



California Green Chemistry Initiative:

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED POLICY ACTIONS

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For more information please visit: dtsc.ca.gov/GreenChemistry



The following six recommended actions comprise a new Green Chemistry policy framework for California. Implementation of these recommendations will reduce risk to public health and the environment and move the state toward a clean, green, sustainable economy by minimizing toxics in products, increasing information on chemicals in products and creating new technologies and new markets.

1. Expand Pollution Prevention

- Expand pollution prevention and product stewardship programs to more business sectors
- Broaden technical assistance programs beyond hazardous and solid waste reduction by adding green chemistry and engineering lifecycle approaches
- Create incentive programs to assist California businesses that adopt green chemistry and engineering practices

2. Develop Green Chemistry Workforce Education and Training, Research and Development and Technology Transfer

- Incorporate green chemistry and green engineering principles in California's public education and the existing Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) program
- Enhance scientific curricula in green chemistry, engineering, and materials sciences at California's universities and colleges
- Develop postsecondary and career technical training programs for lab technicians for new clean industries and the materials sciences industries
- Foster research and development in new green materials and technologies
- Encourage establishment of green chemistry technology transfer centers ("R&D Incubators") for rapid commercialization
- Create programs to increase global market opportunities for California green businesses
- Create high-skill, high-wage green worker jobs for Californians

3. Create an Online Product Ingredient Network

- Require consumer friendly online disclosure of chemical ingredients for products sold in California, while protecting trade secrets
- Create low-cost and easily-accessible online web portal for product ingredients

4. Create an Online Toxics Clearinghouse

- Establish an online clearinghouse for chemical toxicity and hazards
- Appoint a Green Ribbon Science Panel to help prioritize chemicals of concern and data needs
- Enter into data-sharing agreements with other countries and states to link scientific studies worldwide and avoid costly duplication of effort

5. Accelerate the Quest for Safer Products

- Create a systematic, science-based process to evaluate chemicals of concern and alternatives to ensure product safety
- Task the Environmental Policy Council with oversight to ensure multimedia (air, land, water) concerns are addressed
- Pursue consistency in enforcement statutes governing toxics in products

6. Move Toward a Cradle-to-Cradle Economy

- Set a voluntary goal to achieve "Cradle-to-Cradle" economy by 2050
- Establish a California Green Products Registry to develop green metrics and tools (e.g. environmental footprint calculators, sustainability indexes) for a range of consumer products and encourage their use by businesses
- Direct state agencies to lead by example in the purchase of sustainable products