

**NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS NOTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT SCHEME  
(NICNAS)**

**POLYMER OF LOW CONCERN FULL PUBLIC REPORT**

**Polymer in Nebothix C668-00**

This Assessment has been compiled in accordance with the provisions of the *Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act 1989* (Cwlth) (the Act) and Regulations. The National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) is administered by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, and conducts the risk assessment for public health and occupational health and safety. The assessment of environmental risk is conducted by the Australian Government Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

For the purposes of subsection 78(1) of the Act, this Full Public Report may be inspected at our NICNAS office by appointment only at Level 7, 260 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills NSW 2010.

This Full Public Report is also available for viewing and downloading from the NICNAS website or available on request, free of charge, by contacting NICNAS. For requests and enquiries please contact the NICNAS Administration Coordinator at:

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**Director  
NICNAS**

Month Year

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## 1. APPLICANT AND NOTIFICATION DETAILS

### Applicants

PPG Industries Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 82 055 500 939)  
McNaughton Rd, Clayton VIC 3168

### Exempt Information (Section 75 of the Act)

Data items and details claimed exempt from publication: chemical name, other names, CAS number, molecular and structural formulae, molecular weight, polymer constituents, residual monomers/impurities, use details and import volume

## 2. IDENTITY OF POLYMER

### Marketing Name(s)

Nebothix C668-00 (product containing the notified polymer)

### Molecular Weight

Number Average Molecular Weight (Mn) is > 1,000 Da

### Reactive Functional Groups

The notified polymer contains only low concern functional groups.

## 3. PLC CRITERIA JUSTIFICATION

<i>Criterion</i>	<i>Criterion met</i>
Molecular Weight Requirements	Yes
Functional Group Equivalent Weight (FGEW) Requirements	Yes
Low Charge Density	Yes
Approved Elements Only	Yes
Stable Under Normal Conditions of Use	Yes
Not Water Absorbing	Yes
Not a Hazard Substance or Dangerous Good	Yes

The notified polymer meets the PLC criteria.

## 4. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance at 20°C and 101.3 kPa:	Solid (polymer) Product (dark yellow liquid)
Melting Point/Glass Transition Temp	100°C
Density	950 kg/m <sup>3</sup> at 20°C (product)
Water Solubility	Expected to have low water solubility based on its predominately hydrophobic structure and the manufacturer's empirical observations
Particle Size	Imported in solution
Reactivity	Stable under normal environmental conditions
Degradation Products	None under normal conditions of use

## 5. INTRODUCTION AND USE INFORMATION

### Maximum Introduction Volume of Notified Chemical (100%) Over Next 5 Years

<i>Year</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
Tonnes	< 0.6	< 0.6	< 0.6	< 0.6	< 0.6

#### Use

The notified polymer will not be manufactured or reformulated in Australia.

The notified polymer will be imported at < 1% concentration in a coating product to use as a component of coatings for structural steel. The paint is typically applied by airless spray or with brush and roller for repair areas.

## 6. HUMAN HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT

No toxicological data were submitted. The notified polymer meets the PLC criteria and is therefore assumed to be of low hazard. The risk of the notified polymer to occupational and public health is not considered to be unacceptable given the assumed low hazard.

## 7. ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT

No ecotoxicological data were submitted. Polymers without significant ionic functionality are generally of low concern to the environment.

Minor amounts of notified polymer will be released as container and equipment washings during use, which are expected to be sent to a licensed waste facility for disposal in accordance with State/Territory regulations. The product containing the notified polymer will be applied by roller, brush or spray. The main release will be as overspray (up to 20% of imported polymer) during spray application and will typically entail landfill disposal after interception by protective sheeting. Discarded steel containing the notified polymer, and abrasively removed coating containing the notified polymer will be disposed of to landfill. Steel may be recycled for metals reclamation, which will entail thermal decomposition of the coating to form water vapour and oxides of carbon and nitrogen. In landfill, the notified polymer will be intermingled with a polymer matrix and therefore will be neither bioavailable nor mobile. Therefore, the notified polymer is not expected to pose an unacceptable risk to the environment when it is used as proposed.

## 8. RECOMMENDATIONS

### Human Health Risk Assessment

Based on the assumed low hazard, the notified polymer is not considered to pose an unacceptable risk to the health of workers and the public.

### Environmental Risk Assessment

Based on the assumed low hazard and the reported use pattern, the notified polymer is not considered to pose an unacceptable risk to the environment.

### Health and Safety Recommendations

- No specific engineering controls, work practices or personal protective equipment are required for the safe use of the notified polymer itself, however, these should be selected on the basis of all ingredients in the formulation.

Guidance in selection of personal protective equipment can be obtained from Australian, Australian/New Zealand or other approved standards.

- A copy of the MSDS should be easily accessible to employees.
- Spray application should be carried out in accordance with the Safe Work Australia *National Guidance Material for Spray Painting* [NOHSC (1999)].
- If products and mixtures containing the notified polymer are classified as hazardous to health in accordance with the *Approved Criteria for Classifying Hazardous Substances* [NOHSC:1008(2004)], workplace practices and control procedures consistent with provisions of State and Territory hazardous substances legislation must be in operation.

### Environmental Recommendations

- No specific control measures are required to minimise release of the notified polymer to the environment.

### Disposal

- The notified polymer should be disposed to landfill.

### Storage

- The following precautions should be taken by workers regarding storage of the notified polymer:
  - Store in a segregated and approved area.
  - Store in original container protected from direct sunlight in a dry, cool and well ventilated area, away from incompatible materials (oxidising substances, strong acids, strong bases).

### Emergency Procedures

- Prevent from entering into soil, ditches, sewers, waterways and/or groundwater.
- Spills and/or accidental release of the notified polymer should be handled by physical containment, collection and subsequent safe disposal.

### Secondary Notification

This risk assessment is based on the information available at the time of notification. The Director may call for the reassessment of the polymer under secondary notification provisions based on changes in certain circumstances. Under Section 64 of the *Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act (1989)* the notifier, as well as any other importer or manufacturer of the notified polymer, have post-assessment regulatory obligations to notify NICNAS when any of these circumstances change. These obligations apply even when the notified polymer is listed on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS).

Therefore, the Director of NICNAS must be notified in writing within 28 days by the notifier, other importer or manufacturer:

- (1) Under Section 64(1) of the Act; if
  - the notified polymer is introduced in a chemical form that does not meet the PLC criteria.

or

- (2) Under Section 64(2) of the Act; if
  - the function or use of the notified polymer has changed from a component of coatings for structural steel, or is likely to change significantly;

- the amount of notified polymer being introduced has increased, or is likely to increase, significantly;
- the notified polymer has begun to be manufactured in Australia;
- additional information has become available to the person as to an adverse effect of the chemical on occupational health and safety, public health, or the environment.

The Director will then decide whether a reassessment (i.e. a secondary notification and assessment) is required.

**Material Safety Data Sheet**

The MSDS of the product containing the notified polymer was provided by the applicant. The accuracy of the information on the MSDS remains the responsibility of the applicant.