

Decision number: TPE-D-2114292354-46-01/F

Helsinki, 26 February 2015

DECISION ON TESTING PROPOSALS SET OUT IN A REGISTRATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 40(3) OF REGULATION (EC) NO 1907/2006**For 3-ethyloxetane-3-methanol, CAS No 3047-32-3 (EC No 221-254-0),
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 3-ethyloxetane-3-methanol, CAS No 3047-32-3 (EC No 221-254-0), submitted by [REDACTED] (Registrant).

- A 90 day oral repeated dose toxicity study in the rat (OECD Test Guideline 408);
- A pre-natal developmental toxicity study with 3-ethyloxetane-3-methanol in the rat (OECD Test Guideline 414).

This decision is based on the registration dossier 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 30 October 2014, the date upon which ECHA notified its draft decision to the Competent Authorities of the Member States pursuant to Article 51(1) of the REACH Regulation.

This 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 22 January 2013.

ECHA held a third party consultation for the testing proposals from 31 January 2014 until 17 March 2014. ECHA received information from third parties (see section III below).

On 5 August 2014 ECHA sent the draft decision to the Registrant and invited him to provide comments within 30 days of the receipt of the draft decision.

By 11 September 2014 the Registrant did not provide any comments on the draft decision to ECHA.

On 30 October 2014 ECHA notified the Competent Authorities of the Member States of its draft decision and invited them pursuant to Article 51(1) of the REACH Regulation to submit proposals for amendment of the draft decision within 30 days of the receipt of the notification.

As no proposal for amendment was submitted, 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;
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.

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 **6 March 2017** 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.

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 sound 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 requests in this decision, or to fulfil otherwise the information requirements with a valid and documented adaptation, will result in a notification to the Authorities of the Member States for enforcement.

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 and scientific information submitted by third parties.

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) in rats via the oral route (OECD 408) with the following justification: *"A 90 day oral repeated dose toxicity study in the rat (OECD Test Guideline 408) is proposed to characterise the repeated dose toxicity of 3-ethyloxetane-3-methanol"*.

ECHA considers that the proposed study is appropriate to fulfil the information requirement of Annex IX, Section 8.6.2. of the REACH Regulation.

The Registrant proposed testing by the oral route. In light of the physico-chemical properties of the substance and the information provided on the uses and human exposure, ECHA considers that testing by the oral route is most appropriate.

The Registrant proposed testing in rats. 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.

b) Consideration of the information received during third party consultation

ECHA has received third party information concerning the testing proposal during the third party consultation.

A third party has indicated that "the available data indicate that the registered substance meets the criteria of a 'low toxicity profile'. The proposed 90-day repeated dose toxicity study is therefore not expected to provide additional significant information and may be waived in a weight-of-evidence approach."

ECHA acknowledges that the third party has proposed weight of evidence approach for the Registrant to consider.

ECHA notes that it is the Registrant's responsibility to consider and justify any adaptation of the information requirements in accordance with the relevant conditions as established in Annex XI, Section 1.2. Therefore the Registrant should assess whether he can justify weight of evidence as suggested by the third party. If the adaptation can be justified, he should include the adaptation argument with all necessary documentation in the registration dossier. Such update can only be taken into consideration in the decision-making if it is submitted before the draft decision is sent to the Member State Competent Authorities pursuant to Article 51(1) of the REACH Regulation.

However, ECHA notes that the information provided by the third party is insufficient for demonstrating that the conditions of Annex XI, Section 1.2. of the REACH Regulation are met.

ECHA observes that the third party has proposed a weight of evidence approach based on a database search. The third party claims that this general weight of evidence approach can be used to predict the sub-chronic toxic properties of a substance based on observed "low toxicity" in a sub-acute (short-term repeated dose) toxicity study if the substance fulfils certain other criteria described as a "low toxicity profile". However, ECHA notes that this predictive weight of evidence approach has shortcomings that prevent its application. First of all, ECHA notes that a weight of evidence approach requires substance-specific justification and cannot be addressed with a generic weight of evidence approach which e.g. does not explain whether it is applicable to the registered substance. Secondly, the proposed approach has a limited predictive power. It is based on eighteen substances with a "low toxicity profile". Out of these eighteen substances, the prediction was incorrect for two substances. Thirdly, ECHA notes that the proposed general weight of evidence approach that a substance will not have an effect in a sub-chronic toxicity study based on results of a sub-acute toxicity study is not appropriate for the following reasons. The study design of sub-acute toxicity studies and sub-chronic toxicity studies differ in relevant key parameters, which affect the uncertainty and relevance of the information obtained from these studies. For example, the reduced number of animals used in a sub-acute toxicity study (5 animals per sex and dose) compared to the sub-chronic toxicity study (10 animals per sex and dose) results in a lower statistical power of the sub-acute toxicity study to detect effects. Similarly, the duration of exposure in a sub-chronic toxicity study (90 days) covers a prolonged period of the animals' lifespan as compared to the sub-acute toxicity study (28 days). As a consequence of these differences in the study protocols, a sub-chronic toxicity study (90-day) may detect effects which were not observed in a sub-acute toxicity study (28 days). Therefore, the information provided by the third party is not sufficient to adapt the standard information requirement.

c) 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).

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 OECD 414 with the following justification: "*A pre-natal developmental toxicity study with 3-ethyloxetane-3-methanol in the rat (OECD Test Guideline 414) is proposed in order to evaluate the developmental hazard potential of the 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 did not specify the route for testing. 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.



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