



Brussels, 28.2.2019  
C(2019) 1571 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 28.2.2019**

**granting an authorisation for a use of sodium dichromate under Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Borealis Plastomers B.V.)**

(ONLY THE ENGLISH TEXT IS AUTHENTIC)

## COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 28.2.2019

**granting an authorisation for a use of sodium dichromate under Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Borealis Plastomers B.V.)**

(ONLY THE ENGLISH TEXT IS AUTHENTIC)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency, amending Directive 1999/45/EC and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 64(8) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Sodium dichromate is listed in Annex XIV to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and is therefore subject to the authorisation requirement referred to in Article 56(1)(a) of that Regulation.
- (2) On 17 March 2016, an application for authorisation was submitted by Borealis Plastomers B.V. ('the applicant') in accordance with Article 62 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 for the use of sodium dichromate as in-situ corrosion inhibitor in a closed water/ammonia absorption cooling system.
- (3) On 4 October 2017, the Commission received the opinions of the Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) and the Committee for Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) of the European Chemicals Agency<sup>2</sup> on the application, pursuant to the third subparagraph of Article 64(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.
- (4) In its opinion, RAC confirmed that it is not possible to determine a derived no-effect level (DNEL) for the carcinogenic properties of sodium dichromate in accordance with Section 6.4 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and that therefore sodium dichromate is a non-threshold substance for the purposes of Article 60(3)(a) of that Regulation. In accordance with that Article, Article 60(2) of that Regulation does not apply to that substance, and therefore an authorisation may only be granted on the basis of Article 60(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.
- (5) In its opinion, RAC concluded that the risk management measures and operational conditions as described in the application are appropriate and effective in limiting the risk to workers and to the general population that could be potentially exposed via the

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 396, 30.12.2006, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> <https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/c13ddf9a-74cd-3de3-d6b1-b3a039566296>

environment. The Commission, having evaluated the RAC assessment, concurs with that conclusion.

- (6) In its opinion, SEAC concluded that the overall socio-economic benefits arising from the use of sodium dichromate applied for outweigh the risk to human health or the environment arising from that use and that there are no suitable alternative substances or technologies for the applicant before the sunset date. The Commission, having evaluated the SEAC assessment, concurs with that conclusion.
- (7) Therefore, in accordance with Article 60(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, it is appropriate to authorise the use of sodium dichromate applied for, provided that the risk management measures and operational conditions described in the application and in particular in the chemical safety report<sup>3</sup> are fully applied.
- (8) In its opinion, SEAC recommended the review period referred to in Article 60(9)(e) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 to be set at 12 years. The Commission takes into account the relevant elements from the RAC and SEAC assessments, and in particular RAC's conclusion that the risk management measures and operational conditions are appropriate and effective in limiting the risk, the low consumption of sodium dichromate by the applicant of approximately 60 kg every three years, the conclusion that the socio-economic benefits of continued use outweigh the risk by several orders of magnitude, the low likelihood that a suitable alternative would be identified within a shorter period, the long and capital intensive investment cycle of the applicant and the significant investment costs associated with the replacement of the current technology, as well as the fact that the continued use of the substance prevents negative environmental impacts associated with premature decommissioning and replacement of a fully functional cooling system. Based on those elements, the Commission concurs with SEAC's recommendation.
- (9) Therefore, it is appropriate that, as regards the use of sodium dichromate applied for, the review period be set at 12 years as from the sunset date set out in Annex XIV to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.
- (10) In their opinions, RAC and SEAC did not recommend any additional conditions or monitoring arrangements.
- (11) The language used for the description of the risk management measures and operational conditions included in the application for authorisation may be different from the official language of the Member State where the use takes place. Therefore, in order to facilitate the enforcement of the authorisation, it is appropriate to include a monitoring arrangement requiring the authorisation holder to submit, upon request, a succinct summary of those risk management measures and operational conditions in an official language of the Member State concerned.
- (12) This Decision does not affect the obligation of the authorisation holder to ensure that the use does not adversely affect human health or the environment pursuant to Article 1(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006. Furthermore, it does not affect either the obligation of the authorisation holder to ensure that the exposure to the substance is reduced to as low a level as is technically and practically possible pursuant to Article 60(10) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 or the obligation of the employer to reduce the use of a carcinogen or mutagen at the place of work, in particular by replacing it, in so far as is technically possible in accordance with Article 4(1) of Directive

---

<sup>3</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/25963>

2004/37/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>4</sup>, or to prevent and reduce exposure in accordance with Article 5 of that Directive. In addition, this Decision is without prejudice to the application of Union law in the area of health and safety at work, in particular Council Directives 89/391/EEC<sup>5</sup>, 92/85/EEC<sup>6</sup>, 94/33/EC<sup>7</sup> and 98/24/EC<sup>8</sup>, as well as Directive 2004/37/EC.

- (13) This Decision is without prejudice to any obligation to comply with emission limit values set in accordance with Directives 2010/75/EU<sup>9</sup> and 2008/50/EC<sup>10</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council, as well as with emission limit values set to achieve compliance with the environmental quality standards established both in Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>11</sup> and by Member States in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>12</sup>. Compliance with the provisions of this Decision should not necessarily result in compliance with emission limit values or environmental quality standards under other Union legislation, which may include separate or more onerous requirements.
- (14) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established under Article 133 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

#### *Article 1*

An authorisation is granted in accordance with Article 60(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 for the following use of sodium dichromate (EC No 234-190-3 and CAS No. 10588-01-9 (anhydrous); CAS No. 7789-12-0 (dihydrate)), provided that the risk management measures and operational conditions described in the chemical safety report submitted pursuant to Article 62(4)(d) of that Regulation are fully applied:

---

<sup>4</sup> Directive 2004/37/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work (Sixth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Council Directive 89/391/EEC) (OJ L 158, 30.4.2004, p. 50).

<sup>5</sup> Council Directive 89/391/EEC of 12 June 1989 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work (OJ L 183, 29.6.1989, p. 1).

<sup>6</sup> Council Directive 92/85/EEC of 19 October 1992 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health at work of pregnant workers and workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding (tenth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16 ( 1 ) of Directive 89/ 391 / EEC) (OJ L 348, 28.11.1992, p. 1).

<sup>7</sup> Council Directive 94/33/EC of 22 June 1994 on the protection of young people at work (OJ L 216, 20.8.1994, p. 12).

<sup>8</sup> Council Directive 98/24/EC of 7 April 1998 on the protection of the health and safety of workers from the risks related to chemical agents at work (fourteenth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Directive 89/391/EEC) (OJ L 131, 5.5.1998, p. 11).

<sup>9</sup> Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control)(OJ L 334, 17.12.2010, p. 17).

<sup>10</sup> Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (OJ L 152, 11.6.2008, p. 1).

<sup>11</sup> Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on environmental quality standards in the field of water policy, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directives 82/176/EEC, 83/513/EEC, 84/156/EEC, 84/491/EEC, 86/280/EEC and amending Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 348, 24.12.2008, p. 84).

<sup>12</sup> Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1).

Authorisation number	Authorised use
REACH/19/3/0	Use as in-situ corrosion inhibitor in a closed water/ammonia absorption cooling system

*Article 2*

1. As regards the authorised use of sodium dichromate, the review period referred to in Article 60(9)(e) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 shall expire on 21 September 2029.
2. The authorisation referred to in Article 1 shall cease to be valid on 21 September 2029 in case the review report referred to in Article 61(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 has not been submitted by 21 March 2028, unless a decision to withdraw the authorisation is adopted earlier in application of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 61 of that Regulation.

*Article 3*

The authorisation holder shall submit, upon request, to the competent authority of the Member State where the authorised use takes place a succinct summary of the applicable risk management measures and operational conditions described in the chemical safety report in an official language of that Member State.

*Article 4*

This Decision is addressed to Borealis Plastomers B.V., Koolwaterstofstraat 1, 6161 RA Geleen, The Netherlands.

Done at Brussels, 28.2.2019

*For the Commission*  
*Elżbieta BIENKOWSKA*  
*Member of the Commission*

