chronic toxicity study (90-day) (Annex IX, Section 8.6.2.)

a) Examination of the testing proposal

Pursuant to Article 40(3)(a) of the REACH Regulation, ECHA may require the Registrant to carry out the proposed test.

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 information on this endpoint is not available for the registered substance but needs to be present in the technical dossier to meet the information requirements. Consequently there is an information gap and it is necessary to provide information for this endpoint.

The Registrant has submitted a testing proposal for a sub-chronic toxicity study (90 day) via the oral route (EU B.26/OECD 408) to be performed with the registered substance.

ECHA considers that the proposed study via the oral route is appropriate to fulfil the information requirement of Annex IX, Section 8.6.2. of the REACH Regulation because the proposed route is the most appropriate route of administration having regard to the likely route of human exposure due to the following reasons.

Based on of the physico-chemical properties of the substance (solid crystalline powder, low water solubility dust containing particles of inhalable size) and classified as sensitising to skin, irritating to the skin and respiratory tract, and irritating to the eyes, testing by inhalation route also has to be considered. ECHA notes that there is information provided on the uses and human exposure (only industrial use, no uses with spray application, and applied risk management measures) and that the Registrant has addressed in the chemical safety report local respiratory tract effects. Consequently, information on the inhalation route is considered to be less relevant than information obtained by the oral route to further investigate systemic toxicity.

The Registrant did not specify the species to be used for testing. According to the test method EU B.26/OECD 408 the rat is the preferred species. ECHA considers this species as being appropriate and testing should be performed with the rat.

The Registrant proposed to extend the sub-chronic toxicity study (90 day) by including additional examinations of the reproductive organs and tissues, and fertility measures. ECHA notes, that it is at the Registrant's discretion to perform the intended additional examinations during the testing program and use the results to ensure the safe use of the substance. However, the Registrant is reminded that, if the condition of Annex IX, Section 8.7.3., Column 1 is fulfilled, the proposed extension of the study presently requested does not fulfil the standard information requirement in the registration dossier for reproductive toxicity set out in Annex IX, Section 8.7.3.

b) Outcome

Therefore, pursuant to Article 40(3)(a) of the REACH Regulation, the Registrant is requested to carry out the proposed study with the registered substance subject to the present decision: Sub-chronic toxicity study (90-day) in rats, oral route (test method: EU B.26/OECD 408). It is at the Registrant's discretion to perform the intended additional examinations during the testing program.

2. Pre-natal developmental toxicity study (Annex IX, Section 8.7.2.)

a) Examination of the testing proposal

Pursuant to Article 40(3)(a) of the REACH Regulation, ECHA may require the Registrant to carry out the proposed test.

A pre-natal developmental toxicity study for a first species is a standard information requirement as laid down in Annex IX, Section 8.7.2. of the REACH Regulation. The information on this endpoint is not available for the registered substance but needs to be present in the technical dossier to meet the information requirements. Consequently there is an information gap and it is necessary to provide information for this endpoint.

The Registrant has submitted a testing proposal for a pre-natal developmental toxicity study in rats according to EU B.31/OECD 414 to be performed with the registered substance. ECHA considers that the proposed study is appropriate to fulfil the information requirement of Annex IX, Section 8.7.2. of the REACH Regulation.

The Registrant proposed testing in rats. He proposed testing by the oral route. According to the test method EU B.31/OECD 414, the rat is the preferred rodent species, the rabbit the preferred non-rodent species and the test substance is usually administered orally. ECHA considers these default parameters appropriate and testing should be performed by the oral route with the rat or the rabbit as a first species to be used.

b) Outcome

Therefore, pursuant to Article 40(3)(a) of the REACH Regulation, the Registrant is requested to carry out the proposed study with the registered substance subject to the present decision: Pre-natal developmental toxicity study in rats or rabbits, oral route (test method: EU B.31/OECD 414).

IV. Adequate identification of the composition of the tested material

The process of examination of testing proposals set out in Article 40 of the REACH Regulation aims at ensuring that the new studies meet real information needs. Within this context, the Registrant's dossier was sufficient to confirm the identity of the substance to the extent necessary for examination of the testing proposal. The Registrant must note, however, that this information has not been checked for compliance with the substance identity requirements set out in Section 2 of Annex VI of the REACH Regulation.

In addition, it is important to ensure that the particular sample of substance tested in the new studies is appropriate to assess the properties of the registered substance, taking into account any variation in the composition of the technical grade of the substance as actually manufactured. If the registration of the substance covers different grades, the sample used for the new studies must be suitable to assess these.

Finally, there must be adequate information on substance identity for the sample tested and the grade(s) registered to enable the relevance of the studies to be assessed.

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 appeal shall be lodged within three months of receiving notification of this decision. Further information on the appeal procedure can be

found on the ECHA's internet page at <http://www.echa.europa.eu/regulations/appeals>. The notice of appeal will be deemed to be filed only when the appeal fee has been paid.

Authorised¹ by Guilhem De Seze, Head of Unit, Evaluation E1

¹ As this is an electronic document, it is not physically signed. This communication has been approved according to ECHA's internal decision-approval process.