
Memorandum

Date: June 8, 2020

To: Laura Dye, Division of Food Contact Substances (HFS-275)

Through: Mariellen Pfeil, Lead Biologist, Environmental Team, Division of Science and Technology (HFS-255)

From: Antonetta Thompson-Wood, Physical Scientist, Environmental Team, Division of Science and Technology (HFS-255)

Subject: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for Food Contact Substance Notification (FCN) 2058: Poly(ethylene furandicarboxylate) (CAS Reg. No. 52733-28-5)

Notifier: DuPont Industrial Biosciences LLC

Attached is the FONSI for FCN 2058, which is for the use of poly(ethylene furandicarboxylate) (CAS Reg. No. 52733-28-5) for use at levels of up to 16% in blends with poly(ethylene terephthalate) for direct contact with food. The FONSI explains how the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has met the requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for this FCN.

After this FCN becomes effective, copies of this FONSI, and the notifier's environmental assessment (EA), dated May 27, 2020, may be made available to the public. We will post digital transcriptions of the FONSI, and the EA on the agency's public website.

Please let us know if there is any change in the identity or use of the food-contact substance.

Antonetta Thompson-Wood

Attachment: Finding of No Significant Impact

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Food Contact Substance Notification (FCN) 2058, submitted by DuPont Industrial Biosciences LLC for the use of poly(ethylene furandicarboxylate) (CAS Reg. No. 52733-28-5) for use at levels of up to 16% in blends with poly(ethylene terephthalate) for direct contact with food. The FCS will be used in contact with all food types under Conditions of Use C through G as described in Tables 1 and 2 (<https://www.fda.gov/food/packaging-food-contact-substances-fcs/food-types-conditions-use-food-contact-substances>, accessed 6/4/20). The FCS is not for use in contact with infant formula and human milk. Such uses were not included as part of the intended use of the substance in the FCS.

The Office of Food Additive Safety has determined that allowing this notification to become effective will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and, therefore, an environmental impact statement (EIS) will not be prepared. This finding is based on information submitted by the notifier in an environmental assessment (EA), dated May 27, 2020. The EA was prepared in accordance with 21 CFR 25.40. The EA is incorporated by reference in this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and is briefly summarized below.

The FCS is intended for use at levels of up to 16% in blends with poly(ethylene terephthalate) for direct contact with food. Food-contact articles containing the FCS will be utilized in patterns corresponding to the national population density and will be widely distributed across the country. Post-consumer disposal of food-contact articles containing the FCS will be to landfills, municipal waste combustors (MWC) complying with 40 CFR Parts 258 and 60, respectively or recycled. No significant impact on the concentrations of and exposures to any substances in air, water, or soil are anticipated. Due to EPA's regulations governing landfills at 40 CFR Part 258, leaching into the environment by food-contact articles manufactured with the FCS is not anticipated. According to information in a confidential attachment to the EA, total annual emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG), represented as CO₂-equivalent (CO₂-e) in metric tons (mT), are well below the 25,000 mT GHG reporting threshold described in 40 CFR 98.2. Therefore, no significant impacts are expected from incineration of the FCS at MWCs. Thus, the use of the FCS as proposed is not expected to result in significant environmental impacts.

We do not expect a net increase in the use of energy and resources from the use of the FCS, nor do we expect significant environmental impacts, which would necessitate alternative actions to those proposed in this FCN. The alternative to not allowing the FCN to become effective would be continued use of materials that the FCS would otherwise replace; therefore, this action would have no significant environmental impact.

As evaluated in the EA, the proposed use of the FCS as described in FCN 2058 will not significantly affect the human environment; therefore, an EIS will not be prepared.

Prepared by _____ Date: digitally signed 06-08-2020
Antonetta Thompson-Wood
Physical Scientist, Environmental Team
Office of Food Additive Safety
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
Food and Drug Administration

Approved by _____ Date: digitally signed 06-10-2020
Mariellen Pfeil
Lead Biologist, Environmental Team
Office of Food Additive Safety
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
Food and Drug Administration