

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

POLYMER OF LOW CONCERN FULL PUBLIC REPORT

Polymer in Aropol 6184

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**

September 2011

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1. APPLICANT AND NOTIFICATION DETAILS

Applicants

Nuplex Industries (Aust) Pty Ltd (ABN: 25 000 045 572)
49-61 Stephens Road
Botany, NSW 2019

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, polymer constituents, residual monomers/impurities, use details, and manufacture volume.

2. IDENTITY OF POLYMER

Marketing Name(s)

Aropol 6184 (70% 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	Clear liquid.* Polymer is not isolated from solution.
Melting Point/Glass Transition Temp	Not determined. Polymer is not isolated from solution.
Density	1150 kg/m ³ at 25 °C*
Water Solubility	Not determined. The notified polymer is expected to have low solubility based on its hydrophobic chemical structure.
Dissociation Constant	Not applicable. The notified polymer does not contain dissociable functionality.
Reactivity	While the notified polymer contains hydrolysable functionality, based on its expected low solubility, it is expected to be hydrolytically stable.
Degradation Products	None under normal conditions of use

*Aropol 6184 containing 70% notified polymer

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	300-600	300-600	300-600	300-600	300-600

Use

The notified polymer will be manufactured and reformulated in Australia.

The notified polymer will be used as a component of gelcoat resins at a concentration of 30-50%. The coatings containing the notified polymer will be used in the manufacture of weather resistant fibreglass roofing panels. The notified polymer is intended to be used in industrial settings and will only be available to the public in the form of finished articles.

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. Most of the notified polymer will be irreversibly incorporated within the cured gelcoat sandwiched between fibreglass sheeting. Release of the notified polymer to the aquatic environment is not expected at any stage in the lifecycle of the notified polymer within Australia. Residues from manufacture, reformulation and end-use equipment washings and from storage containers are expected to be collected and, after solidification, be disposed of to landfill. In landfill, the notified polymer is expected to eventually degrade to form water and oxides of carbon. Based on its assumed low hazard and assessed use pattern, the notified polymer is not considered to pose an unreasonable risk to the environment.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

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.
- A copy of the MSDS should be easily accessible to employees.
- 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.

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

Disposal

- The notified polymer should be disposed to landfill.

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, or is likely to change significantly;
 - the amount of notified polymer being introduced has increased, or is likely to increase, significantly;
 - the method of manufacture of the notified polymer in Australia has changed, or is likely to change, in a way that may result in an increased risk of an adverse effect of the notified polymer on occupational health and safety, public health, or the environment;
 - 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.

Material Safety Data Sheet

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