

# ALKYLPHENOLS BULLETIN

An Update from the Alkylphenols & Ethoxylates Research Council

## US EPA Proposes to Add NPE to Toxics Release Inventory Despite Concentrations Well Below Water Quality Criteria

November 16, 2016 – US EPA issued a proposed rule to add nonylphenol ethoxylates to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI). The rule, which has been expected for some time now, was first mentioned in the 2011 US EPA TSCA Chemical Action Plan for Nonylphenol and Nonylphenol Ethoxylates. Nonylphenol was added in 2013 with first reports due in 2016.

Environmental concentrations of nonylphenol and nonylphenol ethoxylates in U.S. surface water are very low and unlikely to exceed USEPA's water quality criteria (WQC). There are extensive studies and assessments available in the published or publicly available literature, which have found that the likelihood is extremely low that concentrations of Nonylphenol ethoxylates and its degradation intermediates, including Nonylphenol, in US surface waters exceed the chronic US EPA NP WQC – even when considered in aggregate.<sup>1</sup>

The Alkylphenols & Ethoxylates Research Council (APERC) will be reviewing and providing comment in response to the proposed rule to add Nonylphenol Ethoxylates to the TRI.

NPEs are surfactants that have been largely deselected in consumer product applications and are primarily used today in industrial applications.

<sup>1</sup>Staples, C. *et al.* (2016). "Exposure analysis of alkylphenol ethoxylates and their metabolites in U.S. surface waters: combining deterministic and distributional analyses". Poster at Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. November 6-10, 2016, Orlando, Florida, USA

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The Alkylphenols & Ethoxylates Research Council (APERC) is a North American organization whose mission is to promote the continued safe use of AP and APE products through science-based research, product stewardship and outreach efforts, within the framework of responsible chemical management.

**APE Research Council**

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