



May 31, 2006

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(Attn: TSCA 8(e) Coordinator)  
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20460-0001

Attn: 8(e) Coordinator

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SUBJECT: NTP CUMENE BIOASSAY DRAFT RESULTS

Shell Chemical LP is submitting the following information under TSCA 8(e), since it may constitute substantial health risk information not previously known to the Administrator.

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) has recently concluded a lifetime inhalation study on cumene in mice and rats. The raw pathology data has been posted on the web site at

<http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/index.cfm?objectid=DB6715B7-F1F6-975E-76CB143AD47F41F4>

Rats and mice were exposed by inhalation for lifetime at concentrations of 0, 250, 500 and 1000 ppm [rats, male mice] or 0, 125, 250 and 500 ppm [female mice]. Preliminary screening of the data indicates that cumene was irritating to the nose and lung in mice, but only to the nose in rats, resulting in hyperplasia and other effects in both the nasal epithelium and/or lung. In male rats there was an increase in bladder and possibly kidney tumors, and adenomas were seen in the nose at all three concentrations. Adenomas and carcinomas were seen in the lungs of male and female mice at all three concentrations. The relevance of these data to humans is not known.

Shell Chemical LP will review its current hazard communication practices with regards to cumene in light of this information to determine what actions may be required.

This report is filed to provide information EPA may find useful. In no way is it intended as a waiver of any rights or privileges belonging to Shell Chemical LP as the reporting corporation, its agents or employees. The reporting corporation, its agents and employees, reserve the right to object to this report's use or admissibility in any subsequent judicial or administrative proceeding against the corporation, its agents or employees.

This report has been compiled based on information available as of the date of filing. The corporation, its agents and employees reserve the right to supplement the data contained in this report, and to revise and amend any conclusions drawn therefrom.

This report contains no Confidential Business Information.

The following person should be contacted if you have questions or a need for discussion:

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Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "PJ Snyder", is positioned above the typed name.

P. J. Snyder, General Manager  
HSSE - SD  
Shell Chemical LP

cc: Andrew Jacques, Cumene Chemstar Panel Manager  
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bc:  
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R. H. Dickehuth (SHR 343-06-02)