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**MEETING LOG**

**DATE:** January 29, 1997 from 9:30 am to 12:15 pm  
**PLACE:** Room 217, East Tower, EPA, Washington DC  
**ATTENDEES:** Charles Auer, EPA/OPPT; George Semeniuk, EPA/OPPT; other EPA/OPPT staff; Laureen Burton, CPSC/EHHE; Jorge Olguin, SOCMA/Dibasic Esters Group; Gerald Kennedy, DuPont/Haskell Labs; other members of the Dibasic Esters Group

**Background:** Dibasic esters (DBEs) are paint stripping solvents of interest to the CPSC as methylene chloride substitutes. In 1993, the Commission formally directed its staff to acquire toxicity data necessary to assess the comparative hazard of the widely-used and well-studied paint stripping solvent, methylene chloride, with that of the major substitute formulations. Because of the limited toxicity information available for DBEs, CPSC nominated dimethyl adipate to the National Toxicology Program (NTP) to conduct a full toxicological evaluation as its priority chemical for 1994. Dimethyl adipate is a principal DBE used in paint stripping formulations. At the urging of EPA, the Executive Committee of the NTP referred the nomination to EPA for testing under Section 4 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). In 1995, the Dibasic Esters Group, representing the manufacturers of these chemicals, submitted a proposal for a TSCA Enforceable Consent Agreement (ECA) to conduct toxicity testing of dimethyl adipate and two other dibasic esters used in paint strippers. The purpose of this meeting was to negotiate the details of the toxicity testing to be carried out under the ECA.

**Discussion:** Mr. Auer opened the meeting by reviewing the background of the DBE ECA process and EPA/CPSC's interest in dibasic esters. Mr. Auer explained that EPA had accepted the DBE Group's testing proposal as a basis for initiating the ECA negotiations although it did not contain all elements originally requested by EPA. The ECA is to include provisions that committed the parties to the ECA to engage in a second phase of meetings to reach agreement on additional testing, if needed, following completion of the battery of toxicity and exposure tests covered in the ECA.

Dr. Olguin and various DBE group representatives presented slides that focused on each element of the DBE Group's toxicity testing proposal, presented an analysis of exposure associated with DBE hand cleaners uses, and then discussed the Group's current plans for evaluating through testing the exposures associated the use of DBE paint strippers by consumers. During the DBE Group's presentation, issues relevant to specific aspects of the proposed testing were discussed by meeting participants. The areas discussed included the following testing: genotoxicity, subchronic (90 day) inhalation, dermal (14 day) toxicity, developmental toxicity, and exposure assessment (primary focus was on paint stripping and hand cleaners). Based on the discussion and points of concurrence reached during the meeting EPA and the DBE group appeared to be in agreement on toxicity