Australian Customs Notice No. 2020/29

Amendment to the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958* – Schedule 2 Rotterdam Convention Chemicals

**Phorate added to the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958***

With effect from 11 July 2020, phorate (an insecticide chemical) has been added to the list of prohibited chemicals in Schedule 2 of the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958* (the PE Regulations).

Under Regulation 4A of the PE Regulations, chemicals listed in Schedule 2 are prohibited exports from Australia, unless permission has been granted by the Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management or an authorised officer from the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE), under the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Regulations 1995* (the AVCA Regulations).

This amendment gives effect in Australian law to the listing of phorate in an amendment to Annex III of the *Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade* (the Convention). The Convention governs banned or severely restricted chemicals and severely hazardous pesticides.

Australia ratified the Convention on 20 May 2004. This amendment is a minor treaty action which was endorsed by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties on 2 December 2019.

Australia has also amended the AVCA Regulations to prescribe phorate as a controlled chemical as per the Convention.

This amendment ensures that Australia meets its obligations under the Convention to provide participating parties with sufficient information about substances to allow them to assess risk and make informed decisions on chemical imports.

For further information on applying for permission to export chemicals that are controlled under Schedule 2 of the PE Regulations or the AVCA Regulations, please visit the [Department of Agriculture, Water and the](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/) [Environment website.](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/)

[Signed]

Matthew Duckworth Assistant Secretary

Customs and Trade Policy Branch 6 July 2020

***Australia’s customs service***