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Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington DC 20460



Attention: TSCA Section 8(e) Coordinator

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RE: Polyethylbenzene Bottoms (PEB)

Dear Sir or Madam:

The American Chemistry Council Ethylbenzene Panel (Panel) submits this letter on behalf of its members¹ pursuant to Section 8(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to inform EPA of results from ecotoxicity/environmental testing that was conducted on Polyethylbenzene Bottoms (CAS No. 68987-42-8) under the HPV Challenge Program. This submission only reports hazard. The Panel has not made a determination as to whether these findings represent a significant risk of injury to health or the environment.

The Panel conducted a battery of aquatic ecotoxicity studies and a biodegradation study for a sample of Polyethylbenzene Bottoms using OECD Guideline methods (OECD guideline numbers 201, 202, 203 and 301D). A summary of the main results of these studies are listed below:

| Test | Method | Result |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Aquatic Plant Acute Toxicity | OECD Guideline 201 | 72-hour E_rC_{50} (growth rate) = 640 $\mu\text{g/L}$, based on nominal loading rate, or 485 $\mu\text{g/L}$, based on mean measured concentration |
| Aquatic Invertebrate Acute Toxicity | OECD Guideline 202 | 48-hour EC_{50} = 340 $\mu\text{g/L}$, based on nominal WAF loading |
| Fish Acute Toxicity | OECD Guideline 203 | 96-hour LC_{50} = 1.65 mg/L , based on mean measured concentration |
| Aerobic Biodegradability (Ready) | OECD Guideline 301D | Not readily biodegradable; 7.1% biodegradation throughout the 28-day test |



The sponsors of the Polyethylbenzene Bottoms (PEB) in the HPV program are: Chevron Phillips Chemical Company, The Dow Chemical Company, INEOS Styrenics, Lyondell Chemical Company, NOVA Chemicals Inc, and Total Petrochemicals USA Inc.

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The final reports for these studies will be provided to EPA, once they become available.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-924-2006 or
Elizabeth_Moran@americanchemistry.com.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Moran', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Elizabeth J. Moran, Ph.D.
Manager, Ethylbenzene Panel