Statement

For Immediate Release
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WORKSHOP PROVIDES FORUM FOR SCIENTIFIC DISCUSSION ON HOW TO STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES TO CHEMICALS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 22, 2011) – The following statement can be attributed to the American Chemistry Council (ACC) regarding the Environmental Health Perspectives study, “Environmental Exposures and Mammary Gland Development: State of the Science, Public Health Implications, and Research Recommendations,” sponsored by the Silent Spring Institute. Based on studies of rodent mammary gland development, the workshop identified future research priorities including testing chemicals effects on the breast after prenatal and early-life exposure.

“This workshop, which provided a forum for scientific discussion, did not produce data or outcomes relevant to consumers, and thus comments from the meeting should not cause undue concern. Based on their review of animal studies conducted by the participating scientists, the group considered ways to change chemicals safety testing, and discussed the relevance of potential scientific outcomes to human health.

“Innovations in exposure science are essential to further improve information for public health protection and we welcome rigorous scientific analysis and review. The American Chemistry Council (ACC) engages in long-term research to evaluate risks from exposure to low-levels of chemicals in everyday life and review relevant science about both exposures and hazard.

“We support development of new test guidelines when these have been shown to be scientifically relevant and reliable and are not redundant and thus meaningfully contribute to hazard characterization and risk assessment. For additional testing to be helpful, scientists and regulatory agencies across the globe need to have confidence in the endpoints and agree to mutually accept the results as valid. ACC believes we must continue to work together in our pursuit to create a regulatory system that is protective of human health, the environment, and the ability of industry to innovate and drive economic growth.”

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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 $720 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is one of the nation's largest exporters, accounting for ten cents out of every dollar in U.S. 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.