



21 July 2017

(17-4021)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, dated 21 July 2017, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the United States of America.

TITLE: Labeling Relief; Formaldehyde Emission Standards for Composite Wood Products

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

ACTION: Direct final rule

SUMMARY: EPA is taking direct final action to amend a final rule that published in the Federal Register on 12 December 2016 concerning formaldehyde emission standards for composite wood products. The amendment will allow compliant composite wood products and finished goods that contain compliant composite wood products that were manufactured prior to 12 December 2017 to be labeled as Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Title VI compliant. This means that regulated composite wood products and finished goods that meet the required formaldehyde emissions standards could be voluntarily labeled as compliant as soon as compliance can be achieved. This will enhance regulatory flexibility and facilitate a smoother supply chain transition to compliance with the rule's broader requirements, as well as promote lower formaldehyde emitting products entering commerce earlier than under the rule as originally published. EPA believes that the amendment is non-controversial and does not expect to receive any adverse comments. However, in addition to this direct final rulemaking, elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, EPA is promulgating the amendment as a notice of proposed rulemaking that will be used in the event of adverse comment on the amendments within this direct final action.

DATES: This final rule is effective on 25 August 2017 without further notice, unless EPA receives adverse comment by 26 July 2017. If EPA receives adverse comment, we will publish a timely withdrawal in the Federal Register informing the public that the rule will not take effect.

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2017/TBT/USA/17_3338_00_e.pdf
