

## **Public Consultation (including Stakeholders)**

### **Proposed Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing on the market and use of Biocidal Products**

#### **Return comments before 28 February 2010**

The Pesticide Control Service of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food seeks comments from stakeholders and the public on a proposed European Regulation for the placing on the market and use of biocidal products. The proposed European Regulation and the accompanying Impact Assessment can be downloaded at the following [Link](#)

Biocides cover a wide and diverse sector of chemical use and include disinfectants, wood and other preservatives, pest control agents used to control harmful organisms such as bacteria, fungi and rodents and other specialist chemicals such as antifouling and embalming substances.

On the 12 June 2009 the European Commission published their proposal for a European Regulation concerning the placing on the market and use of biocidal products. This will revise and replace the current regulatory framework for the marketing and use of biocidal products contained in the Biocidal Products Directive 98/8/EC (BPD) and corresponding transpositions into Irish law (S.I. 624 of 2001 and S.I. 625 of 2001, as amended). Once in force (currently scheduled for January 2013), the proposed European Regulation will directly apply to all Member States, including Ireland.

The proposal is a reaction to the general view that the current regulatory regime for biocidal products is not working satisfactorily. The proposal retains the concept of assessing active substances at EU level for inclusion in a positive list (Annex I) and, subsequent, authorisation of biocidal products containing those substances. However it aims to improve and update certain elements of the current system. Among the key changes proposed are:

- Extending the regulatory regime to cover treated articles/materials containing biocides.
- Adopting a centralised Community authorisation scheme for certain products.
- Requiring mandatory data sharing of vertebrate animal test data.
- Reducing the burden of data requirements for “low-risk” substances and products.
- Proposals for exclusion criteria, candidates for substitution and comparative assessment.
- Harmonising a fee structure across Member States (but not the level of fees).

Further information on the proposed European Regulation for biocides may be found on the website of the [European Commission](#)

Please provide comments on the proposed European Regulation using the available **public consultation commenting form**.

Please return your comments before the 28 February 2010 to the Pesticide Control Service at the following address:

Pesticide Control Service  
Biocide Consultation  
Backweston Laboratory Complex  
Celbridge  
Co. Kildare

If you prefer the commenting form can be submitted to the Pesticide Control Service electronically using the following email address:

[BiocideConsultation@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:BiocideConsultation@agriculture.gov.ie)

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