

TSCA §8(e) Questions & Answers

Published by the USEPA and dated January 2005

Additional questions and answers that address the reporting of information on chemical releases to the environment, as well as other aspects of TSCA Section 8(e), will be added to this web page in the future, as appropriate, as they become available.

Q.1. Analysis of soil or groundwater samples provides new information about the extent of contamination at a site known to be contaminated. Is this information “previously unsuspected”?

A.1. New information about the presence of a substance or mixture in soil or groundwater (or other environmental media) at a site known to be contaminated with that substance or mixture would be “previously unsuspected” if it materially added to or changed the understanding of the amount, extent and/or pattern (e.g., groundwater in addition to previous evidence in soil) of site contamination.

Q.2. Is there an obligation to conduct risk assessments under TSCA 8(e)?

A.2. No. Preparation of a qualitative or quantitative risk assessment based on new toxicity or exposure data is not required under §8(e).

Q.3. Does EPA consider “Emergency Incidents of Environmental Contamination” reported to the National Response Center (NRC) “known to the Administrator” for TSCA 8(e) purposes?

A.3. Yes, emergency incidents of environmental contamination reported to the NRC would be considered “known to the Administrator” for TSCA §8(e) purposes. A person should report the incident to the Administrator or the National Response Center by telephone as soon as he/she has knowledge of the incident. A twenty-four hour emergency telephone number for the National Response Center is (800) 424-8802 or (202) 267-2675 in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Alternatively, EPA Regional telephone numbers are as follows:

Region I (Maine, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire), (617) 223-7265.

Region II (New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands), (201) 548- 8730.

Region III (Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia), (215) 814-3255.

Region IV (Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida), (404) 562-8700.

Region V (Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Minnesota), (312) 353-2318.

Region VI (New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana), (214) 655-6428.

Region VII (Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas), (913) 281-0991.

Region VIII (Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota), (800) 227-8917.

Region IX (California, Nevada, Arizona, Hawaii, Guam), (415) 972-4400.

Region X (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska), (206) 553-1263.

See Policy Statement Part V.(c).