Statement

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ACC ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING SENATE HEARING ON EPA’S SCIENCE TRANSPARENCY RULE

WASHINGTON (October 3, 2018) – The American Chemistry Council today issued the following statement regarding the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works’ hearing on EPA’s proposed Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science rule:

“ACC commends the committee for holding a hearing on EPA’s proposed rule. We believe that increasing transparency in the regulatory process is an important good governance principle that everyone should embrace.

“EPA’s proposal will strengthen the agency’s regulatory process by helping ensure that it is relying on the best available science—science that is reliable and unbiased—and by making the underlying research and data publicly available in ways that protect personal privacy, confidential business information, proprietary interests and intellectual property rights.

“While some critics of the rule voiced concern about its effects on personal privacy, it is important to note the rule specifically states, ‘Where the Agency is making data or models publicly available, it shall do so in a fashion that is consistent with law, protects privacy, confidentiality, confidential business information and is sensitive to national and homeland security.’

“EPA’s proposed rule is an important step toward ensuring that the science the agency relies on in decision-making is transparent and accessible, and we look forward to continuing our work with the agency to help ensure it can reach that goal.”

You can read ACC’s statement for the record here.

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The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®; common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues; and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a $768 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is among the largest exporters in the nation, accounting for fourteen percent of all U.S. goods exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation’s critical infrastructure.