

## **LAS CAS 68081-81-2:**

This message is regarding a linear alkylbenzene sulfonate (LAS) product CAS 68081-81-2 that is categorized as a priority chemical on the Domestic Substance List. The message is being sent on behalf of CEPESA Quimica, S.A., a Spanish company that is a world leader in linear alkylbenzene (LAB) production, with an LAB plant in Canada (Bécancour – Québec). The main use for LAB is production of linear alkylbenzene sulfonate (LAS), a major cleaning agent (surfactant) used in laundry and cleaning products in Canada and worldwide.

In providing this information on LAS, CEPESA Quimica is supported by CLER, the Council for LAB/LAS Environmental Research, an organization of scientists and technical specialists representing manufacturers of linear alkylbenzene (LAB) and linear alkylbenzene sulfonate (LAS). CLER's mission is to conduct research and distribute scientific information on the environmental and human safety of these materials.

LAS is an extremely well documented product, with extensive data available from an OECD SIDS Assessment Report (<http://www.chem.unep.ch/irptc/sids/oecdsids/LAS.pdf>, OECD 2005). Based on this data we are providing the following information with the request that the information be used to update the categorization of LAS CAS 68081-81-2 on the DSL:

### Inherently Toxic to Aquatic Organisms?

The extensive data available on LAS acute aquatic toxicity is comprehensively reviewed in the OECD SIDS Assessment report (pp. 34-38) and indicates that all reliable values are greater than 1 mg/L (Table 10, p. 37). Based on the available evidence, LAS should not be categorized as inherently toxic to aquatic organisms.

### Bioaccumulative?

Data are available from a bioconcentration factor (BCF) study in fish (fathead minnows) following OECD Guideline 305E (OECD SIDS Assessment, p. 17). The results, BCF = 87, calculated from the data on individual LAS homologues and isomers for a commercial LAS mixture (C11.6 LAS), indicate low bioaccumulative potential. The BCF findings are supported by other data indicating rapid metabolism (deuration) in fish (and in rats) of LAS).

The weight of available evidence strongly supports the DSL categorization that LAS is not bioaccumulative.

### Persistent?

The available data indicate that LAS undergoes rapid and complete biodegradation in the environment, and demonstrating ready biodegradability in OECD 301A and 301B tests (See OECD SIDS Assessment, pp. 15-16).

The weight of available evidence strongly supports the DSL categorization that LAS is not persistent.

Meets Environmental Criteria for Categorization?

The available data (above) demonstrating that LAS is not inherently toxic to aquatic organisms, as well as the data supporting the DSL categorization that LAS is neither bioaccumulative nor persistent, strongly supports the DSL categorization that LAS does not meet the environmental criteria for categorization.

We respectfully request that the information cited in this message be used to update the categorization of LAS CAS 68081-81-2 on the DSL and that this information be retained in the CEPA DSL file on this material.

Additional information sources

Additional information on LAS may be found at the Health and Environmental Risk Assessment (HERA) project report on LAS ([http://www.heraproject.com/files/4-F-HERA\\_LASFinalReport2007revision10\\_07.pdf](http://www.heraproject.com/files/4-F-HERA_LASFinalReport2007revision10_07.pdf)) and the websites of Ecosol (<http://www.lasinfo.org/>) and CLER ([www.cler.com](http://www.cler.com)).