

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR**

Food Additive Petition 5B4475, submitted by GE Silicones, proposing to amend the food additive regulations in § 176.170 to provide for the **safe use of vinyl-containing siloxane** coatings (Vsi coatings), as a component of paper and paperboard in contact with food.

GE Silicones has requested that the food additive regulations in 21 CFR 176.170 be amended: (1) To provide for the **safe use of diallyl maleate and 1-ethynyl-1-cyclohexanol** as optional polymerization inhibitors and **dimethyl(methyl hydrogen) polysiloxane (Hsi)** as a cross-linking agent in the manufacture of vinyl-containing **siloxanes** that are used in coatings for paper and paperboard that contact food; (2) to increase the level of the platinum catalyst used in the **manufacture of vinyl-containing siloxanes** to 200 ppm; and (3) to expand the safe use of coatings with vinyl-containing **siloxanes** for contact with additional food types and under additional **conditions** of use.

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 assessment **prepared** using the format described in previous 21 CFR 25.3 **1a(b)(1)**, on confidential **information** submitted by the petitioner, and on the following:

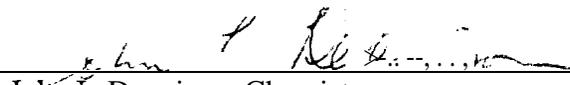
Only a very small amount, if any, of the subject additives are expected to enter the environment as a result of the landfill disposal of polymeric food-packaging materials containing the subject additives (only Hsi and the platinum catalyst are expected to remain with the packaging material **after** use and disposal). This finding is based on 1) the petitioner's estimate of the maximum yearly market volume provided in a confidential section of the petition; 2) the percentage of food-packaging materials containing the subject additives that will be disposed in **landfills**¹; and 3) EPA's current regulations governing municipal solid waste **landfills**.²

¹U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1997. *Characterization of Municipal Solid Waste in the United States: 1996 Update*. EPA 1530-R-97-015.

²EPA regulations require new municipal solid waste landfills and lateral expansion of existing landfills to have composite liners and **leachate** collection systems to prevent **leachate from** entering ground and surface waters, 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.

Based on the small projected market volume of Vsi coatings, we expect that no significant change in incinerator emissions will result from incinerating food-contact materials containing the subject additive.

Prepared by:


John L. Dennison, Chemist
Environmental Impact Team
Division of Product Manufacture and Use

Date: February 5, 1998

Approved by:


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

Date: February 5, 1998