

unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: February 28, 1997.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-5555 Filed 3-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

Tax on Certain Imported Substances (Epoxy); Notice of Determination

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a determination, under Notice 89-61, that the list of taxable substances in section 4672(a)(3) will be modified to include diglycidyl ether of bisphenol-A.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This modification is effective April 1, 1992.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ruth Hoffman, Office of Assistant Chief Counsel (Passthroughs and Special Industries), (202) 622-3130 (not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under section 4672(a), an importer or exporter of any substance may request that the Secretary determine whether that substance should be listed as a taxable substance. The Secretary shall add the substance to the list of taxable substances in section 4672(a)(3) if the Secretary determines that taxable chemicals constitute more than 50 percent of the weight, or more than 50 percent of the value, of the materials used to produce the substance. This determination is to be made on the basis of the predominant method of production. Notice 89-61, 1989-1 C.B. 717, sets forth the rules relating to the determination process.

Determination

On February 24, 1997, the Secretary determined that diglycidyl ether of bisphenol-A should be added to the list of taxable substances in section 4672(a)(3), effective April 1, 1992.

The rate of tax prescribed for diglycidyl ether of bisphenol-A, under section 4671(b)(3), is \$7.08 per ton. This is based upon a conversion factor for benzene of 0.459, a conversion factor for

propylene of 0.494, a conversion factor for chlorine of 0.833, and a conversion factor for sodium hydroxide of 0.705.

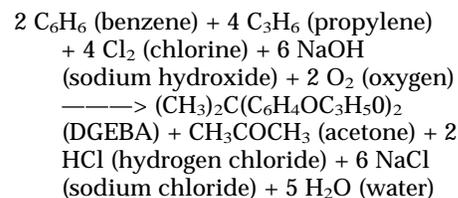
The petitioner is Dow Chemical Company, a manufacturer and exporter of this substance. No material comments were received on this petition. The following information is the basis for the determination.

HTS number: 3907.3

CAS number: 025085-99-8

Diglycidyl ether of bisphenol-A (DGEBA) is derived from the taxable chemicals benzene, propylene, chlorine, and sodium hydroxide and produced predominantly from epichlorohydrin and bisphenol-A via a two-step reaction.

The stoichiometric material consumption formula for this substance is:



Diglycidyl ether of bisphenol-A has been determined to be a taxable substance because a review of its stoichiometric material consumption formula shows that, based on the predominant method of production, taxable chemicals constitute 92.95 percent by weight of the materials used in its production.

Dale D. Goode,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, Assistant Chief Counsel (Corporate).

[FR Doc. 97-5554 Filed 3-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U