NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** New Zealand  **If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:**  Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Level 10, Grant Thornton House 215 Lambton Quay Private Bag 63002, Waterloo Quay Wellington 6140 New Zealand Ph +64 4 916 2426 Email [info@epa.govt.nz](mailto:info@epa.govt.nz)  **Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:**  Standards New Zealand Ph +64 4 498 5990 [wto@standards.co.nz](mailto:wto@standards.co.nz)  [www.standards.govt.nz](http://www.standards.govt.nz) |
| **3.** | **Notified under Article 2.9.2 [****X],** **2.10.1 [****],** **5.6.2 [****],** **5.7.1 [****],** **other****:** |
| **4.** | **Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):** This notification covers all chemical substances that meet the definition of "hazardous substance" in Section 2 of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996, and that currently exceed the thresholds set in the Hazardous Substances (Minimum Degrees of Hazard) Notice 2017. This is equivalent to the coverage of the United Nations Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS). |
| **5.** | **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Implementation of GHS 7: Implications for hazardous substance approvals and group standards; Consultation Document 2 (48 pages, in English including Appendix 1; Appendices 2-7 are made available on the EPA's website, these include the consultation document and submissions analysis report from the EPA's October 2019 consultation, exposure drafts of the new and amended EPA notices, the proposed group standards, a spreadsheet with proposed GHS classifications and fates of approved substances and a spreadsheet with proposed controls related to substances approved or reassessed before 1 December 2017). |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** In October 2019 New Zealand notified (G/TBT/N/NZL/92) the EPA's proposal to update the current hazard classification system for hazardous substances to Revision 7 (2017) of the United Nations Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS 7). This would be achieved by issuing a new Hazard Classification Notice and would also require several other EPA notices to be amended, including those which set requirements for labelling, safety data sheets, and packaging of chemical substances.  The EPA's second proposal related to updating the current hazard classification system  to GHS 7 intends to:   * update existing individual hazardous substance approvals to convert their current HSNO hazard classifications to GHS hazard classifications * update group standards to convert their current HSNO hazard classifications to GHS hazard classifications, and also to make some minor changes to a small number of group standards (note group standards are approvals for a group of hazardous substances of a similar nature, type or use) * revoke a number of duplicate hazardous substance approvals as their approvals can be managed by one or more group standards * update the controls on hazardous substance approvals issued before 1 December 2017 to bring them into line with the reforms introduced with the Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2017 which came into force on that date * make available the proposed drafts of the new Hazard Classification Notice and amended Labelling, Safety Data Sheets, Packaging, Disposal, Hazardous Property Controls and Importers and Manufacturers Notices. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** Adopting the GHS 7 system will ensure an internationally aligned classification system for hazardous substances that facilitates trade, increases efficiency in chemicals management, and enhances the effectiveness of the HSNO Act. |
| **8.** | **Relevant documents:**   * GHS Implementation Consultation Document 2 (including 7 Appendices):   <https://www.epa.govt.nz/public-consultations/open-consultations/GHS-Implementation-Consultation-2/>   * GHS 7th revised edition, 2017 to be incorporated by reference into the Hazard Classification Notice:   <https://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/ghs_rev07/07files_e.html> |
| **9.** | **Proposed date of adoption:** The EPA is intending to make the new and amended EPA Notices and the new set of group standards available on the EPA website in October 2020.  **Proposed date of entry into force:** The proposal is for the new Hazard Classification Notice, the six amended notices, and the new set of group standards to come into force in April 2021.  A four year transitional period is proposed for the Labelling Notice, Safety Data Sheets Notice and Packaging Notice meaning that compliance with these three notices will not be mandatory for existing hazardous substance approvals or group standards until April 2025. |
| **10.** | **Final date for comments:** 7 August 2020 |
| **11.** | **Texts available from: National enquiry point [** **]** **or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:**  Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Level 10, Grant Thornton House 215 Lambton Quay Private Bag 63002, Waterloo Quay Wellington 6140 New Zealand Ph +64 4 916 2426 Email [info@epa.govt.nz](mailto:info@epa.govt.nz) [www.epa.govt.nz](http://www.epa.govt.nz) |