

### **BERGESON & CAMPBELL PC**

## Environmental Law Institute Summer School 2014

Law & Policy of Products Regulation

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Lynn L. Bergeson Bergeson & Campbell, P.C. Washington, D.C. www.lawbc.com



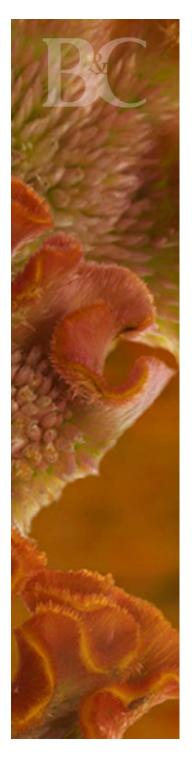
Key Federal Chemical Use Laws

- Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
  - > Regulation of industrial chemicals



- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)
  - Regulation of pesticides (agricultural chemicals, biocides)





# Other Consumer Product Regulations

- Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA)
- Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA)
- Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Green Guides
- California Safe Consumer Products Regulations (SCPR)
- State Consumer Protection Laws

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# TSCA





### Overview

- Passed in 1976 following several years of debate and revisions
- Notable incidents involving chemicals
  - Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) 1971 Report on Toxic Substances
    - Lack of data on chemicals in commerce
    - Lack of government oversight





# Overview (cont'd)

- TSCA provides a chemical safety net
- TSCA is one of several statutes that regulate chemicals
- TSCA's unique focus is on industrial chemicals in commerce



### **TSCA** Purposes



- To encourage or require industry to develop adequate data on the human health and environmental effects of chemicals
- To regulate chemicals that may pose unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment and to take action against imminent hazards
- No regulation should unnecessarily impede technological innovation



 "Chemical substance" covers industrial chemicals and excludes pesticides, food additives, drugs, cosmetics, and preparations







- Regulates both manufacturers and processors (including importers)
- Distinguishes "new" from "existing" substances
  - A new chemical substance is "any chemical substance which is not included in the chemical substance list compiled and published under [TSCA Section 8(b)]"
  - TSCA Inventory is a list of all chemical substances in commerce prior to 1979 and those that have been commercialized since (about 86,000 chemicals)



### **Key TSCA Components**

- Allows the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to regulate chemical substances in a broad way from bans to labeling
- Authorizes EPA to require industry to test existing and new substances
- Authorizes EPA to exercise regulatory control over the introduction of new chemicals at premarket stage
- Contains broad recordkeeping and reporting requirements





# Key Sections of TSCA

- Section 4 -- Chemical Testing
- Section 5 -- New Chemicals
- Section 6 -- Regulation of Hazardous Chemical Substances
- Section 7 -- Imminent Hazards
- Section 8 -- Reporting and Retention of Information
- Section 9 -- Relationship to Other Laws
- Section 14 -- Disclosure of Data
- Section 26 -- Ability to Regulate Categories of Chemicals



#### Section 8 -- Information Gathering

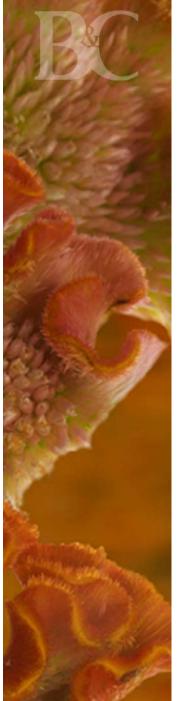
- Authorizes EPA to require chemical manufacturers and processors to maintain records and report data to EPA -established through rulemaking (small manufacturers exempt)
  - Chemical identity, use categories, health and environmental information, people exposed
  - Chemical Data Reporting (CDR) rule -- Requires manufacturers of non-polymeric chemicals over 25,000 pounds listed on Inventory every four years to report current data on production use, exposure, and related information (25,000 pounds if subject to certain restrictions)





- Requirement that companies immediately notify EPA of substantial risk information
- EPA can require companies to record, retain, and report "allegations" of adverse effects and submit them to EPA upon request
- EPA can require companies to submit information on ongoing or existing health and safety studies

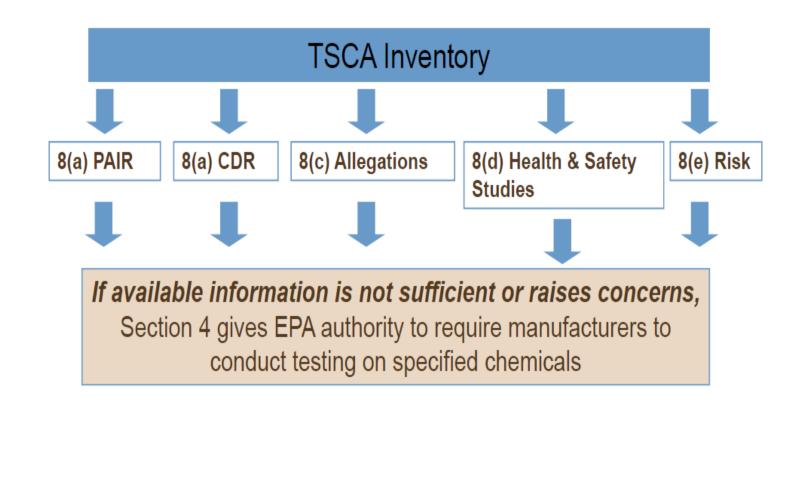




#### TSCA -- Information Collection on Existing Chemicals

TSCA Inventory				
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8(a) Preliminary Assessment Information Rule (PAIR): EPA can collect production, use, and exposure information via rulemaking	8(a) Chemical Data Reporting Rule (CDR): Companies report production, use, and exposure information on substances over threshold every four years	8(c) Allegations: Companies must retain allegations of adverse effects and submit them to EPA upon request	8(d) Health and Safety Studies: EPA can collect information on ongoing or existing studies via rulemaking	8(e) Risk: Companies must immediately report substantial risk information to EPA

# **TSCA -- Testing on Existing Chemicals**





# Section 4 -- Chemical Testing

- Authorizes EPA Administrator to require testing of a chemical substance or mixture, new or existing, if:
  - > The chemical or mixture "may present an unreasonable risk" (hazard/risk finding) or
  - The chemical will be produced in substantial quantities and either may enter the environment in substantial quantities or lead to significant human exposure (exposure finding) and
  - Inadequate data exist for use in risk assessment
- Testing is necessary to develop the needed data

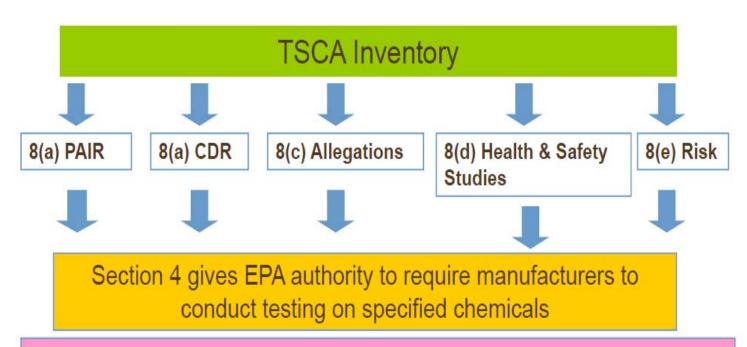


### Section 4 -- Chemical Testing (cont'd)

- All rules undergo economic analysis and are subject to public notice and comment; costs are shared among companies subject to the rule
- Must adhere to published test guidelines
- Interagency Testing Committee identifies TSCA chemicals to add to Priority Testing List; rule issued within one year
- EPA often uses Enforceable Consent Agreements



# TSCA -- Risk Management on Existing Chemicals



*If concerns continue after testing and information collection:* Section 6 gives EPA authority to address unreasonable risk through restrictions, warning labels, recordkeeping, and product bans

#### Section 6 -- Overview



- Specific list of risk management options identified in Section 6
  - Includes labeling, recordkeeping, use restrictions, bans
- Only five substances have been restricted under Section 6



- Thousands of substances with restrictions in place from Section 5 review
- Asbestos court decision (*Corrosion Proof Fittings*) often flagged as proof that Section 6 does not work



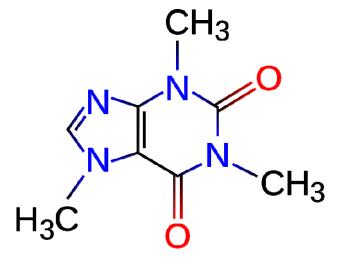
# Section 6 -- Risk Management of Existing Substances

- EPA must demonstrate that one or more activities involving a substance or mixture presents or will present an unreasonable risk
- EPA must evaluate health and environmental effects, exposure, benefits of the substance, availability of substitutes, and economic effects (must choose least burdensome form of regulation and balance costs and benefits)
- In actions from prohibitions to risk communications and use of consent orders and preliminary notices, EPA must demonstrate that one or more activities involving a substance or mixture presents or will present an unreasonable risk



# Section 5 -- New Chemical Review

- Company submits PMN (premanufacture notice)
  - > Chemical identity information
  - > Production volume
  - Intended categories of use
  - > Description of byproducts
  - Molecular formula
  - > Available information
- EPA conducts initial review
- EPA develops hazard profile
  - Structure Activity Team (SAT) uses analogs



### Section 5 -- New Chemical Review (cont'd)

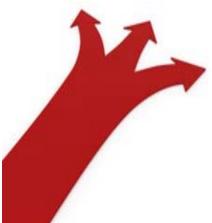


- Evaluates health effects, environmental effects, environmental fate
- Establishes health and environmental hazard potential
- EPA develops Exposure/Release Profile
- EPA holds Focus Meeting -- final decision
- More testing is needed for EPA to make a decision



# Section 5 -- New Chemical Review (cont'd)

- PMN allowed after additional data provided by company
- PMN allowed, but with use restrictions
- PMN allowed without restrictions
- PMN not allowed
- Company submits NOC (Notice of Commencement)
  - New chemical added to the Inventory





### Outcomes of New Chemicals Review

- No action
- Voluntary withdrawal
- Section 5(e) order to prohibit or limit activities associated with the chemical if: there are insufficient data to evaluate effects and it may present an unreasonable risk; or it is or will be produced in substantial quantities or result in substantial exposure





### Outcomes of New Chemicals Review (cont'd)

- Usually use consent orders that include: exposure mitigation, testing, labeling and hazard communication, and recordkeeping
- Section 5(e) order limiting the substance if substance presents or will present an unreasonable risk





- Section 5(e) order only binding on original PMN submitter
- SNUR mimics consent order and extends to other companies that wish to manufacture the PMN substance
- Can also use to capture new uses of substances that may result in an unreasonable risk (notice and comment procedure)
- Can also be used for existing chemicals when discontinued production (polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE)), discontinued use, increased volume production, or new uses Section 5(e) order only binding on original PMN submitter
- SNUR mimics consent order and extends to other companies that wish to manufacture chemical substance
- Can also use to capture new uses of substances that may result in an unreasonable risk (notice and comment procedure)



### Significant New Use Rules (SNUR) (cont'd)

- Anyone who wishes to manufacture or import a chemical subject to a SNUR must submit a Significant New Use Notification (SNUN) to EPA 90 days prior
- SNUNs are functionally identical to PMNs



# Concerns with Current TSCA System



- No requirement for data generation on new chemicals under Section 5
- No minimum data set required for existing chemicals
- Too few chemicals tested under Section 4
- Too few chemicals regulated under Section 6
- Too easy to claim confidential business information (CBI)
- These concerns have fueled calls for TSCA reform

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# FIFRA







## **FIFRA**

- Who Implements the Program?
   > EPA
  - Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP)

Antimicrobials Division (AD)



Biological and Economic Analysis Division (BEAD)
Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (BPPD)
Environmental Fate and Effects Division (EFED)
Field and External Affairs Division (FEAD)
Health Effects Division (HED)
Information Technology and Resources



- Pesticide Re-Evaluation Division (PRD)
- Registration Division (RD)
- Where a state has a federally-approved pesticide program, the state is the primary enforcement authority
- Several states have developed separate state programs that are quite mature and pose formidable market entry challenges -- California, New York, Florida









# FIFRA -- What Is a Pesticide?

- Any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pests
- A substance is considered to be intended for a pesticidal purpose requiring registration if the person who distributes or sells the substance claims, states, or implies that the substance can or should be used as a pesticide





- Active Ingredients
  - Ingredients that prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate pests
  - Plant regulators, defoliants, desiccants, and nitrogen stabilizers
- Inert Ingredients
  - "Other ingredients" in pesticide formulations
- Pesticide Types
  - Conventional pesticides
  - Minimum-risk pesticides
  - > Biopesticides
  - Antimicrobials
  - Treated articles



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# FIFRA -- Regulatory Framework

- Premarket Approval
- Risk-Based Safety Standard
  - No unreasonable risk (non-food uses)
  - > Reasonable certainty of no harm (food uses)
- Burden on registrant to meet safety standard
- Unlike TSCA, FIFRA is "use" specific, not "chemical" specific





- EPA reviews registrant-submitted data against applicable standard
- Data requirements codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 158
  - Battery of testing requirements
  - EPA has authority to require additional data
  - EPA discretion to waive data requirement
- Data development can cost millions and take years before an application can be submitted to EPA



- Protections for trade secrets and CBI
- EPA has adopted a narrow interpretation of protected information; enhanced transparency
- Compensation provisions for third-party use of proprietary data



#### FIFRA -- Regulatory Framework (cont'd)



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The agricultural predicides INE CFR 170, 200507001

- Mandatory Label Requirements
  - > Ingredients
  - Approved claims
  - Use directions
  - Warning statements
  - Registrant information
- Use inconsistent with label prohibited
- Labeling covers all written materials (and then some)



#### New Actives/Products/Uses

- Review timeframes established by statute (Pesticide Registration Improvement Extension Act (PRIA 3))
- Four months to 24 months review standard, but can be longer

#### Existing Actives/Products/Uses

- Review older pesticides against current health standards
- This review typically yields label amendments, use restrictions, or other legal redress (cancellation)



- Promote "Safer" or "Reduced-Risk" Pesticide Alternatives
  - > Reduced fees
  - > Expedited reviews
  - > Dedicated resources



- Various Programs to Register Reduced-Risk Pesticides
  - > Minimum-risk pesticides
  - > Reduced-risk conventional pesticides
  - > Biopesticides



# FIFRA -- Regulatory Framework (cont'd)

- Restrict Future Sale of Products
- Stop-Sale Orders
- Civil Penalties
- Criminal Penalties





### Thank You

Lynn L. Bergeson Bergeson & Campbell, P.C. 2200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Suite 100W Washington, D.C. 20037 <u>Ibergeson@lawbc.com</u> <u>www.lawbc.com</u>

The Acta Group 2200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Suite 100W Washington, D.C. 20037 <u>Ibergeson@actagroup.com</u> <u>www.actagroup.com</u>