



Gavin Newsom, Governor
Yana Garcia, Secretary for Environmental Protection
Lauren Zeise, Ph.D., Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Yana Garcia
Secretary for Environmental Protection
California Environmental Protection Agency

FROM: Lauren Zeise, Ph.D. Lauren Zeise
Director Lauren Zeise (Aug 4, 2023 09:33 PDT)

DATE: August 4, 2023

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF REVISED CANCER INHALATION UNIT RISK FACTOR FOR COBALT SULFATE HEPTAHYDRATE AND WATER-SOLUBLE COBALT COMPOUNDS

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has adopted a revised cancer inhalation unit risk (IUR) for cobalt sulfate heptahydrate and water-soluble cobalt compounds for use in the Air Toxics Hot Spots (Hot Spots) program, effective today. These values have been provided to the California Air Resources Board for incorporation into the Hotspots Analysis and Reporting Program (HARP) software suite. HARP software is used to generate Hot Spots facility health risk assessments.

Cobalt in various forms has many industrial uses, including as catalysts in the oil and chemical industries, and as components in solar panels and lithium- and nickel-based rechargeable batteries. Cobalt air emissions sources in California include the petroleum industry, cement kilns, semiconductor and electronic components facilities, aerospace product and parts manufacturing, alloy manufacturing, and battery manufacturers.

A draft document for the revised cobalt and cobalt compounds IUR was submitted for public comments in May 2023, and peer reviewed by the State's Scientific Review Panel (SRP) on Toxic Air Contaminants in June 2023. No public comments on this document were received. Following SRP review, the draft was finalized.

The final documents that describe the scientific basis for the cobalt and cobalt compounds IUR and slope factor are attached and are being made available on the OEHHA Web site today.

Yana Garcia, Secretary for Environmental Protection

August 4, 2023

Page 2

Attachments

cc: Shereen D'Souza
Deputy Secretary for Climate Policy and Intergovernmental Relations
California Environmental Protection Agency

Richard Boyd, Assistant Division Chief
Transportation and Toxics Division
California Air Resources Board

Robert Krieger, Chief
Risk Reduction Branch
California Air Resources Board

David Edwards
Chief Deputy Director
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

Kannan Krishnan, Chief
Air and Site Assessment and Climate Indicators Branch
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

Rima Woods, Chief
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