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CODING FORMS FOR ERC INDEXING

Microfiche No.	CTS0559982		
New Doc ID	88000000221	Old Doc ID	8EHQ-0900-14782
Date Produced	09/08/00	Date Received	09/15/00
		TSCA Section	8F
Submitting Organization	CLOROX SERVICES CO		
Contractor			
Document Title	INITIAL SUBMISSION: LETTER FROM CLOROX TO USEPA REGARDING UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF CHILD DEATH DUE TO INGESTION OF CAT LITTER, WITH ATTACHMENTS & DATED 090800		
Chemical Category	CLAY		

**INITIAL  
SUB-  
MISSION**

BEHQ-0900-14782



September 8, 2000

RECEIVED  
OPPT CBIC

2000 SEP 15 AM 11:16

Document Processing Center (TS-790)  
Attn: Section 8(e) Coordinator  
U.S. EPA Office of Toxic Substances  
401 M Street NW  
Washington, DC 20460

**Subject:** TSCA Section 8(e) Report  
Fresh Step Cat Litter

The following information is being sent to the EPA pursuant to section 8(e) of TSCA, which requires the reporting of unexpected adverse effects.

**Submitter:**  
The Clorox Services Company  
7200 Johnson Dr.  
Pleasanton, CA 94588

By: Reza S. Rahaman, PhD  
Manager of Product Safety, Environment & Regulatory Compliance  
925-469-8336

MR 39379

**Transmittal Date:** September 8, 2000

**Product Name:** Fresh Step Cat Litter or Fresh Step Scoopable Litter. Contains Clay (CAS # 8031-18-3)

**Summary:** Unconfirmed report of child death due to ingestion of cat litter. Unclear which litter product was involved - Fresh Step or Fresh Step Scoopable Litter or litter from another company/brand.

Call was received by Prosa. International Poison Control Center with which Clorox contracts. Caller from Aberdeen, MD reported that her neighbor's small child suffocated and died after ingesting an unknown amount of Fresh Step Litter. The caller indicated that attempts to administer CPK were unsuccessful, allegedly due to blockage of the airway by the litter.

An obituary in The Aegis newspaper issued 9/1/00 reports a fatality in Aberdeen in which a child ingested cat litter (no brand specified)

Fresh Step Cat Litter consists of >95% clay. Clorox is unaware of any similar incidents of human fatality from ingestion of cat litter.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact me at 925-469-8336.

Sincerely,

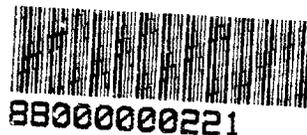
Reza S. Rahaman, PhD  
Manager of Product Safety, Environment & Regulatory Compliance

Enc (2)

Contain NO CPI

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OPPT CBIC  
2000 SEP 27 AM 10:34

P.O. Box 493  
Pleasanton, California  
94566-0802  
(510) 847-6100  
FAX (510) 463-1187



**Client Name:** Clorox  
**Division:** No Division

**Case Number:** 1169998

**Date/Time:** 8/21/00 2:41:00 PM

**Call Classification:** Contact Inquiry

#### Patient/Caller Information

**Caller's Name:** Molly Dry

**Relation to Patient:** Friend

**Patient's Name:** child

**(Age/Gender):** Small Child (>=1 yr., <6 yr.)/F

**Address:** Woodland Green Court, Aberdeen, MD  
21001 USA

**Phone Number:** (410)273-9233 [home]

**Reason for missing information:** Caller Lacked Info

#### Product Information

**Product Name:** Fresh Step Cat Litter

**UPC Code:**

**EPA #:**

**Lot #:**

**Additional Description:**

#### General Information

**Route of Product Contact:** Ingestion

**Symptoms to Date:** Cardiac Arrest; Other

**Time to Symptom Onset:** Unable to determine      **Duration of Symptoms:** anticipated permanent

**Treatments to Date:** Other

**Management Site:** ER/HCF; On-site

**Severity:** Death

#### Notes

**Date/Time:** 8/21/00 2:41:00 PM

**Name of Specialist:** Bryan Mayer

**Symptoms:** Cardiac Arrest

**Treatments:** Other

**Management Site:** On-site

**History:** Caller states her neighbor's small child passed away yesterday after ingesting an unknown amount of cat litter. Caller states she attempted CPR but could not get air down airway as product apparently swelled up causing blockage. When EMS arrived, they apparently had the same problem. Their suction equipment was unable to remove it as well. Caller states she has been to her psychiatrist, her counselor and is still stressed over this. Feels the company should be liable for this. Also concerned about the labeling of the product. Caller wants to know if any other cases such as this have occurred.

**Assessment:** Advised caller that IPC will have someone from Clorox Customer Service Dept. contact her. IPC cannot release information about other cases.

**Date/Time:** 8/21/00 3:25:00 PM      **Name of Specialist:** Dean Filandrinos  
**Symptoms:**  
**Treatments:**  
**Management Site:**  
**History:** Informed Janet Martinez of case.

**Date/Time:** 8/30/00 3:13:00 PM      **Name of Specialist:** Rick Kingston  
**Symptoms:** Other  
**Treatments:** Other  
**Management Site:** ER/HCF  
**History:** Note: Will add symptom of 'suffocation' as this effect was suggested by the history provided by the caller.  
**Assessment:** Addendum for case record.

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Friday, September 1, 2000 A19

THE AEGIS

# Obituaries

## Hidden danger

A fatal accident earlier this month in Aberdeen should have put cat owners and, more importantly, parents on alert. In that incident, a 4-year-old girl ingested cat litter and began choking. Her 15-year-old caregiver's first response was to give her water to try to flush it down her throat. Many of us would have had the same response. It turns out flushing is a deadly response.

Many of the new cat litters on the market are designed to clump when liquid, presumably cat urine, comes in contact with them. It's a convenience for cat owners who must clean up messy, smelly litter boxes. Like anything that isn't meant to be ingested by a human, it can be harmful, even deadly.

The Aberdeen incident ended tragically. A little girl is dead. Her death is a lesson for all of us. Young children require close supervision at all times. In this case, the child was put to bed for the night in a room where the litter box was kept. We urge parents and caregivers to take a close look at the room where children sleep, as well as the rest of the house. Make sure cleaning products and medicines are kept out of reach of children or the cabinet where the stuff is stored has a childproof mechanism. We know parents and caregivers can't check on a child every minute during the night. If they did, they wouldn't get any sleep. But we can all be aware of a child's surroundings and take some measures to make sure their environment is safer. That old adage, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, is so true.

**CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY**

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Date produced 05 25 2001 Mary Jurek  
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Place Syracuse New York  
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