Greenlist BULLETIN



Toxics Use Reduction Institute

This is the weekly bulletin of the TURI Library at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. Greenlist Bulletin provides previews of recent publications and websites relevant to reducing the use of toxic chemicals by industries, businesses, communities, individuals and government. You are welcome to send a message to info@turi.org if you would like more information on any of the articles listed here, or if this email is not displaying properly.

November 9, 2018

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Assessing the economic valuation of the benefits of regulating chemicals: Lessons learned from five case studies

Source: OECD iLibrary, 2018 Author: Stale Navrud

This paper reviews and compares five case studies on quantification and economic valuation of benefits in cost-benefit analyses (CBAs) of regulating phthalates, mercury, PFOA (perfluorooctanic acid) and its salts, NMP (1 methyl-2pyrroloidine)and formaldehyde. The case studies had all been carried out as part of the SACAME project, and the purpose of the present paper is to draw out cross-cutting findings from these studies.

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New infosheets on nanomaterials and practical tools to manage dangerous substances Source: EU-OSHA, October 11, 2018

To tie in with the Healthy Workplaces Manage Dangerous Substances campaign, EU-OSHA has created new infosheets on two important topics in this area.

Practical tools and guidance on dangerous substances in workplaces looks at the importance of such resources in limiting workers' exposure to harmful substances. It describes and links to many existing tools from the database that can be used for effective safety and health management.

Manufactured nanomaterials in the workplace provides information and advice on managing the risks posed by this fast-developing technology. Nanomaterials are used

in many fields and may have a range of toxic effects. This new infosheet presents the key facts.

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Epistemology of Contaminants of Emerging Concern and Literature Meta-analysis

<u>Source: National Center for Biotechnology Information, January 23, 2015</u> Author: Rolf U. Halden

A meta-analysis was conducted to inform the epistemology, or theory of knowledge, of contaminants of emerging concern (CECs). The CEC terminology acknowledges the existence of harmful environmental agents whose identities, occurrences, hazards, and effects are not sufficiently understood. Here, data on publishing activity were analyzed for 12 CECs, revealing a common pattern of emergence, suitable for identifying past years of peak concern and forecasting future ones: dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT; 1972, 2008), trichloroacetic acid (TCAA; 1972, 2009), nitrosodimethylamine (1984), methyl tert-butyl ether (2001), trichloroethylene (2005), perchlorate (2006), 1,4-dioxane (2009), prions (2009), triclocarban (2010), triclosan (2012), nanomaterials (by 2016), and microplastics (2022 ± 4) . CECs were found to emerge from obscurity to the height of concern in 14.1 \pm 3.6 years, and subside to a new baseline level of concern in 14.5 \pm 4.5 years. CECs can emerge more than once (e.g., TCAA, DDT) and the multifactorial process of emergence may be driven by inception of novel scientific methods (e.g., ion chromatography, mass spectrometry and nanometrology), scientific paradigm shifts (discovery of infectious proteins), and the development, marketing and mass consumption of novel products (antimicrobial personal care products, microplastics and nanomaterials). Publishing activity and U.S. regulatory actions were correlated for several CECs investigated.

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Amazon joins Walmart, other major retailers on safer chemicals Source: Environmental Defense Fund, October 15, 2018 Author: Boma Brown-West and Alissa Sasso

Retail demand for safer products is not only here to stay - it's now a source of competition in the evolving marketplace. Amazon is the latest retailer to join Walmart, Target, CVS Health, Home Depot, and Rite-Aid by publishing a chemicals policy and a public Restricted Substances List. Amazon and several of the abovementioned retailers represent half of the top ten retailers in the US. Amazon's new policy is a big deal: not only is Amazon the third largest retailer by sales in the US, it is the first primarily ecommerce retailer to create a chemicals policy. Ecommerce represents a challenge in terms of implementing such a policy, but as shoppers increasingly turn to online retailers for many of their purchasing needs, this also presents a major opportunity to increase the availability of safer products.

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EPA Releases Final Rule on TSCA User Fees

Source: The National Law Review, October 5, 2018 Author: Thomas Berger

On September 27, 2018, EPA (the Agency) released a pre-publication copy of the final rule establishing "user fees" for the administration of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) (15 U.S.C. § 2601 et seq.). This rulemaking is one of the four "framework" rules promulgated by EPA as part of the implementation of the Frank R.

Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (LCSA). The rule became effective October 1, 2018.

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