

December 16, 2005

The Honorable Stephen L. Johnson, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 1473
Merrifield, VA 22116

Attention: Chemical Right-to-Know Program

Re: Update of Gas Oils Category Test Plan
HPV Consortium #1100997

Dear Administrator Johnson:

The Petroleum HPV Testing Group is a consortium representing 92 percent of the nation's petroleum refining capacity. The Group is made up of 62 member companies of the American Petroleum Institute (API), the National Petrochemical & Refiners Association (NPR), the Gas Producers Association (GPA) and the Asphalt Institute. Per this letter, the Testing Group is submitting an updated version of its Test Plan for the Gas Oils Category.

The updated version of the Gas Oils Test Plan is being submitted in response to an inquiry from an Agency contractor regarding a substance (CAS No. 64742-72-9) that the Petroleum HPV Testing consortium has agreed to sponsor in the HPV program, but which has not yet appeared in any of the Test Plans submitted to the Agency.

API and the Petroleum HPV Testing consortium consider the material to be sponsored within the HPV Challenge Program. Moreover, the consortium is committed to meeting its sponsorship agreements for this substance.

Specifically, the consortium, via this updated Test Plan, has incorporated CAS No. 64742-72-9 into its Gas Oils Test Plan. It was our intent to update the list of CAS numbers included in the test plan when we responded to the Agency and public comments on the Test Plan. However, to meet the Agency's request for clarification on sponsorship, we are providing this updated Test Plan, which includes CAS number 64742-72-9. It should be noted that no changes have been made to the corresponding Robust Summary that is currently posted on the ChemRTK website.

We are actively addressing the Agency and public comments received on the original Test Plan. As part of this activity, API and the consortium are gathering more information on the substances included in the category from member company sponsors. It is our intent to submit a more complete response letter and revised Test Plan and Robust Summary after completing our revisions in 2006.

In the interest of communicating our intent with all interested stakeholders, the Testing Group is providing an updated Test Plan for posting on the ChemRTK website. In addition, the updated document will also be posted on our website, www.petroleumhpv.org.

If you have further questions or comments about the program, please call me at (202) 682-8480.

Sincerely,



Thomas Gray, M.S., DABT

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Technical Manager, Petroleum HPV Testing Group

cc: O. Hernandez, EPA
M. Townsend, EPA
Petroleum HPV Testing Group Oversight Committee
Petroleum HPV Testing Group Technical Committee