



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
Consumer, Environmental and Health Technologies

Directorate-General for Environment
Circular Economy and Green Growth

Directors

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GROW/D1/EGJ/al
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NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF MR G. DANCET, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ECHA

Subject: Request to the European Chemicals Agency to perform a preliminary review of the risks of calcium cyanamide used as a fertiliser

The SCHER opinion on “*Potential risks to human health and the environment from the use of calcium cyanamide as fertiliser*”¹ raises serious concerns about the safe use of calcium cyanamide² as a fertiliser. The substance is listed in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 as an EC fertiliser and hence benefits from free circulation in the Single Market.

The substance is registered in the range above 1 000 tonnes and has already been examined by the ECHA Member State Committee in the context of a testing proposal in relation to a data gap on reproductive toxicity. The SCHER opinion raises the question whether safe use as a fertiliser is demonstrated in the REACH registration dossier.

We request ECHA to carry-out a preliminary assessment, taking into account information in the REACH registration dossier for the substance, in the SCHER opinion and in dossiers submitted for other regulatory processes (e.g. under the Biocidal Products Regulation and the Plant Protection Products Regulation³), to determine whether the use of calcium cyanamide as a fertiliser could pose an unacceptable risk to human health and/or the environment.

The report should clearly separate the assessments of risk to human health and risk to the environment so as to allow examination of the evidence supporting a potential restriction based on each of these concerns.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/health/scientific_committees/environmental_risks/docs/scher_o_169.pdf

² EC No. 205-861-8, CAS No. 156-62-7

³ ECHA should contact EFSA or other relevant agencies, as appropriate.

Timing

ECHA should deliver to the Commission an evaluation report and a separate RMOA document reflecting the assessment described above, no later than 31 August 2017. Based on this report, the Commission will consider whether to request ECHA to prepare an Annex XV dossier in accordance with Article 69(1) to address the risks posed by calcium cyanamide used as a fertiliser.

Yours sincerely,

(e-signed)

Carlo Pettinelli
DG Internal Market, Industry,
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(e-signed)

Kestutis Sadauskas
DG Environment