



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL (DTSC) HUMAN AND ECOLOGICAL RISK OFFICE (HERO)

HERO is pleased to announce our tenth “Quarterly Updates from HERO” – September 2018

1. Human Health Risk Assessment Note 8 – Recommendations for Evaluating Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) at Hazardous Waste Facilities and Contaminated Sites in California. April 2018

HERO recently released our latest HHRA Note 8 which presents common issues to consider during investigation and cleanup of PCBs for protection of human health at hazardous waste sites and permitted facilities. The Note addresses key technical issues related to evaluation of exposures and health risks, including regulatory framework, conceptual site model, sample collection and analysis, data evaluation, and human health risk assessment at sites contaminated by leak or releases of PCBs. The Note also includes a discussion on the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) requirements and when to consult USEPA regarding management and cleanup of TSCA-regulated PCB materials.

HHRA Note 8 can be found at: <https://www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/upload/HERO-HHRA-Note-8-April-2018.pdf> and <https://www.dtsc.ca.gov/assessingrisk/humanrisk2.cfm>.

2. Updated Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) Note 3 – DTSC-Modified Screening Levels (DTSC-SLs), June 2018. The update to the HHRA Note is described below with a link to the entire HHRA Note:

HHRA Note 3. The June 2018 Update to HHRA Note 3 incorporates changes adopted by the USEPA in their May 2018 release of the Regional Screening Levels (RSLs). This includes updates to several toxicity criteria and chemical nomenclature. The new DTSC-SL analytes include: 1) a soil and air DTSC-SL for 1-bromo-3-fluorobenzene and 1-bromo-4-fluorobenzene; 2) soil, tap water and air DTSC-SL for lead acetate due to a correction in a toxicity factor; 3) soil and air DTSC-SL for phenyl isothiocyanate and total petroleum hydrocarbon (C19-C32 aliphatic high due to correction of a volatility flag; and 4) air DTSC-SL for dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (4,4'DDE) due to new toxicity criteria.

The updated HHRA Note 3 can be found at: <https://www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/upload/HHRA-Note-3-June-2018.pdf> and <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/assessingrisk/humanrisk2.cfm>.

3. May 2018 USEPA Regional Screening Levels (RSLs).

The USEPA released the latest version of the RSLs. The RSL tables can be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>. Below is a list of ‘What’s New in the May 2018’ version of the RSLs:

- There are no chemicals with toxicity value changes due to [IRIS](#) updates.
- There are no chemicals with new toxicity values due to [ATSDR](#) updates.
- There are no chemicals with new toxicity values due to [PPRTV](#) updates.
- Chemicals with toxicity changes in the [OPP](#) database are:
 - cypermethrin oral chronic reference dose removed,
 - bromoxynil octanoate gained an oral slope factor,
 - propargite oral slope factor changed,
 - pendimethalin oral chronic reference dose changed,
 - flurprimidol oral chronic reference dose changed,
 - chlorsulfuron oral chronic reference dose changed,

- cyromazine oral chronic reference dose changed,
- dicrotophos oral chronic reference dose changed, and
- pirimiphos, methyl oral chronic reference dose changed.
- There are no chemicals with toxicity value changes due to [Cal EPA](#) updates.
- The MCL for fluoride has been assigned to fluoride, sodium fluoride, and fluorine (soluble fluoride).
- Enthalpy of vaporization at the boiling point values have been added from Yaws and the hierarchy in User's Guide 2.4.2 has been updated.
- Changes have been made to the [User's Guide](#) in sections 2.3, 2.4.2, 4.1.1, 4.9.1, 5.4, and 5.10.
- Changes have been made to [FAQ](#) 9, 19, 20, 24, and 26.

4. NEW DTSC Regulation – On September 4, 2018 the *Toxicity Criteria for Human Health Risk Assessments, Screening Levels, and Remediation Goals* rule was approved and adopted by the State of California Office of Administrative Law and became effective immediately

(<https://www.dtsc.ca.gov/LawsRegsPolicies/Regs/Toxicity-Criteria-for-Human-Health-Risk-Assessment.cfm>).

The rule adds the following new sections 68400.5, 69020, 69021, and 69022 to Title 22, California Code of Regulations. Briefly, Appendix I of the Toxicity Criteria Regulation is a list of required toxicity criteria for specific chemicals to be used in human health risk assessments, human health risk-based screening levels and human health risk-based remediation goals. During the next several months, DTSC will be conducting outreach on the toxicity criteria rule such as a fact sheet/frequently asked questions, presentations at the Cleanup Program All-Staff meeting, presentations/webinars to other DTSC programs and CalEPA Agencies, and a forthcoming Human Health Risk Assessment Note. Please look for the forthcoming informational sessions. Please contact Kimberly Gettmann (916-255-6685 or Kimberly.Gettmann@dtsc.ca.gov) or Kevin Depies (916-255-6547 or Kevin.Depies@dtsc.ca.gov) if you have any questions.

5. Notification Levels (NLs) for Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS).

In June 2018, OEHHA recommended and then the California Water Boards Division of Drinking Water established interim NLs for of 14 parts per trillion for PFOA and 13 parts per trillion for PFOS. OEHHA plans to update the interim NLs once they complete their own derivation of recommended drinking water NLs for PFOA and PFOS (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/PFOA_PFOS.html and https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/documents/pfos_and_pfoa/OEHHA_Recommended_Int_NL_Jun_26_2018.pdf).

6. ITRC Online Free Course – Bioavailability of Contaminants in Soil: Considerations for Human Health Risk Assessment.

This online training course will include a discussion on the California Arsenic Bioaccessibility (CAB) Method discussed in the HERO HHRA Note 6.

Tuesday, November 27th – 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Registration: <https://clu-in.org/live/>

7. California Hexavalent Chromium Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL).

“On May 31, 2017, the Superior Court of Sacramento County issued a judgment invalidating the hexavalent chromium maximum contaminant level (MCL) for drinking water. The court ordered the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) to take the necessary actions to delete the hexavalent chromium MCL from the California Code of Regulations and to file with the court by August 15 proof that it has done so ([California Manufacturers and Technology Association, et al. v. California Department of Public Health, et al. \(Super. Ct. Sacramento County, 2017. No. 34-2014-80001850\)](#).”

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Chromium6.html)

The MCL for total chromium of 50 parts per billion is still valid and remains in place. Until the Water Board can adopt a new MCL for hexavalent chromium, the hexavalent chromium public health goal of 0.02 ug/L can be used for comparative purposes on sites where the former MCL was being used. Please contact your site toxicologist if you have any questions and to discuss the appropriate level to use for hexavalent chromium at your site.

8. HERO News E-List. HERO has created a list serve where subscribers will receive e-mail notifications regarding news on topics related to human and ecological risk assessment including HERO Quarterly Updates, new and updated HHRA Notes, new and updated EcoNotes, as well as other risk assessment guidance documents, presentations, and publications.

To subscribe: 1) Go to the "E-Lists" tab near the upper right border of any DTSC or HERO web page; 2) Please read the instructions on signing up for E-Lists; 3) Scroll down until you see "**HERO News**", click "**Subscribe**", then fill out the requested information.

The direct link to the DTSC E-List sign-up page can be found at:
<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/ContactDTSC/ELists.cfm>.

Please contact your site toxicologist if you have any site-specific questions or the contact person indicated in each HERO HHRA Note document for more general questions.

Thank you,

HERO