

Message

From: Jones, Enesta [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=65B8E6C6E5CA4A7A9AE85D98A4C8EEDB-EJONES02]
Sent: 3/16/2018 12:48:48 PM
To: Ewing Tom [Ex. 6]
CC: Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]
Subject: Re: EPA Inquiry

Tom,

On background:

Are contractors now disallowed from using isobutane (R-600a), propane (R-290), and R-441A or does the April 10, 2015 Final Rule remain in effect, which still allows the use of the compounds, with those same use conditions?

Response: Contractors may continue to use isobutane, propane, or R-441A in new household refrigerators and freezers in accordance with the use conditions established in those final rules (76 FR 78832, December 20, 2011; 80 FR 19454, April 10, 2015).

What is EPA's timeline for further work on the proposed rule to update and incorporate the UL/industry standard?

Response: EPA will address all significant comments on the proposed rule in a subsequent final action.

What are the impacts or consequences if a rule cannot be modified to reflect updated standards? Would that product(s) be withdrawn from the market?

Response: To the extent practicable, EPA relies on established voluntary consensus-based standards when establishing use conditions to address equipment safety. Any new household refrigerator or freezer using isobutane, propane, or R-441A would need to meet the requirements of the use conditions in the December 2011 and April 2015 final rules, including compliance with UL 250 (10th edition, August 25, 2000), until a final rule with an updated standard is issued.

On Mar 13, 2018, at 2:36 PM, Ewing Tom <[Ex. 6]> wrote:

Hi Enesta - thanks! Hope you are doing well.

Deadline: Friday, March 16 EOB.

TE

From: "Jones, Enesta" <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov>

To: [Ex. 6]

Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 2:18 PM

Subject: EPA Inquiry

Hi Tom,

Hope all is well.

We have your inquiry below. What's your firm deadline?

Chenise Farquharson
Stratospheric Protection Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Ms. Farquharson - I am a freelance writer working on a report for Contracting Business magazine, which focuses on HVAC and related issues.

I'm interested in the Federal Register notice, 03/07/18, which withdraws a 12/11/17 direct final rule pertaining to refrigeration materials and industry based standards. The rule was withdrawn because of an adverse comment.

Can you help with the following questions?

* Are contractors now disallowed from using isobutane (R-600a), propane (R-290), and R-441A or does the April 10, 2015 Final Rule remain in effect, which still allows the use of the compounds, with those same use conditions?

* What is EPA's timeline for further work on the proposed rule to update and incorporate the UL/industry standard?

* What are the impacts or consequences if a rule cannot be modified to reflect updated standards? Would that product(s) be withdrawn from the market?

Thank you.

Tom Ewing
"reply" or

Ex. 6