FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR

Food Additive Petition 4B4430, submitted by Morton International, Inc., to amend 21 CFR 178.2010 to provide for the safe use of methyltin-2-mercaptoethyloleate sulfide mixtures as heat stabilizers for use in PVC pipes intended for transporting water for food contact.

The Environmental Impact Staff, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, has determined that the approval of this petition will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and therefore will not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement. This finding is based on information submitted by the petitioner in an environmental assessment prepared using the format described in 21 CFR 25.31a(b)(2) and on the following analysis:

The proposed use of methyltin-2-mercaptoethyloleate sulfide (MTMEOS) mixtures as heat stabilizers for food processing pipe does not represent a new use or market for PVC pipe. The proposed additive is intended to replace other currently allowed methyltin stabilizers in PVC pipes used for transporting water in food-processing plants. Because MTMEOS mixtures are more efficient than the currently approved methyl isooctylmercaptoacetate stabilizers, approval of MTMEOS mixtures will allow lower concentrations of the organotin stabilizer to be charged during the compounding of PVC pipes, which means lower environmental exposure and risks involved with the use of this group of heat stabilizers.

Prepared by: Rosalie M. Angeles Date: March 7, 1996
Rosalie M. Angeles, Ph.D., Chemist
Environmental Impact Staff

and: Layla I. Batarseh Date: March 7, 1996
Layla I. Batarseh, Ph.D., Environmental Toxicologist
Environmental Impact Staff

Approved by: Buzz L. Hoffmann Date: March 7, 1996
Buzz L. Hoffmann, Ph.D., Chief
Environmental Impact Staff

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