



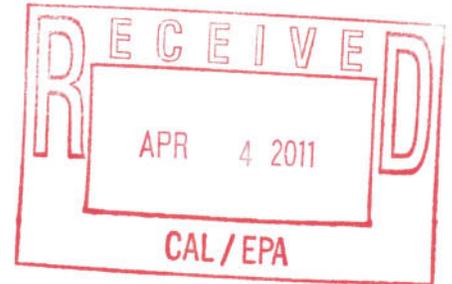
Assembly  
California Legislature

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON  
ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AND TOXIC MATERIALS

BOB WIECKOWSKI, CHAIR  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTIETH DISTRICT

March 31, 2011

Linda Adams, Secretary for Environmental Protection  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814



Dear Secretary Adams:

Thank you for your recent testimony on the Green Chemistry program presented before the Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials and Health Committees. We greatly appreciate your participation in and leadership on the California Green Chemistry program, which is intended to implement AB 1897 and SB 509 from the 2008 California Legislative Session.

The failure to complete the regulations by January 1, 2011, to commence California's Green Chemistry program, as directed by AB 1879, is an issue of great magnitude to the California Legislature. The discussions during the Committee hearing reaffirmed the Assembly's interest that Cal/EPA take action in a timely manner to ensure the successful implementation of AB 1897 and SB 509. Specifically, we recommend that Cal/EPA take the following actions:

1. More meaningfully engage the scientific community through the Green Ribbon Science Panel so that scientists play a more direct and influential role in developing the Green Chemistry program and regulations.
2. More directly engage stakeholders in the program's regulatory development, including incorporating stakeholder recommendations in specific regulatory language.
3. Rely upon the well-established baselines of recognized hazardous chemicals. Cal/EPA should create an initial list of chemicals of concern using established lists of well-studied chemicals. There are currently about 3,000 such chemicals widely recognized by authoritative bodies around the world. The database should at least reflect the scope of the PLuM (the Public Library of Materials) database. These substances are listed by authoritative bodies around the world; there should be no disagreement about listing them in California.

4. Require that manufactures provide information on products that contain one or more chemicals of concern, and ensure that the market has access to this information. This will require a data call-in or data reporting requirement for companies as a condition of selling products in California.
5. Put in place a set of regulatory actions that address the most hazardous products first and that expeditiously advance safer alternatives in the marketplace. In doing this, DTSC should develop standard methods for conducting alternatives assessments and make those methods available to the market. Recognized international standards, such as those found the European Union's Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) regulations, will allow for timely regulatory action.
6. Immediately approve OEHHA's proposed regulations that implement the mandate of SB 509, as codified in H&S Code 25256.1. No delay in action is warranted on these pending regulations.

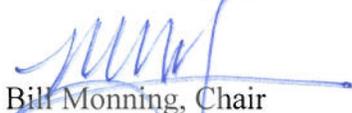
The broad mandate of the statute anticipated that the Legislature would have an oversight responsibly for the Green Chemistry program. As such, in order to keep the Legislature informed on the Administration's progress toward a new set of regulations, Cal/EPA should be prepared to brief the Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee on April 5, 2011.

Thank you again for your testimony and for your attention to the ongoing policy development of the program to reduce the use of toxic chemicals in consumer products.

Sincerely,



Bob Wieckowski, Chair  
Assembly Environmental Safety and  
Toxic Materials Committee



Bill Monning, Chair  
Assembly Health Committee



Wesley Chesbro, Chair  
Assembly Natural Resources Committee



Mike Feuer, Chair  
Assembly Judiciary Committee