

Helsinki, 21 June 2022

Addressees

Registrant(s) of JS_2128-93-0 as listed in Appendix 3 of this decision

Date of submission of the dossier subject to this decision

29/05/2018

Registered substance subject to this decision ("the Substance")

Substance name: 4-phenylbenzophenone

EC number: 218-345-2

Decision number: Please refer to the REACH-IT message which delivered this communication (in format CCH-D-XXXXXXXXXX-XX-XX/F)**DECISION ON A COMPLIANCE CHECK**

Under Article 41 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH), you must submit the information listed below, by the deadline of **28 March 2025**.

Requested information must be generated using the Substance unless otherwise specified.

Information required from all the Registrants subject to Annex VII of REACH

1. In vivo mammalian alkaline comet assay or Transgenic rodent somatic and germ cell gene mutation assays (triggered by Annex VII, Section 8.4., column 2)

Transgenic rodent somatic and germ cell gene mutation assay (Annex VII, Section 8.4., column 2; test method: OECD TG 488 from 2020) in transgenic mice or rats, oral route on the following tissues: liver and glandular stomach; duodenum must be harvested and stored for up to 5 years. Duodenum must be analysed if the results of the glandular stomach and of the liver are negative or inconclusive.

or

In vivo mammalian alkaline comet assay (Annex VII, Section 8.4., column 2; test method: EU B.62./OECD TG 489) in rats, or if justified, in other rodent species, oral route, on the following tissues: liver, glandular stomach and duodenum;

2. Long-term toxicity testing on aquatic invertebrates (triggered by Annex VII, Section 9.1.1., column 2; test method: EU C.20./OECD TG 211).

Information required from all the Registrants subject to Annex VIII of REACH

3. Long-term toxicity testing on fish (triggered by Annex VIII, Section 9.1.3., column 2; test method: OECD TG 210).

The reasons for the decision(s) are explained in Appendix 1.

Information required depends on your tonnage band

You must provide the information listed above for all REACH Annexes applicable to you in accordance with Articles 10(a) and 12(1) of REACH. The addressees of the decision and their corresponding information requirements based on registered tonnage band are listed in Appendix 3.

You are only required to share the costs of information that you must submit to fulfil your information requirements.

How to comply with your information requirements

To comply with your information requirements, you must submit the information requested by this decision in an updated registration dossier by the deadline indicated above. You must also **update the chemical safety report**, where relevant, including any changes to classification and labelling, based on the newly generated information.

You must follow the general requirements for testing and reporting new tests under REACH, see Appendix 4.

Appeal

This decision, when adopted under Article 51 of REACH, may be appealed to the Board of Appeal of ECHA within three months of its notification to you. Please refer to <http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/appeals> for further information.

Failure to comply

If you do not comply with the information required by this decision by the deadline indicated above, ECHA will notify the enforcement authorities of your Member State.

Authorised¹ under the authority of -Mike Rasenberg, Director of Hazard Assessment

Appendix 1: Reasons for the decision

Appendix 2: Procedure

Appendix 3: Addressees of the decision and their individual information requirements

Appendix 4: Conducting and reporting new tests under REACH

¹ As this is an electronic document, it is not physically signed. This communication has been approved according to ECHA's internal decision-approval process.

Appendix 1: Reasons for the decision

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Reasons related to the information under Annex VII of REACH**1. In vivo mammalian alkaline comet assay or Transgenic rodent somatic and germ cell gene mutation assays**

1 Under Annex VII Section 8.4., column 2 of REACH, further mutagenicity studies must be considered in case of a positive result in an in vitro gene mutation study in bacteria.

2 Your dossier contains positive results for the in vitro gene mutation study in bacteria which raise the concern for gene mutation.

3 The Guidance on IRs and CSA, Section R.7.7.6.3. states that following a positive result in an in vitro test, "adequately conducted somatic cell in vivo testing is required to ascertain if this potential can be expressed in vivo. In cases where it can be sufficiently deduced that a positive in vitro finding is not relevant for in vivo situations (e.g. due to the effect of the test substances on pH or cell viability, in vitro-specific metabolism: see also Section R.7.7.4.1), or where a clear threshold mechanism coming into play only at high concentrations that will not be reached in vivo has been identified (e.g. damage to non-DNA targets at high concentrations), in vivo testing will not be necessary."

1.1. Information provided

4 However, no data from an in vivo somatic cell genotoxicity study is available in the dossier. Moreover, you did not provide any considerations explaining that the genotoxic potential of the substance cannot be expressed in vivo, based for e.g. on lack of relevance for in vivo situations or the existence of threshold mechanism.

1.2. Assessment of the information provided

5 ECHA has assessed this information and considers that an appropriate in vivo follow up mutagenicity study is necessary to address the concern identified in vitro.

1.3. Test selection

6 According to the Guidance on IRs and CSA, Section R.7.7.6.3, either the transgenic rodent somatic and germ cell gene mutation assay ("TGR assay", OECD TG 488) or the in vivo mammalian alkaline comet assay ("comet assay", OECD TG 489) are suitable to follow up a positive in vitro result on gene mutation.

*1.4. Specification of the study design**1.4.1. TGR assay*

7 In case you decide to perform the TGR assay, according to the test method OECD TG 488, the test must be performed in transgenic mice or rats and the test substance is usually administered orally.

8 Based on the recent update of OECD TG 488 (2020), you are requested to follow the new 28+28d regimen, as it permits the testing of mutations in somatic tissues and as well as in tubule germ cells from the same animals.

9 According to the test method OECD TG 488, the test must be performed by analysing tissues from liver as slowly proliferating tissue and primary site of xenobiotic metabolism, glandular stomach and duodenum as rapidly proliferating tissue and site of direct contact. There are several expected or possible variables between the glandular stomach and the duodenum (different tissue structure and function, different pH conditions, variable physico-chemical properties and fate of the Substance, and probable different local absorption rates

of the Substance and its possible breakdown product(s)). In light of these expected or possible variables, it is necessary to analyse both tissues to ensure a sufficient evaluation of the potential for mutagenicity at the site of contact in the gastro-intestinal tract. However, duodenum must be stored (at or below $-70\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) until the analysis of liver and glandular stomach is completed; the duodenum must then be analysed only if the results obtained for the glandular stomach and for the liver are negative or inconclusive.

1.4.1.1. *Germ cells*

- 10 You may consider to collect the male germ cells (from the seminiferous tubules) at the same time as the other tissues, in order to limit additional animal testing. According to the OECD 488, the tissues (or tissue homogenates) can be stored under specific conditions and used for DNA isolation for up to 5 years (at or below $-70\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$). This duration is sufficient to allow you or ECHA, to decide on the need for assessment of mutation frequency in the collected germ cells. This type of evidence may be relevant for the overall assessment of possible germ cell mutagenicity including classification and labelling according to the CLP Regulation.

1.4.2. *Comet assay*

- 11 In case you decide to perform the comet assay according to the test method OECD TG 489, rats are the preferred species. Other rodent species can be used if scientifically justified (OECD TG 489, para. 23).
- 12 Having considered the anticipated routes of human exposure and the need for adequate exposure of the target tissue(s) performance of the test by the oral route is appropriate.
- 13 In line with the test method OECD TG 489, the test must be performed by analysing tissues from liver as primary site of xenobiotic metabolism, glandular stomach and duodenum as sites of contact. There are several expected or possible variables between the glandular stomach and the duodenum (different tissue structure and function, different pH conditions, variable physico-chemical properties and fate of the Substance, and probable different local absorption rates of the Substance and its possible breakdown product(s)). In light of these expected or possible variables, it is necessary to analyse both tissues to ensure a sufficient evaluation of the potential for genotoxicity at the site of contact in the gastro-intestinal tract.

1.4.2.1. *Germ cells*

- 14 You may consider to collect the male gonadal cells collected from the seminiferous tubules in addition to the other aforementioned tissues in the comet assay, as it would optimise the use of animals. You can prepare the slides for male gonadal cells and store them for up to 2 months, at room temperature, in dry conditions and protected from light. Following the generation and analysis of data on somatic cells in the comet assay, you should consider analysing the slides prepared with gonadal cells. This type of evidence may be relevant for the overall assessment of possible germ cell mutagenicity including classification and labelling according to the CLP Regulation.

2. **Long-term toxicity testing on aquatic invertebrates**

- 15 Short-term toxicity testing on aquatic invertebrates is an information requirement under Column 1 of Annex VII to REACH (Section 9.1.1.). However, long-term toxicity testing on aquatic invertebrates must be considered (Section 9.1.1., Column 2) if the substance is poorly water soluble.

2.1. Information provided

- 16 You have provided an OECD TG 202 study but no information on long-term toxicity on aquatic invertebrates for the Substance.

2.2. Assessment of the information provided

- 17 We have assessed this information and identified the following issue:
- 18 Poorly water soluble substances require longer time to reach steady-state conditions. As a result, the short-term tests does not give a true measure of toxicity for this type of substances and the long-term test is required. A substance is regarded as poorly water soluble if, for instance, it has a water solubility below 1 mg/L or below the detection limit of the analytical method of the test material (Guidance on IRs and CSA, Section R.7.8.5).
- 19 In the provided OECD TG 105 study, the saturation concentration of the Substance in water was determined to be 0.0736 mg/L.
- 20 Therefore, the Substance is poorly water soluble and information on long-term toxicity on aquatic invertebrates must be provided.

2.3. Study design and test specifications

- 21 The Substance is difficult to test due to the low water solubility (0.0736 mg/L) and adsorptive properties (log K_{ow} 4.7). The OECD TG 211 specifies that, for difficult to test substances, you must consider the approach described in the OECD GD 23 or other approaches, if more appropriate for your substance. In all cases, the approach selected must be justified and documented. Due to the properties of Substance, it may be difficult to achieve and maintain the desired exposure concentrations. Therefore, you must monitor the test concentration(s) of the Substance throughout the exposure duration and report the results. If it is not possible to demonstrate the stability of exposure concentrations (i.e. measured concentration(s) not within 80-120% of the nominal concentration(s)), you must express the effect concentration based on measured values as described in the OECD TG 211. In case a dose-response relationship cannot be established (no observed effects), you must demonstrate that the approach used to prepare test solutions was adequate to maximise the concentration of the Substance in the test solutions.

Reasons related to the information under Annex VIII of REACH**3. Long-term toxicity testing on fish**

22 Short-term toxicity testing on fish is an information requirement under Column 1 of Annex VIII to REACH (Section 9.1.3.). However, long-term toxicity testing on fish must be considered (Section 9.1.3., Column 2) if the substance is poorly water soluble.

3.1. Information provided

23 You have provided an OECD TG 203 study but no information on long-term toxicity on fish for the Substance.

3.2. Assessment of the information provided

24 We have assessed this information and identified the following issue:

25 Poorly water soluble substances require longer time to reach steady-state conditions. As a result, the short-term tests does not give a true measure of toxicity for this type of substances and the long-term test is required. A substance is regarded as poorly water soluble if, for instance, it has a water solubility below 1 mg/L or below the detection limit of the analytical method of the test material (Guidance on IRs and CSA, Section R.7.8.5).

26 As already explained under Section 2, the Substance is poorly water soluble and information on long-term toxicity on fish must be provided.

3.3. Study design and test specifications

27 To fulfil the information requirement for the Substance, the Fish, Early-life Stage Toxicity Test (test method OECD TG 210) is the most appropriate (Guidance on IRs and CSA, Section R.7.8.2.).

28 The Substance is difficult to test due to the low water solubility (0.0736 mg/L) and adsorptive properties (log k_{ow} 4.7). The OECD TG 210 specifies that, for difficult to test substances, you must consider the approach described in the OECD GD 23 or other approaches, if more appropriate for your substance. In all cases, the approach selected must be justified and documented. Due to the properties of Substance, it may be difficult to achieve and maintain the desired exposure concentrations. Therefore, you must monitor the test concentration(s) of the Substance throughout the exposure duration and report the results. If it is not possible to demonstrate the stability of exposure concentrations (i.e. measured concentration(s) not within 80-120% of the nominal concentration(s)), you must express the effect concentration based on measured values as described in the OECD TG 210. In case a dose-response relationship cannot be established (no observed effects), you must demonstrate that the approach used to prepare test solutions was adequate to maximise the concentration of the Substance in the test solutions.

References

The following documents may have been cited in the decision.

Guidance on information requirements and chemical safety assessment (Guidance on IRs & CSA)

- Chapter R.4 Evaluation of available information; ECHA (2011).
Chapter R.6 QSARs, read-across and grouping; ECHA (2008).
Appendix to Chapter R.6 for nanoforms; ECHA (2019).
Chapter R.7a Endpoint specific guidance, Sections R.7.1 – R.7.7; ECHA (2017).
Appendix to Chapter R.7a for nanomaterials; ECHA (2017).
Chapter R.7b Endpoint specific guidance, Sections R.7.8 – R.7.9; ECHA (2017).
Appendix to Chapter R.7b for nanomaterials; ECHA (2017).
Chapter R.7c Endpoint specific guidance, Sections R.7.10 – R.7.13; (ECHA 2017).
Appendix to Chapter R.7a for nanomaterials; ECHA (2017).
Appendix R.7.13-2 Environmental risk assessment for metals and metal compounds; ECHA (2008).
Chapter R.11 PBT/vPvB assessment; ECHA (2017).
Chapter R.16 Environmental exposure assessment; ECHA (2016).

Guidance on data-sharing; ECHA (2017).

All Guidance on REACH is available online: <https://echa.europa.eu/guidance-documents/guidance-on-reach>

Read-across assessment framework (RAAF)

- RAAF, 2017 Read-across assessment framework (RAAF), ECHA (2017)
RAAF UVCB, 2017 Read-across assessment framework (RAAF) – considerations on multi- constituent substances and UVCBs), ECHA (2017).

The RAAF and related documents are available online:

<https://echa.europa.eu/support/registration/how-to-avoid-unnecessary-testing-on-animals/grouping-of-substances-and-read-across>

OECD Guidance documents (OECD GDs)

- OECD GD 23 Guidance document on aquatic toxicity testing of difficult substances and mixtures; No. 23 in the OECD series on testing and assessment, OECD (2019).
OECD GD 29 Guidance document on transformation/dissolution of metals and metal compounds in aqueous media; No. 29 in the OECD series on testing and assessment, OECD (2002).
OECD GD 150 Revised guidance document 150 on standardised test guidelines for evaluating chemicals for endocrine disruption; No. 150 in the OECD series on testing and assessment, OECD (2018).
OECD GD 151 Guidance document supporting OECD test guideline 443 on the extended one-generation reproductive toxicity test; No. 151 in the OECD series on testing and assessment, OECD (2013).

Appendix 2: Procedure

This decision does not prevent ECHA from initiating further compliance checks at a later stage on the registrations present.

ECHA followed the procedure detailed in Articles 50 and 51 of REACH.

The compliance check was initiated on 25 January 2021.

ECHA notified you of the draft decision and invited you to provide comments.

In your comments you agreed to the draft decision. ECHA took your comments into account and did not amend the request(s).

Deadline to provide the information

In your comments on the draft decision, you requested an extension of the deadline to provide information to account for the availability of laboratory study slots. In order to support your request, you have provided details of the timelines to complete the testing requested in the decision. According to this information, testing for long-term toxicity on aquatic invertebrates and on fish may only start in Q4 2023. Taking this information into account and assuming that 12 months is required to conduct both of these studies, ECHA has extended the deadline to provide the information requested in this decision by 6 months to 30 months.

ECHA notified the draft decision to the competent authorities of the Member States for proposals for amendment.

As no amendments were proposed, ECHA adopted the decision under Article 51(3) of REACH.

Appendix 3: Addressees of this decision and their corresponding information requirements

In accordance with Articles 10(a) and 12(1) of REACH, the information requirements for individual registrations are defined as follows:

- the information specified in Annex VII to REACH, for registration at 1-10 tonnes per year (tpa), or as a transported isolated intermediate in quantity above 1000 tpa;
- the information specified in Annexes VII and VIII to REACH, for registration at 10-100 tpa;
- the information specified in Annexes VII, VIII and IX to REACH, for registration at 100-1000 tpa;
- the information specified in Annexes VII to X to REACH, for registration at more than 1000 tpa.

Registrant Name	Registration number	Highest REACH Annex applicable to you
██████████	██████████	██████████
██████████	██████████	██████████

Where applicable, the name of a third party representative (TPR) may be displayed in the list of recipients whereas ECHA will send the decision to the actual registrant.

Appendix 4: Conducting and reporting new tests for REACH purposes

1. Requirements when conducting and reporting new tests for REACH purposes

1.1. Test methods, GLP requirements and reporting

- (1) Under Article 13(3) of REACH, all new data generated as a result of this decision must be conducted according to the test methods laid down in a European Commission Regulation or to international test methods recognised by the Commission or ECHA as being appropriate.
- (2) Under Article 13(4) of REACH, ecotoxicological and toxicological tests and analyses must be carried out according to the GLP principles (Directive 2004/10/EC) or other international standards recognised by the Commission or ECHA.
- (3) Under Article 10(a)(vi) and (vii) of REACH, all new data generated as a result of this decision must be reported as study summaries, or as robust study summaries, if required under Annex I of REACH. See ECHA Practical Guide on How to report robust study summaries².

1.2. Test material

Before generating new data, you must agree within the joint submission on the chemical composition of the material to be tested (Test Material) which must be relevant for all the registrants of the Substance.

- (1) Selection of the Test material(s)
The Test Material used to generate the new data must be selected taking into account the following:
 - the variation in compositions reported by all members of the joint submission,
 - the boundary composition(s) of the Substance,
 - the impact of each constituent/ impurity on the test results for the endpoint to be assessed. For example, if a constituent/ impurity of the Substance is known to have an impact on (eco)toxicity, the selected Test Material must contain that constituent/ impurity.
- (2) Information on the Test Material needed in the updated dossier
 - You must report the composition of the Test Material selected for each study, under the "Test material information" section, for each respective endpoint study record in IUCLID.
 - The reported composition must include all constituents of each Test Material and their concentration values and other parameters relevant for the property to be tested.

This information is needed to assess whether the Test Material is relevant for the Substance and whether it is suitable for use by all members of the joint submission.

Technical instructions on how to report the above is available in the manual on How to prepare registration and PPORD dossiers³.

² <https://echa.europa.eu/practical-guides>

³ <https://echa.europa.eu/manuals>