

November 17, 2024

## **RE: Support Listing Vinyl Acetate Under Proposition 65 for Cancer**

CleanEarth4Kids.org strongly supports listing vinyl acetate under Proposition 65 for cancer.

### **Vinyl Acetate Is Toxic**

In the US, [vinyl acetate](#) is used in the manufacture of glues and adhesives, vinyl flooring, latex paint, some fabrics, photosensitive coatings, food starch and thickeners, insulation for wires and cables, and food packaging.<sup>1</sup>

Vinyl acetate has been listed as a [suspected carcinogen](#) by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) since 2007 and has been banned by the European Union (EU) in cosmetics and personal care products.<sup>2</sup>

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has listed vinyl acetate as a [possible human carcinogen](#) since 1995.<sup>3</sup>

California banned the use of vinyl acetate in cosmetics when [AB 496](#) was signed into law in October 2023 because of the cancer risk.<sup>4</sup>

[Chronic inhalation](#) of vinyl acetate in animal studies caused nasal and thyroid cancers.<sup>5</sup>

Vinyl acetate is also listed as an [Extremely Hazardous Substance \(EHS\)](#) by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).<sup>6</sup> It can [irritate eyes, skin and prolonged exposure](#) can cause blisters or burns on skin.<sup>7</sup> High levels of [exposure can cause](#) fatigue, irritability, disturbed sleep, dizziness, and lightheadedness and can affect the heart, nervous system, and liver, as well as decrease fertility in males.<sup>8</sup>

High levels of [vinyl acetate exposure](#) can cause anesthetic effects (incoordination, drowsiness, confusion) and can also harm the central nervous system.<sup>9</sup>

[Vinyl acetate inhalation](#) in animal studies can cause extensive lung damage, leading to death, and also caused symptoms such as labored breathing, lung congestion with fluid and blood, necrotic nasal lesions, nasal bleeding, lesions in trachea and lungs,

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.chemicalsafetyfacts.org/chemicals/vinyl-acetate-monomer-vam/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://echa.europa.eu/substance-information/-/substanceinfo/100.003.224>

<sup>3</sup> <https://monographs.iarc.who.int/list-of-classifications>

<sup>4</sup> [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240AB496](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB496)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/referencework/9780123694003/encyclopedia-of-toxicology>

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2014-11/documents/vinyl\\_acetate\\_final\\_volume\\_14\\_apr\\_2013.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2014-11/documents/vinyl_acetate_final_volume_14_apr_2013.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> <https://wwwn.cdc.gov/TSP/PHS/PHS.aspx?phsid=669&toxid=124>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.nj.gov/health/eoh/rtkweb/documents/fs/1998.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.toxicdocs.org/d/bazGXYEaop9aOgGEvO4JganRZ?lightbox=1>

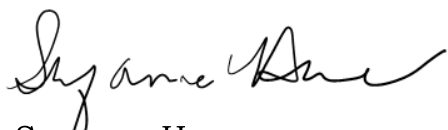
impaired coordination, growth restriction of the fetus, minor fetal skeletal defects, and cancerous lesions in upper respiratory tract.<sup>10</sup> It can also [cause](#) neoplastic liver nodules, adenocarcinomas and C-cell adenomas on the thyroid, and uterine polyps.<sup>11</sup>

**Please List Vinyl Acetate For Cancer Under Proposition 65**

CleanEarth4Kids.org asks the OEHHA Carcinogen Identification Committee to list vinyl acetate for cancer under Prop 65.

The decisions we make today affect our children's health and future.

Sincerely,



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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/ToxProfiles/tp59.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK464344/>