

Helsinki, 20 June 2023

Addressees

Registrants of JS_phthalicanhydrid as listed in Appendix 3 of this decision

Date of submission of the dossier subject to this decision

19/10/2021

Registered substance subject to this decision ("the Substance")

Substance name: Phthalic anhydride

EC/List number: 201-607-5

Decision number: Please refer to the REACH-IT message which delivered this communication (in format TPE-D-XXXXXXXXXX-XX-XX/F)

DECISION ON TESTING PROPOSAL(S)

Based on Article 40 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH), you must submit the information listed below by **30 March 2027**.

Requested information must be generated using the Substance unless otherwise specified.

Information required from all the Registrants subject to Annex IX of REACH

1. Pre-natal developmental toxicity study (Annex IX, Section 8.7.2.; test method: OECD TG 414) by oral route, in one species (rat)

Information required from all the Registrants subject to Annex X of REACH

2. Extended one-generation reproductive toxicity study (Annex X, Section 8.7.3.; test method: EU B.56./OECD TG 443) by oral route, in rats, specified as follows:
 - Ten weeks pre-mating exposure duration for the parental (P0) generation;
 - The highest dose level in P0 animals must be determined based on clear evidence of an adverse effect on sexual function and fertility without severe suffering or deaths in P0 animals as specified further in Appendix 1, or follow the limit dose concept. The reporting of the study must provide the justification for the setting of the dose levels;
 - Cohort 1A (Reproductive toxicity); and
 - Cohort 1B (Reproductive toxicity) without extension to mate the Cohort 1B animals to produce the F2 generation.

You must report the study performed according to the above specifications. Any expansion of the study must be scientifically justified.

3. Pre-natal developmental toxicity study (Annex X, Section 8.7.2.; test method: OECD TG 414) by oral route, in a second species (rabbit)

The reasons for the decision(s) are explained in Appendix 1.

Information required depends on your tonnage band

You must provide the information listed above for all REACH Annexes applicable to you in accordance with Articles 10(a) and 12(1) of REACH. The addressees of the decision and their corresponding information requirements based on registered tonnage band are listed in Appendix 3.

You are only required to share the costs of information that you must submit to fulfil your information requirements.

How to comply with your information requirements

To comply with your information requirements, you must submit the information requested by this decision in an updated registration dossier by the deadline indicated above. You must also **update the chemical safety report, where** relevant, including any changes to classification and labelling, based on the newly generated information.

You must follow the general requirements for testing and reporting new tests under REACH, see Appendix 4.

Appeal

This decision, when adopted under Article 51 of REACH, may be appealed to the Board of Appeal of ECHA within three months of its notification to you. Please refer to <http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/appeals> for further information.

Failure to comply

If you do not comply with the information required by this decision by the deadline indicated above, ECHA will notify the enforcement authorities of your Member State.

Authorised¹ under the authority of Mike Rasenberg, Director of Hazard Assessment

Appendix 1: Reasons for the decision

Appendix 2: Procedure

Appendix 3: Addressees of the decision and their individual information requirements

Appendix 4: Conducting and reporting new tests under REACH

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.

Appendix 1: Reasons for the decision

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Reasons for the decision(s) related to the information under Annex IX of REACH**1. Pre-natal developmental toxicity study**

1 A pre-natal developmental toxicity (PNDT) study (OECD TG 414) in one species is an information requirement under Annex IX to REACH (Section 8.7.2.).

2 Under Article 40(3)(c) of REACH, ECHA may require a registrant to carry out one or more additional tests in case of non-compliance of the testing proposal with Annexes IX, X or XI of the REACH Regulation. The endpoint for pre-natal developmental toxicity at Annex X includes studies in two species but you have submitted a testing proposal for one species only. In case of data gap for the first species, it is necessary to request a pre-natal developmental study in a first species as an additional test to ensure compliance with the endpoint.

1.1. Information provided to fulfil the information requirement

3 You have adapted this information requirement by using Annex XI, Section 1.5. (Grouping of substances and read-across approach) based on experimental data from the following substances:

- (i) a pre-natal developmental toxicity study (1997) with the source substance phthalic acid (EC no. 201-873-2)

4 You provide a read-across justification document in IUCLID Section 13.

5 You provide the following reasoning for the prediction of this information requirement: "Phthalic anhydride hydrolyses rapidly in the presence of water forming phthalic acid. The kinetic of the hydrolysis of phthalic anhydride was studied to be 30.5 seconds at pH 7.24 and 25 °C, 52.5 seconds at pH 6.8 and 75 (66.6 to 79.5) seconds at pH 0 to 6 and 25°C".

6 ECHA understands that you predict the properties of the Substance using a read-across hypothesis which is based on the formation of common (bio)transformation products. The properties of your Substance are predicted to be quantitatively equal to those of the source substance.

1.2. Assessment of the information provided

7 We have assessed this information and identified the following issue:

1.2.1. Read-across adaptation rejected

8 Annex XI, Section 1.5. specifies two conditions which must be fulfilled whenever a read-across approach is used. Firstly, there needs to be structural similarity between substances which results in a likelihood that the substances have similar physicochemical, toxicological and ecotoxicological properties so that the substances may be considered as a group or category. Secondly, it is required that the relevant properties of a substance within the group may be predicted from data for reference substance(s) within the group.

9 Additional information on what is necessary when justifying a read-across approach can be found in the Guidance on IRs and CSA, Chapter R.6. and related documents (RAAF, 2017; RAAF UVCB, 2017).

10 We have identified the following issue with the prediction of toxicological properties:

1.2.1.1. Inadequate or unreliable study on the source substance

- 11 Under Annex XI, Section 1.5., the results to be read across must have an adequate and reliable coverage of the key parameters addressed in the test guideline for the corresponding study that shall be normally performed for a particular information requirement, in this case OECD TG 414. Therefore, the following specifications must be met:
- a) at least 20 female animals with implantation sites for each test and control group are included
 - b) the exposure duration is at least from implantation until one day prior to scheduled caesarean section
- 12 In study (i) is described as a pre-natal developmental toxicity study:
- a) only 11 females were included in each test and control group
 - b) the exposure duration was from day 7 through day 16 of pregnancy and the dams were sacrificed on day 20
- 13 Therefore, you have not demonstrated adequate and reliable coverage of the key parameters of OECD TG 414.
- 14 As explained above, you have not established that relevant properties of the Substance can be predicted from data on the source substance(s). Therefore, your read-across approach under Annex XI, Section 1.5. is rejected and the information requirement is not fulfilled.
- 15 ECHA concludes that there is a data gap for this information requirement.
- 16 In your comment to the draft decision, you agree to perform the study. ECHA notes that you provide additional information on your strategy to set the dose levels. As indicated in your comments, this strategy relies essentially on data which is yet to be generated, therefore no conclusion on the compliance can currently be made. You remain responsible for complying with this decision by the set deadline.
- 1.3. *Specification of the study design*
- 17 Under the OECD TG 414, the rat or the rabbit are the preferred species (Guidance on IRs & CSA, Section R.7.6.2.3.2.). You have submitted a testing proposal for a PNDDT according to OECD TG 414 in rabbit as second species. Therefore, a PNDDT study according to the OECD TG 414 must be performed in rat as the first species.
- 18 The oral route of administration is the most appropriate to investigate reproductive toxicity (Guidance on IRs & CSA, Section R.7.6.2.3.2.). Therefore, the study must be conducted using the oral route.
- 1.4. *Outcome*
- 19 Under Article 40(3) (c) of REACH, you are requested to carry out the additional test with the Substance, as specified above.

Reasons for the decision(s) related to the information under Annex X of REACH**2. Extended one-generation reproductive toxicity study**

20 The basic test design of an extended one-generation reproductive toxicity study (EOGRTS) is a standard information requirement under Annex X to REACH. Furthermore, column 2 of Section 8.7.3. defines when the study design needs to be expanded.

2.1. Information provided to fulfil the information requirement

21 You have submitted a testing proposal for an EOGRTS according to OECD TG 443 with the Substance.

22 ECHA requested your considerations for alternative methods to fulfil the information requirement for Toxicity to reproduction. You provided your considerations concluding that there were no alternative methods which could be used to adapt the information requirement(s) for which testing is proposed. ECHA has taken these considerations into account.

23 ECHA agrees that an EOGRTS is necessary.

24 In your comments to the draft decision, you agree to perform the requested study.

*2.2. Specification of the study design**2.2.1. Species and route selection*

25 You proposed testing in the rat. ECHA agrees with your proposal because the rat is the species preferred by OECD TG 443.

26 You proposed testing by oral route. ECHA agrees with your proposal.

2.2.2. Pre-mating exposure duration

27 The length of the pre-mating exposure period must be ten weeks to cover the full spermatogenesis and folliculogenesis before the mating, allowing meaningful assessment of the effects on fertility.

28 You proposed ten weeks pre-mating exposure duration. ECHA agrees with your proposal.

29 Ten weeks pre-mating exposure duration is required to obtain results adequate for classification and labelling and/or risk assessment. There is no substance specific information in the dossier supporting shorter pre-mating exposure duration (Guidance on IRs & CSA, Appendix R.7.6-3).

2.2.3. Dose-level setting

30 The aim of the requested test must be to demonstrate whether the classification criteria of the most severe hazard category for sexual function and fertility (Repr. 1B; H360F) and developmental toxicity (Repr. 1B; H360D) under the CLP Regulation apply for the Substance (OECD TG 443, para. 22; OECD GD 151, para. 28; Annex I Section 1.0.1. of REACH and Recital 7, Regulation 2015/282), and whether the Substance meets the criteria for a Substance of very high concern regarding endocrine disruption according to Art.57(f) of REACH as well as supporting the identification of appropriate risk management measures in the chemical safety assessment.

- 31 To investigate the properties of the Substance for these purposes, the highest dose level must be set on the basis of clear evidence of an adverse effect on sexual function and fertility, but no deaths (i.e., no more than 10% mortality; Section 3.7.2.4.4 of Annex I to the CLP Regulation) or severe suffering such as persistent pain and distress (OECD GD 19, para. 18) in the P0 animals.
- 32 In case there are no clear evidence of an adverse effect on sexual function and fertility, the limit dose of at least 1000 mg/kg bw/day or the highest possible dose level not causing severe suffering or deaths in P0 must be used as the highest dose level. A descending sequence of dose levels should be selected to demonstrate any dose-related effect and aiming to establish the lowest dose level as a NOAEL.
- 33 In summary: Unless limited by the physical/chemical nature of the Substance, the highest dose level in P0 animals must be as follows:
- (1) in case of clear evidence of an adverse effect on sexual function and fertility without severe suffering or deaths in P0 animals, the highest dose level in P0 animals must be determined based on such clear evidence, or
 - (2) in the absence of such clear evidence, the highest dose level in P0 animals must be set to be the highest possible dose not causing severe suffering or death, or
 - (3) if there is such clear evidence but the highest dose level set on that basis would cause severe suffering or death, the highest dose level in P0 animals must be set to be the highest possible dose not causing severe suffering or death, or
 - (4) the highest dose level in P0 animals must follow the limit dose concept.
- 34 You have to provide a justification with your study results demonstrating that the dose level selection meets the conditions described above.
- 35 Numerical results (i.e. incidences and magnitudes) and description of the severity of effects at all dose levels from the dose range-finding study/ies must be reported to facilitate the assessment of the dose level section and interpretation of the results of the main study.

2.2.4. Cohorts 1A and 1B

- 36 Cohorts 1A and 1B belong to the basic study design and must be included.
- Histopathological investigations in Cohorts 1A and 1B
- 37 In addition to histopathological investigations of cohorts 1A, organs and tissues of Cohort 1B animals processed to block stage, including those of identified target organs, must be subjected to histopathological investigations (according to OECD TG 443, para. 67 and 72) if
- the results from Cohort 1A are equivocal,
 - the test substance is a suspected reproductive toxicant or
 - the test substance is a suspected endocrine toxicant.

Splenic lymphocyte subpopulation analysis

- 38 Splenic lymphocyte subpopulation analysis must be conducted in Cohort 1A (OECD TG 443, para. 66; OECD GD 151, Annex Table 1.3).

Investigations of sexual maturation

- 39 To improve the ability to detect rare or low-incidence effects, all F1 animals must be maintained until sexual maturation to ensure that sufficient animals (3/sex/litter/dose) are available for evaluation of balano-preputial separation or vaginal patency (OECD GD 151, para. 12 in conjunction with OECD TG 443, para. 47). For statistical analyses, data on

sexual maturation from all evaluated animals/sex/dose must be combined to maximise the statistical power of the study.

2.3. *Outcome*

40 Your testing proposal is accepted under Article 40(3)(a) and you are requested to conduct the test, as specified above.

2.4. *Further expansion of the study design*

41 The conditions to include the extension of Cohort 1B are currently not met. Furthermore, no triggers for the inclusion of Cohorts 2A and 2B (developmental neurotoxicity) and Cohort 3 (developmental immunotoxicity) were identified. However, you may expand the study by including the extension of Cohort 1B, Cohorts 2A and 2B and/or Cohort 3 if relevant information becomes available from other studies or during conduct of this study. Inclusion is justified if the available information meets the criteria and conditions which are described in Column 2, Section 8.7.3., Annex IX/X. You may also expand the study due to other scientific reasons in order to avoid a conduct of a new study. The study design, including any added expansions, must be fully justified and documented. Further detailed guidance on study design and triggers is provided in Guidance on IRs & CSA, Section R.7.6.

3. Pre-natal developmental toxicity study in a second species

42 A pre-natal developmental toxicity (PNDT) study (OECD TG 414) in two species is a standard information requirement under Annex X, Section 8.7.2. to REACH.

3.1. *Information provided to fulfil the information requirement*

43 As explained under section 1, your dossier contains a PNDT study in a first species which is rejected.

44 You have submitted a testing proposal for a PNDT study in a second species according to the OECD TG 414 by the oral route with the Substance.

45 ECHA requested your considerations for alternative methods to fulfil the information requirement for Developmental toxicity. You provided your considerations concluding that there were no alternative methods which could be used to adapt the information requirement(s) for which testing is proposed. ECHA has taken these considerations into account.

46 ECHA agrees that a PNDT study in a second species is necessary.

47 In your comment to the draft decision, you agree to perform the requested study.

3.2. *Specification of the study design*

48 You proposed testing in the rabbit as a second species.

49 You proposed testing by the oral route. ECHA agrees with your proposal because this route of administration is the most appropriate to investigate reproductive toxicity (ECHA Guidance R.7a, Section R.7.6.2.3.2.).

3.3. *Outcome*

- 50 Your testing proposal is accepted under Article 40(3)(a) and you are requested to conduct the test, as specified above.

References

The following documents may have been cited in the decision.

Guidance on information requirements and chemical safety assessment (Guidance on IRs & CSA)

- Chapter R.4 Evaluation of available information; ECHA (2011).
- Chapter R.6 QSARs, read-across and grouping; ECHA (2008).
Appendix to Chapter R.6 for nanoforms; ECHA (2019).
- Chapter R.7a Endpoint specific guidance, Sections R.7.1 – R.7.7; ECHA (2017).
Appendix to Chapter R.7a for nanomaterials; ECHA (2017).
- Chapter R.7b Endpoint specific guidance, Sections R.7.8 – R.7.9; ECHA (2017).
Appendix to Chapter R.7b for nanomaterials; ECHA (2017).
- Chapter R.7c Endpoint specific guidance, Sections R.7.10 – R.7.13; (ECHA 2017).
Appendix to Chapter R.7a for nanomaterials; ECHA (2017).
Appendix R.7.13-2 Environmental risk assessment for metals and metal compounds; ECHA (2008).
- Chapter R.11 PBT/vPvB assessment; ECHA (2017).
- Chapter R.16 Environmental exposure assessment; ECHA (2016).

Guidance on data-sharing; ECHA (2017).

All Guidance on REACH is available online: <https://echa.europa.eu/guidance-documents/guidance-on-reach>

Read-across assessment framework (RAAF)

- RAAF, 2017 Read-across assessment framework (RAAF), ECHA (2017)
- RAAF UVCB, 2017 Read-across assessment framework (RAAF) – considerations on multi- constituent substances and UVCBs), ECHA (2017).

The RAAF and related documents are available online:

<https://echa.europa.eu/support/registration/how-to-avoid-unnecessary-testing-on-animals/grouping-of-substances-and-read-across>

OECD Guidance documents (OECD GDs)

- OECD GD 23 Guidance document on aquatic toxicity testing of difficult substances and mixtures; No. 23 in the OECD series on testing and assessment, OECD (2019).
- OECD GD 29 Guidance document on transformation/dissolution of metals and metal compounds in aqueous media; No. 29 in the OECD series on testing and assessment, OECD (2002).
- OECD GD 150 Revised guidance document 150 on standardised test guidelines for evaluating chemicals for endocrine disruption; No. 150 in the OECD series on testing and assessment, OECD (2018).
- OECD GD 151 Guidance document supporting OECD test guideline 443 on the extended one-generation reproductive toxicity test; No. 151 in the OECD series on testing and assessment, OECD (2013).

Appendix 2: Procedure

ECHA started the testing proposal evaluation in accordance with Article 40(1) on 22 February 2021.

ECHA held a third party consultation for the testing proposal(s) from 18 March 2021 until 3 May 2021. ECHA did not receive information from third parties.

ECHA followed the procedure detailed in Articles 50 and 51 of REACH.

The deadline of the decision is set based on standard practice for carrying out OECD TG tests. It has been exceptionally extended by 12 months from the standard deadline granted by ECHA to take into account currently longer lead times in contract research organisations.

ECHA notified you of the draft decision and invited you to provide comments.

ECHA took into account your comments and did not amend the requests.

ECHA notified the draft decision to the competent authorities of the Member States for proposals for amendment.

As no amendments were proposed, ECHA adopted the decision under Article 51(3) of REACH.

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Where applicable, the name of a third party representative (TPR) may be displayed in the list of recipients whereas ECHA will send the decision to the actual registrant.

Appendix 4: Conducting and reporting new tests for REACH purposes

1. Requirements when conducting and reporting new tests for REACH purposes

1.1. Test methods, GLP requirements and reporting

- (1) Under Article 13(3) of REACH, all new data generated as a result of this decision must be conducted according to the test methods laid down in a European Commission Regulation or to international test methods recognised by the Commission or ECHA as being appropriate.
- (2) Under Article 13(4) of REACH, ecotoxicological and toxicological tests and analyses must be carried out according to the GLP principles (Directive 2004/10/EC) or other international standards recognised by the Commission or ECHA.
- (3) Under Article 10(a)(vi) and (vii) of REACH, all new data generated as a result of this decision must be reported as study summaries, or as robust study summaries, if required under Annex I of REACH. See ECHA Practical Guide on How to report robust study summaries².
- (4) Under the introductory part of Annexes VII/VIII/IX/X to REACH, where a test method offers flexibility in the study design, for example in relation to the choice of dose levels or concentrations, the chosen study design must ensure that the data generated are adequate for hazard identification and risk assessment.

1.2. Test material

Before generating new data, you must agree within the joint submission on the chemical composition of the material to be tested (Test Material) which must be relevant for all the registrants of the Substance.

- (1) Selection of the Test material(s)
The Test Material used to generate the new data must be selected taking into account the following:
 - the variation in compositions reported by all members of the joint submission,
 - the boundary composition(s) of the Substance,
 - the impact of each constituent/ impurity on the test results for the endpoint to be assessed. For example, if a constituent/ impurity of the Substance is known to have an impact on (eco)toxicity, the selected Test Material must contain that constituent/ impurity.
- (2) Information on the Test Material needed in the updated dossier
 - You must report the composition of the Test Material selected for each study, under the "Test material information" section, for each respective endpoint study record in IUCLID.
 - The reported composition must include all constituents of each Test Material and their concentration values and other parameters relevant for the property to be tested.

This information is needed to assess whether the Test Material is relevant for the Substance and whether it is suitable for use by all members of the joint submission.

Technical instructions on how to report the above is available in the manual on How to prepare registration and PPORD dossiers³.

² <https://echa.europa.eu/practical-guides>

³ <https://echa.europa.eu/manuals>