

2016 Amendments to TSCA | Chemical Review Process

EXISTING CHEMICALS

EPA will conduct risk-based reviews of chemicals in commerce

Inventory Reset

EPA maintains an inventory of chemicals, but it is difficult to tell which are used today and which are no longer in use

LCSA requires the inventory be updated so EPA can focus on chemicals actually in use today

Prioritization

EPA will screen all chemicals in active use to identify low and high priorities for risk evaluation. Prioritization will be based on factors including hazards, uses and exposures to people and the environment, including vulnerable groups like infants, children, pregnant women and the elderly

Low Priority Chemicals



Chemicals can remain in use but can be reprioritized based on new information

High Priority Chemicals

EPA will conduct a thorough risk evaluation

The first 10 high priorities were drawn from EPA's existing TSCA Chemical Work Plan list

NEW CHEMICALS

EPA must conduct a risk-based review and make an affirmative safety determination before a new chemical can come to market

Information Submitted to EPA

Manufacturers provide information about new chemicals and new chemical uses to EPA

Risk-Based Review

EPA reviews information including chemical characteristics, available testing and exposure data and intended uses

EPA can request more information if needed

Safety Determination

If EPA finds the chemical is not likely to present an unreasonable risk, it proceeds to market. If the chemical presents an unreasonable risk, EPA may apply risk management measures

Risk Evaluation

EPA Risk Evaluations will:

- Be based solely on health and environmental information
- Consider a chemical's conditions of use
- Rely on the best available studies and weight of scientific evidence
- Consider risks to vulnerable groups

LCSA makes it easier for EPA to request more testing and data from producers when needed

20 risk evaluations must be underway within 3.5 years

Safety Determination

EPA will determine if a chemical meets the law's safety standard or requires risk management

Chemical Meets Safety Standard



Chemical may be used for its intended uses

Chemical Needs Risk Management

EPA's options include:

- Labeling Requirements
- Use Restrictions
- Phase Outs
- Bans

About the 2016 Amendments to TSCA

After years of negotiation and with input from many stakeholders, Congress passed the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act to reform the regulation of chemicals in commerce. Enacted on June 22, 2016, it protects health and the environment; supports economic growth; and promotes America's role as the world's leading innovator.