

# The Chemistry Industry: A strong partner to Canada's chemicals management plan

Through our world-class Chemicals Management Plan (CMP), Canada is achieving its objective of reducing the risks posed by chemicals to Canadians and their environment. Following Royal Assent of Bill S-5 (*Strengthening Environmental Protection for a Healthier Canada Act*) in June 2023, the CMP is set to continue delivering positive results using the science- and risk-based approach at the heart of the Act.

## How has the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA) been modernized?

### ▶ The right to a healthy environment

- Bill S-5 requires that decisions made under CEPA respect CEPA's preambular right to a healthy environment, which serves as a lens through which risk assessment and risk management decisions can be made.
- Over the next two years, the federal government will develop an implementation framework to set out how this right will be considered in administering the Act. ESG initiatives like CIAC's Responsible Care® are critical in safeguarding the right to a healthy environment and should serve as a model for implementation.

### ▶ New plan of chemicals management priorities

- Within two years, a multi-year, integrated plan for the assessment of substances in commerce in Canada will be published. This plan will build on the work that has been done to address the over 4,300 substances categorized under the original CMP.
- This plan will incorporate, as applicable, several important factors such as vulnerable populations and cumulative effects.

### ▶ New Approach Methodologies

- New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) are cutting-edge scientific methods that will play a key role in driving the next phase of the CMP forward. Incorporating NAMs into risk assessments will reduce the use of vertebrate animal testing while continuing to protect human health and the environment.

### ▶ Bifurcation of Schedule 1

- Schedule 1 has been split into two parts to better implement CEPA's two-track approach for managing substances and to create a clearer distinction between pathways for risk management. Consistent with the risk-based approach, this bifurcation also recognizes that there are some substances with specific uses that are more concerning than others.
- Substances of highest risk will be listed in Part 1, with a priority given to prohibition, while the remaining substances will be listed in Part 2, with a priority given to pollution prevention.

### ▶ Public request mechanism

- In support of transparency and public participation in the chemicals management process, a new provision will allow any person to request that the Ministers assess a substance.
- This accountability mechanism can be used by any stakeholder to support their right to a healthy environment.

### ▶ Safer and more sustainable alternatives

- Bill S-5 encourages the selection of safer alternatives and avoiding what are known as 'regrettable substitutions'. Specifically, class-based assessments will be used to avoid substitution of a substance with another substance of the same class that is just as harmful.



## CANADA'S CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT PLAN (CMP)

### A Global Success Story

Chemicals are an integral part of everyday life, essential to our economies, our communities, our homes. Canada's CMP is leading the world in the assessment and management of risks for the full set of existing and new chemicals in the Canadian economy. Since the launch of the CMP in 2006, and as part of their commitment to Responsible Care<sup>®</sup>, CIAC members have reduced the emission intensity of substances listed on CEPA Schedule 1 by 20 per cent.

## CMP Progress in Reducing Risks from Chemicals

1999 to  
2006

### CATEGORIZATION AND PRIORITIZATION

All 23,000 substances on the Domestic Substances List (DSL) were reviewed and categorized.

Only ~4,300 substances were identified as posing potential risks and requiring further assessment.



■ Reviewed and no further action    □ To be assessed by 2020

Since  
2006

### MANAGING RISKS OF EXISTING SUBSTANCES

As of October 2022, draft or final risk assessments have been completed for over 4,100 substances of the ~4,300 identified as priority for action.

Over 100 risk management actions have been implemented to address over 450 substances found to meet the criteria under CEPA Schedule 1.

Finishing efforts to address the remaining ~200 priority substances.



■ Assessment completed    ▨ Substance identified as posing risks    □ To be assessed by 2020

### MANAGING NEW SUBSTANCES

CEPA 1999 requires notification for new chemical substances prior to their introduction into the Canadian market.

Approximately 500 notifications are assessed, and 30 control measures are developed per year.



■ New substances approval    ▨ Conditions placed to ensure safe use

2023 and  
beyond

Exploring a new plan of chemicals management priorities that incorporates the most cutting-edge science and promotes transparency through a public request mechanism.

To learn more, visit:  
[canadianchemistry.ca](http://canadianchemistry.ca)



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