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Linda Mitry,

Deputy Secretary.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7925-4]

Lead-Based Paint Activities; State of Washington Lead-Based Paint Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice; final approval of the State of Washington Lead-Based Paint Activities Program.

SUMMARY: On June 18, 2004, EPA received an application from the State of Washington requesting authorization to administer a Program in accordance with section 402 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Included in the application was a letter signed June 10, 2004, by the Governor of Washington, stating that the State's Lead-Based Paint Abatement Program is at least as protective of human health and the environment as the Federal program under TSCA section 402. Also, included was a letter from the Attorney General of Washington, certifying that the laws and regulations of the State provided adequate legal authority to administer and enforce TSCA section 402. Washington certifies that its program meets the requirements for approval of a State program under section 404 of TSCA and that Washington has the legal authority and ability to implement the appropriate elements necessary to enforce the program. Therefore, pursuant to section 404, the program is deemed authorized as of the date of submission. Today's notice announces the authorization of the State of Washington Lead-Based Paint Activities Program to apply in the State of Washington effective June 10, 2004.

DATES: The Lead-Based Paint Activities Program authorization was granted to the State of Washington on June 10, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barbara Ross, Regional Lead Coordinator, Environmental Protection

Agency, Region 10, AWT-128, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101; telephone: (206) 553-1985; e-mail address: ross.barbara@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General

A. Does this Notice Apply to Me?

This notice is directed to the public in general. This notice may, however, be of interest to firms and individuals engaged in lead-based paint activities in Washington. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by the notice. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this notice to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. Summary

On October 28, 1992, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, Public Law 102-550, became law. Title X of that statute was the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992. The Act amended TSCA (15 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*) by adding Title IV (15 U.S.C. 2681-92), titled "Lead Exposure Reduction."

Section 402 of TSCA (15 U.S.C. 2682) authorizes and directs EPA to promulgate final regulations governing lead-based paint activities in target housing, public and commercial buildings, bridges and other structures. On August 29, 1996 (61 FR 45777) (FRL-5389-9), EPA promulgated final TSCA section 402/404 regulations governing lead-based paint activities in target housing and child-occupied facilities (a subset of public buildings). These regulations are to ensure that individuals engaged in such activities are properly trained, that training programs are accredited, and that individuals engaged in these activities are certified and follow documented work practice standards.

Under section 404 (15 U.S.C. 2684), a State or Indian Tribe may seek authorization from EPA to administer and enforce its own lead-based paint activities program.

States and Tribes that choose to apply for program authorization must submit a complete application to the appropriate Regional EPA Office for review. EPA will review those applications within 180 days of receipt of the complete application. To receive EPA approval, a State or Tribe must demonstrate that its program is at least as protective of human health and the environment as the Federal program, and provides for adequate enforcement

(section 404(b) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. 2684 (b)).

EPA's regulations (40 CFR part 745, subpart Q) provide the detailed requirements a State or Tribal program must meet in order to obtain EPA authorization.

A State may choose to certify that its lead-based paint activities program meets the requirements for EPA authorization, by submitting a letter signed by the Governor or the Attorney General stating that the program meets the requirements of section 404(b) of TSCA. Upon submission of such certification letter, the program is deemed authorized until such time as EPA disapproves the program application or withdrawals the program authorization.

In accordance with 40 CFR 745.324(d), "Program Certification," the Governor of Washington submitted a self-certification letter to the EPA Administrator on June 17, 2004, certifying that the State program meets the requirements contained in 40 CFR 745.324(e)(2)(i) and (e)(2)(ii). Included in the application was a letter from the Attorney General of Washington, certifying that the laws and regulations of the State provided adequate legal authority to administer and enforce TSCA section 402.

As determined by EPA's review and assessment, Washington's application successfully demonstrated that the State's Lead-Based Paint Activities Program achieves the protectiveness and enforcement criteria, as required for Federal authorization. Therefore, as of June 10, 2004 the State of Washington is authorized to administer and enforce the lead-based paint program under TSCA section 402.

II. Federal Overfiling

TSCA section 404(b) (15 U.S.C. 2684(b)) makes it unlawful for any person to violate, or fail or refuse to comply with, any requirement of an approved State or Tribal program. Therefore, EPA reserves the right to exercise its enforcement authority under TSCA against a violation of, or a failure or refusal to comply with, any requirement of an authorized State or Tribal program.

III. Withdrawal of Authorization

Pursuant to TSCA section 404(c), the Administrator may withdraw a State or Tribal lead-based paint activities program authorization, after notice and opportunity for corrective action, if the program is not being administered or enforced in compliance with standards, regulations, and other requirements established under the authorization. The

procedures EPA will follow for the withdrawal of an authorization are found at 40 CFR 745.324(i).

IV. Congressional Review Act

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before certain actions may take effect, the agency promulgating the action must submit a report, which includes a copy of the action, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. EPA will submit a report containing this action and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of this document in the **Federal Register**.

This action is not a "major rule" as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Hazardous substances, Lead, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: June 10, 2005.

Julie Hagensen,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 10.

[FR Doc. 05-12202 Filed 6-20-05; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPT-2005-0032; FRL-7720-5]

TSCA Section 21 Petition; Notice of Receipt

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces receipt of a petition submitted by the Ecology Center, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, under section 21 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), and requests comments on issues raised by the petition. The petitioner requests EPA to establish regulations to prohibit the manufacture, processing, distribution in commerce, use and improper disposal of lead used in wheel balancing weights. Under TSCA section 21, the Agency must either grant or deny the petition within 90 days. The Agency will therefore respond to the petition by August 10, 2005.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number OPPT-2005-0032, must be received on or before July 6, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier. Follow the detailed instructions as provided in Unit I. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *For general information contact:* Colby Lintner, Regulatory Coordinator, Environmental Assistance Division (7408M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 554-1401; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

For technical information contact: Dave Topping, National Program Chemicals Division (7404T), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 566-1974; e-mail address: topping.dave@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may potentially be affected by this action if you manufacture or import lead wheel weights or are an automobile tire retailer. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Get Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?

1. *Docket.* EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket ID number OPPT-2005-0032. The official public docket consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received, and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the EPA Docket Center, Rm. B102-Reading Room, EPA West, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The EPA Docket Center Reading Room telephone number is (202) 566-1744 and the telephone

number for the OPPT Docket, which is located in EPA Docket Center, is (202) 566-0280.

2. *Electronic access.* You may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the "**Federal Register**" listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, EPA Dockets. You may use EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/> to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B.1. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the appropriate docket ID number.

Certain types of information will not be placed in the EPA Dockets. Information claimed as CBI and other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute, which is not included in the official public docket, will not be available for public viewing in EPA's electronic public docket. EPA's policy is that copyrighted material will not be placed in EPA's electronic public docket but will be available only in printed, paper form in the official public docket. To the extent feasible, publicly available docket materials will be made available in EPA's electronic public docket. When a document is selected from the index list in EPA Dockets, the system will identify whether the document is available for viewing in EPA's electronic public docket. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B.1. EPA intends to work towards providing electronic access to all of the publicly available docket materials through EPA's electronic public docket.

For public commenters, it is important to note that EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing in EPA's electronic public docket as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, CBI, or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. When EPA identifies a comment containing copyrighted material, EPA will provide a reference to that material in the version of the comment that is placed in