

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

FOR

Food Additive Petition 3B4372, submitted by Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Company, Inc., to amend the food additive regulations to provide for the safe use of Nylon MXD-6 as a nonfood contact component in laminated articles for use in contact with food.

The Environmental Impact Team, Division of Product Manufacture and Use, 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 assessment¹ and on the petitioner's confidential information submitted in a separate section of the petition.

Prepared by:

Layla I. Batarseh

Layla I. Batarseh, Ph.D., Team Leader
Chemistry and Environmental Review Team
Scientific Support Branch
Division of Product Policy

Date: July 13, 1998

Approved by:

Buzz L. Hoffmann

Buzz L. Hoffmann, Ph.D., Team Leader
Environmental Impact Team
Division of Product Manufacture and Use

Date: July 13, 1998

¹The petitioner's EA concludes that even if very small amounts of the subject additive, its monomers, and the nonvolatile extractives migrate from the food packaging in landfills, extremely low quantities will actually enter the environment because of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) regulations governing municipal solid waste landfills. These regulations require new municipal solid waste landfills and lateral expansions of existing landfills to have composite liners and leachate collection systems to prevent leachate from entering ground and surface water, and to have ground-water monitoring systems (40 CFR Part 258). Although owners and operators of existing active municipal solid waste landfills that were constructed before October 9, 1993, are not required to retrofit liners and leachate collection systems, they are required to monitor groundwater and to take corrective action as appropriate.