

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

### POLYMER OF LOW CONCERN PUBLIC REPORT

**Z-182**

This Assessment has been compiled in accordance with the provisions of the *Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act 1989* (the Act) and Regulations. The National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) is administered by the Australian Government Department of Health, 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 the Environment and Energy.

This Public Report is 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**

November 2018

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## **SUMMARY**

The following details will be published in the NICNAS *Chemical Gazette*:

ASSESSMENT REFERENCE	APPLICANT(S)	CHEMICAL OR TRADE NAME	HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE	INTRODUCTION VOLUME	USE
PLC/1493	Lubrizol International Inc	Z-182	No	≤ 20 tonnes per annum	Component of industrial coatings

## **CONCLUSIONS AND REGULATORY OBLIGATIONS**

### **Human Health Risk Assessment**

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

### **Environmental Risk Assessment**

Based on the assumed low hazard and the assessed use pattern, the notified polymer is not considered to pose an unreasonable 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 SDS should be easily accessible to employees.
- Spray applications should be carried out in accordance with the Safe Work Australia Code of Practice for *Spray Painting and Powder Coating* (Safe Work Australia, 2015) or relevant State or Territory Code of Practice.
- If products and mixtures containing the notified polymer are classified as hazardous to health in accordance with the *Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)*, as adopted for industrial chemicals in Australia, workplace practices and control procedures consistent with provisions of State and Territory hazardous substances legislation should be in operation.

### **Disposal**

- Where reuse or recycling are not appropriate, dispose of the notified polymer in an environmentally sound manner in accordance with relevant Commonwealth, state, territory and local government legislation.

### **Emergency Procedures**

- 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 component of industrial coatings, 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 notified polymer 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.

#### **Safety Data Sheet**

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

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

### 1. APPLICANT AND NOTIFICATION DETAILS

#### Applicants

Lubrizol International Inc (ABN: 52 073 495 603)  
28 River Street  
SILVERWATER NSW 2128

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

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

### 2. IDENTITY OF POLYMER

#### Marketing Name(s)

Z-182

#### Other Name(s)

HPS5B  
OS371700

#### Molecular Weight

Number Average Molecular Weight (Mn) is > 1,000 g/mol

### 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	Black liquid
Melting Point/Glass Transition Temperature	Not determined
Density	1,100 kg/m <sup>3</sup> at 25 °C
Water Solubility	Soluble
Dissociation Constant	Not determined
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>
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Tonnes	10 – 15	10 – 15	15 – 20	15 – 20	15 – 20
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### Use

The notified polymer will be used as a component of coatings.

No manufacturing of the notified polymer will be carried out in Australia. It will be imported at  $\leq 5\%$  concentration as finished wood coating products or at 100% concentration for local reformulation. The reformulation process would involve pumping the notified polymer directly from its container to a blending tank where it will be mixed with other coating additives. These operations are expected to be carried out manually or semi-automatically in a closed industrial system by professional staff.

Application of finished coating products containing the notified polymer will be undertaken by professional workers. The method of application will be by brush, roller or spray.

The finished coating products will not be available for public use.

## 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 unreasonable given the assumed low hazard and the assessed use pattern.

## 7. ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT

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

The notified polymer will be imported into Australia as a component of a product for reformulation into finished coating formulations. During reformulation, the product containing the notified polymer will be blended with other ingredients at industrial sites and packaged for retail. Release of the notified polymer to the environment during import, reformulation, storage, and transport is expected to be limited to accidental spills or leaks and residue in import packaging. Spills or accidental release of the products containing the notified polymer are expected to be collected with adsorbents, and disposed of to landfill in accordance with local government regulations.

Products containing the notified polymer will be used in mainly commercial and industrial settings. During use, the products containing the notified polymer are expected to be applied by brush, roller or spray. During use, the notified polymer may be released to the environment as accidental spills and container residues. These releases are expected to be collected and disposed of to landfill in accordance with local government regulations.

The main release of the notified polymer is likely from overspray during use, estimated by the notifier to account for up to 20 - 30% of the total import volume. The overspray will be collected and trapped onto filters and cured before disposal of to landfills. Residues containing the notified polymer on brushes and rollers are expected to be rinsed into containers, and then allowed to cure before disposal as solid wastes to landfill.

The notified polymer in coatings will share the fate of the coated article, which ultimately is expected to be disposed of to landfill or enter metal recycling. In landfill, the notified polymer will be present as cured solids, which will be neither bioavailable nor mobile. During metal recycling the notified polymer is expected to be completely thermally decomposed. Based on its high molecular weight, the notified polymer is not expected to cross biological membranes, and is therefore unlikely to bioaccumulate. In landfill the notified polymer is expected to eventually degrade via biotic and abiotic processes to form water and oxides of carbon and nitrogen.

Therefore, based on its assumed low hazard and reported use pattern, the notified polymer is not considered to pose an unreasonable risk to the environment.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Safe Work Australia (2015) Code of Practice: Spray Painting and Powder Coating, Safe Work Australia, <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/model-code-practice-spray-painting-and-powder-coating>.