ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF–864; FRL–6066–7]

ICI Surfactants; Pesticide Tolerance Petition Filing

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initial filing of pesticide petitions proposing the establishment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities.

DATES: Comments, identified by the docket control number PF–864, must be received on or before April 16, 1999.

ADDRESSES: By mail submit written comments to: Information and Records Integrity Branch, Public Information and Services Divison (7502C), Office of Pesticides Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person bring comments to: Rm. 119, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by following the instructions under ''SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.'' No confidential business information should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as ''Confidential Business Information'' (CBI). CBI should not be submitted through e-mail. Information marked as CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. All written comments will be available for public inspection in Rm. 119 at the address given above, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bipin Gandhi, Registration Support Branch, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW, Washington, DC 20460. Office location, telephone number, and e-mail address: Rm. 707A, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, (703) 308–8380; e-mail: gandhi.bipin@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has received a pesticide petition as follows proposing the establishment and/or amendment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemical in or on various food commodities under section 408 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Comestic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a. EPA has determined that this petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2); however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

The official record for this notice of filing, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice of filing under docket control number [PF–864] (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located at the address in ''ADDRESSES'' at the beginning of this document.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:
opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comment and data will also be accepted on disks in Wordperfect 5.1/6.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number [PF–864] and appropriate petition number. Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Agricultural commodities, Food additives, Feed additives, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: March 3, 1999.

Peter Caulkins, Acting

Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Summary of Petition

The petitioner summary of the pesticide petition is printed below as required by section 408(d)(3) of the FFDCA. The summary of the petition was prepared by the petitioner and represents the views of the petitioner. EPA is publishing the petition summaries verbatim without editing them in any way. The petition summary announces the availability of a description of the analytical methods available to EPA for the detection and measurement of the pesticide chemical residues or an explanation of why no such method is needed.

1. ICI Surfactants

PP 6E4987

EPA has received a pesticide petition (PP 6E4987) from ICI Surfactants, 3411 Silverside Road, Wilmington, DE 19803-8340, proposing pursuant to section 408(d) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 346a(d), to amend 40 CFR 180.1001(c), and (e) to establish an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for methyl methacrylate-methacrylic acid-monomethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymer when used as an inert ingredient in pesticide formulations applied to growing crops or to raw agricultural commodities after harvest or to animals. EPA has determined that the petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2) of the FFDCA; however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

A. Residue Chemistry

Magnitude of residues. No residue chemistry data or environmental fate data are presented in the petition as the Agency does not generally require some or all of the listed studies to rule on the exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for an inert ingredient.

B. Toxicological Profile

1. *Acute toxicity*. The Agency has established a set of criteria which identifies categories of polymers that present low risk. These criteria (described in 40 CFR 723.250) identify polymers that are relatively unreactive and stable compared to other chemical substances as well as polymers that typically are not readily absorbed. ICI believes that methyl methacrylate-methacrylic acid-monomethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymer conforms to the definition of a polymer given in 40 CFR 723.250 and meet the criteria used to identify a low risk polymer. We also believe that based on this substance conformance to the above mentioned criteria, no mammalian toxicity is anticipated from dietary, inhalation or

dermal exposure to methyl methacrylate-methacrylic acid-monomethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymer and that methyl methacrylate-methacrylic acid-monomethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymer will present minimal or no risk.

i. This polymer is not a cationic substance.

ii. It contains as an integral part of it's composition the atomic elements carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen.

iii. It does not contain as an integral part of it's composition, except as impurities, any elements other than those listed in 40 CFR 723.250(d)(2)(ii).

iv. This polymer is not designed or reasonably anticipated to substantially degrade, decompose, or depolymerize.

v. It is not manufactured or imported from monomers and/or other reactants that are not already on the TSCA Chemical Substance Inventory or manufactured under an applicable TSCA Section 5 exemption.

vi. It is not a water absorbing polymer.

vii. The minimum average molecular weight of the above mentioned polymer is greater than 1,000. Substances with molecular weights greater than 400 are generally not readily absorbed through the intact skin, and substances with molecular weights greater than 1,000 are generally not absorbed through the intact gastrointestinal (GI) tract. Chemicals not absorbed through the GI tract are generally incapable of eliciting a toxic response.

viii. This polymer has an oligomer content less than 10% below MW 500, and less than 25% MW 1,000. ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of methyl methacrylate-methacrylic acid-monomethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymer. No toxicology data were presented in the petition as the Agency does not generally require some or all of the listed studies to rule on the exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for an inert ingredient. Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250 ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with toxicity.

2. *Endocrine disruption*. ICI has no information to suggest that methacrylate-methacrylic acid-monomethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymer will have an effect on the immune and endocrine systems. EPA is not requiring information on the endocrine effects of this substance at this time; Congress has allowed 3 years after August 3, 1996, for the Agency to implement a screening program with respect to endocrine effects.

C. Cumulative Effects

ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of methacrylate-methacrylic acid-monomethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymer. Based on this polymer confirming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250 ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with cumulative effects.

D. Safety Determination

1. *U.S. population*. ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of methacrylate-methacrylic - acid-monomethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymer. Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250, ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with any potential exposure to adults.

2. *Infants and children*. ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of methacrylate-methacrylic - acid-monomethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymer. Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250, ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with any potential exposure to infants and children.

2. ICI Surfactants

PP 8E4988

EPA has received a pesticide petition (PP 8E4988) from ICI Surfactants, 3411 Silverside Road, Wilmington, DE 19803-8340, proposing pursuant to section 408(d) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 346a(d), to amend 40 CFR 180.1001(c) and (e) to establish an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for 12-hydroxystearic acid-polyethylene glycol copolymer (CAS Reg. No. 70142-34-6) when used as an inert ingredient in pesticide formulations applied to growing crops or to raw agricultural commodities after harvest or to animals. EPA has determined that the petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2) of the FFDCA; however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

A. Residue Chemistry

Magnitude of residues. No residue chemistry data or environmental fate data are presented in the petition as the Agency does not generally require some or all of the listed studies to rule on the exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for an inert ingredient.

B. Toxicological Profile

1. *Acute toxicity*. The Agency has established a set of criteria which identifies categories of polymers that present low risk. These criteria (described in 40 CFR 723.250) identify polymers that are relatively unreactive and stable compared to other chemical substances as well as polymers that typically are not readily absorbed. ICI believes that 12-hydroxystearic acid-polyethylene glycol copolymer (CAS Reg. No. 70142-34-6) conforms to the definition of a polymer given in 40 CFR 723.250 and meet the criteria used to identify a low risk polymer. We also believe that based on this substances conformance to the above mentioned criteria, no mammalian toxicity is anticipated from dietary, inhalation or dermal exposure to 12-hydroxystearic acid-polyethylene glycol copolymer and that 12-hydroxystearic acid-polyethylene glycol copolymer will present minimal or no risk.

i. This polymer is not a cationic substance.

ii. It contains as an integral part of it's composition the atomic elements carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen.

iii. It does not contain as an integral part of it's composition, except as impurities, any elements other than those listed in 40 CFR 723.250 (d)(2)(ii).

iv. This polymer is not designed or reasonably anticipated to substantially degrade, decompose, or depolymerize.

v. It is not manufactured or imported from monomers and/or other reactants that are not already on the TSCA Chemical Substance Inventory or manufactured under an applicable TSCA Section 5 exemption.

vi. It is not a water absorbing polymer.

vii. The minimum average molecular weight of the above mentioned polymer is greater than 1,000. Substances with molecular weights greater than 400 are generally not readily absorbed through the intact skin, and substances with molecular weights greater than 1,000 are generally not absorbed through the intact gastrointestinal (GI) tract. Chemicals not absorbed through the GI tract are generally incapable of eliciting a toxic response.

viii. This polymer has an oligomer content less than 10% below MW 500, and less than 25% MW 1,000. ICI

believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of 12-hydroxystearic acid-polyethylene glycol copolymer (CAS Reg. No. 70142-34-6). No toxicology data were presented in the petition as the Agency does not generally require some or all of the listed studies to rule on the exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for an inert ingredient. Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250 ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with toxicity.

2. *Endocrine disruption*. ICI has no information to suggest that 12-hydroxystearic acid-polyethylene glycol copolymer (CAS Reg. No. 70142-34-6) will have an effect on the immune and endocrine systems. EPA is not requiring information on the endocrine effects of this substance at this time; Congress has allowed 3 years after August 3, 1996, for the Agency to implement a screening program with respect to endocrine effects.

C. Cumulative Effects

ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of 12-hydroxystearic acid-polyethylene glycol copolymer (CAS Reg. No. 70142-34-6). Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250 ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with cumulative effects.

D. Safety Determination

1. *U.S. population*. ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of 12-hydroxystearic acid-polyethylene glycol copolymer (CAS Reg. No. 70142-34-6). Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250 ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with any potential exposure to adults.

2. *Infants and children*. ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of 12-hydroxystearic acid-polyethylene glycol copolymer (CAS Reg. No. 70142-34-6). Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250 ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with any potential exposure to infants and children.

3. ICI Surfactants

PP 8E4989

EPA has received a pesticide petition (PP 8E4989) from ICI Surfactants, 3411 Silverside Road, Wilmington, DE 19803-8340, proposing pursuant to section 408(d) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 346a(d), to amend 40 CFR 180.1001(c), and (e) to establish an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for polyethylene glycol-polyisobutenyl anhydride-tall oil fatty acid copolymer when used as an inert ingredient in pesticide formulations applied to growing crops or to raw agricultural commodities after harvest or to animals. EPA has determined that the petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2) of the FFDCA; however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

A. Residue Chemistry

Magnitude of residues. No residue chemistry data or environmental fate data are presented in the petition as the Agency does not generally require some or all of the listed studies to rule on the exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for an inert ingredient.

B. Toxicological Profile

1. *Acute toxicity*. The Agency has established a set of criteria which identifies categories of polymers that present low risk. These criteria (described in 40 CFR 723.250) identify polymers that are relatively unreactive and stable compared to other chemical substances as well as polymers that typically are not readily absorbed. ICI believes that polyethylene glycol-polyisobutenyl anhydride-tall oil fatty acid copolymer conforms to the definition of a polymer given in 40 CFR 723.250 and meet the criteria used to identify a low risk polymer. We also believe that based on this substances conformance to the above mentioned criteria, no mammalian toxicity is anticipated from dietary, inhalation or dermal exposure to polyethylene glycol-polyisobutenyl anhydride-tall oil fatty acid copolymer and that polyethylene glycol-polyisobutenyl anhydride-tall oil fatty acid copolymer will present minimal or no risk.

i. This polymer is not a cationic substance.

ii. It contains as an integral part of it's composition the atomic elements carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen.

iii. It does not contain as an integral part of it's composition, except as impurities, any elements other than those listed in 40 CFR 723.250(d)(2)(ii).

iv. This polymer is not designed or reasonably anticipated to substantially degrade, decompose, or depolymerize.

v. It is not manufactured or imported from monomers and/or other reactants that are not already on the TSCA Chemical Substance Inventory or manufactured under an applicable TSCA Section 5 exemption.

vi. It is not a water absorbing polymer.

vii. The minimum average molecular weight of the above mentioned polymer is greater than 1,000. Substances with molecular weights greater than 400 are generally not readily absorbed through the intact skin, and substances with molecular weights greater than 1,000 are generally not absorbed through the intact gastrointestinal (GI) tract. Chemicals not absorbed through the GI tract are generally incapable of eliciting a toxic response.

viii. This polymer has an oligomer content less than 10% below MW 500, and less than 25% MW 1,000. ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of polyethylene glycol-polyisobutenyl anhydride-tall oil fatty acid copolymer. No toxicology data were presented in the petition as the Agency does not generally require some or all of the listed studies to rule on the exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for an inert ingredient. Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250 ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with toxicity.

2. *Endocrine disruption*. ICI has no information to suggest that polyethylene glycol-polyisobutenyl anhydride-tall oil fatty acid copolymer will have an effect on the immune and endocrine systems. EPA is not requiring information on the endocrine effects of this substance at this time; Congress has allowed 3 years after August 3, 1996, for the Agency to implement a screening program with respect to endocrine effects.

C. Cumulative Effects

ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of polyethylene glycol-polyisobutenyl anhydride-tall oil fatty acid copolymer. Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250 ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with cumulative effects.

D. Safety Determination

1. *U.S. population*. ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of polyethylene glycol-polyisobutenyl anhydride-tall oil fatty acid copolymer. Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250 ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with any potential exposure to adults.

2. *Infants and children*. ICI believes sufficient information was submitted in the petition to assess the hazards of polyethylene glycol-polyisobutenyl anhydride-tall oil fatty acid copolymer. Based on this polymer conforming to the definition of a polymer and meeting the criteria of a polymer under 40 CFR 723.250 ICI believes there are no concerns for risks associated with any potential exposure to infants and children.

[FR Doc. 99–6184 Filed 3–16–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF–863; FRL–6065–5]

Notice of Filing; Pesticide Petitions

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initial filing of pesticide petitions proposing the establishment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities.

DATES: Comments, identified by the docket control number PF–863, must be received on or before April 16, 1999.

ADDRESSES: By mail submit written comments to: Information and Records Integrity Branch, Public Information and Services Divison (7502C), Office of Pesticides Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person bring comments to: Rm. 119, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by following the instructions under ''SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.'' No confidential business information should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as ''Confidential Business Information'' (CBI). CBI should not be submitted through e-mail. Information marked as CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. All written comments will be available for public inspection in Rm. 119 at the address given above, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bipin Gandhi, Registration Support Branch, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW, Washington, DC 20460. Office location, telephone number, and e-mail address: Rm. 707A, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, (703) 308–8380; e-mail: gandhi.bipin@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has received a pesticide petition as follows proposing the establishment and/or amendment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemical in or on various food commodities under section 408 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Comestic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a. EPA has determined that this petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2); however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

The official record for this notice of filing, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice of filing under docket control number [PF–863] (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located at the address in ''ADDRESSES'' at the beginning of this document.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comment and data will also be accepted on disks in Wordperfect 5.1/6.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number [PF–863] and appropriate petition number. Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Agricultural commodities, Food additives, Feed additives, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: March 3, 1999.

Peter Caulkins,

Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Summary of Petition

The petitioner summary of the pesticide petition is printed below as required by section 408(d)(3) of the FFDCA. The summary of the petition was prepared by the petitioner and represents the views of the petitioner. EPA is publishing the petition summaries verbatim without editing them in any way. The petition summary announces the availability of a description of the analytical methods available to EPA for the detection and measurement of the pesticide chemical residues or an explanation of why no such method is needed.

1. Rhodia Inc.

PP 8E4956

EPA has received a pesticide petition (PP 8E4956) from Rhodia Inc., CN 7500 Cranbury, NJ 08512-7500, proposing pursuant to section 408(d) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 346a(d), to amend 40 CFR part 180 to request exemption from the requirements of a tolerance for a-alkyl (C8-C16)-w-hydroxy poly(oxyethylene) mixture of dihydrogen phosphate and monohydrogen phosphate esters and the corresponding ammonium, calcium, isopropylamine, magnesium, monoethanolamine, potassium, sodium and zinc salts of the phosphate esters; the poly(oxyethylene) content averages 3 - 20 moles, in or on raw agricultural commodities. EPA has determined that the petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2) of the FFDCA; however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.