

Safer Products and Workplaces Program Safer Consumer Products - Alternative Analysis

The Alternative Analysis (AA) team's primary mission is to meet the Safer Consumer Product Regulation's requirement that DTSC prepare guidance materials to assist persons in performing AAs to be in compliance with the regulations. The team aims to support businesses by developing core competencies in AAs and develop and expand the community of practice. As the program matures, the team will regularly update the guide; work with the community of practice; be engaged with companies conducting AAs; and review submitted AA Reports to determine compliance.

Goals:

- Create a guidance document that can assist stakeholders in their preparation of AAs and increase their awareness of compliance requirements.
- Develop tools that support AAs.
- Assist businesses in complying with the AA requirements of the regulations.
- Determine compliance of submitted AA Reports.
- Recommend appropriate regulatory responses for Priority Products or alternatives selected based on completed AAs.
- Expand the alternatives assessment community of practice.

Background: Objective 3.1 of DTSC's 2014-2018 Strategic Plan calls for the Department to "implement the Safer Consumer Products regulations, beginning with the adoption of the initial list of priority products and development of alternatives analysis guidance documents." This work plan provides appropriate detail for executing and tracking development of AA guidance, tools, and program expertise in accomplishing the aforementioned set of goals.

Timeline:

6 months: July 2014 – December 2014

- Release draft Guidance for the Preliminary AAs.
- Present draft Guidance to the Green Ribbon Science Panel.
- Conduct a minimum of one workshop for stakeholders about the AA Process.

12 months: January 2015 – June 2015

- Finalize Guidance for Preliminary AAs.
- Release draft Guidance for the Second Stage AAs.

Beyond June 2015:

- Work with other governmental agencies and NGOs to expand the community of practice by assessing tools for AA; piloting AA; and developing guidance and replicable, nationally accessible training modules on tools, approaches and methodologies needed in AA as well as training on California requirements.
- Implement the scope of work in the proposed US EPA Pollution Prevention Grant and oversee DTSC contracts relevant to AA.