



ORGALIME

*The Secretary General*

Mrs. Marianne Klingbeil,  
DG Environment,  
Unit A.2,  
European Commission,  
B-1049 Brussels

Brussels, 5 July 2004

**Stakeholder Consultation on Adaptation to Scientific and Technical Progress under Directive 2002/95/EC for the Purpose of a possible Amendment of the Annex**

Dear Mrs. Klingbeil,

Orgalime<sup>1</sup> welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the stakeholder consultation for the purpose of a possible amendment of the annex of directive 2002/95/EC.

Our industry confirms the necessity of granting exemptions from the substance restrictions of Article 4 (1) to all applications currently listed in the annex to directive 2002/95/EC.

In addition, we would like to take this opportunity to address both, the very urgent cases of already announced applications for which exemptions would be necessary and our support for new exemption requests including available background information:

- **Deca-BDE**

We welcome that the Commission would base the decision about an exemption of Deca-BDE on the risk assessment. In addition to studies, which are already available to the Commission, please find attached a German study (Fischer) on the matter. This type of flame retardant is widely used in electrical and electronic products and a substitution is in many cases impossible (see Annex 1).

- **Glass containing lead and lead in light bulbs**

Orgalime believes that lead in glass should be exempted from substance restrictions of article 4(1). The European Federations CELMA and ELC have provided their position paper and reasoning behind the issue (see Annex 2). The mentioned applications are of utmost importance for the lighting industry. The requested exemptions are especially necessary for innovative environment-friendly products.

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<sup>1</sup> *Orgalime speaks for 33 trade federations representing some 130,000 companies in the mechanical, electrical, electronic and metalworking industries of 23 European countries. These industries employ some 7 million people and account for 1175 billion euros of annual output, which is a quarter of the EU's output of manufactured products and a third of the manufactured exports of the European Union.*

- **Cadmium in electrical contacts**

Our members have identified uncertainties concerning the exemption of cadmium in electrical contacts. We therefore attach the application for a general exemption for cadmium used in switch products for reliability purposes having switching contacts with less than 0.3 g contact weights per contact (see Annex 3).

- **Lead in solders consisting of more than two elements for the connection between the pins and the package of microprocessors with a lead content of more than 85% in proportion to the tin-lead content (exemption until 2010)**

We emphasize the need for this additional exemption, as it is technologically essential for our members and its denial would result in extensive problems for the semiconductor industry. Although extensive research has been and is being conducted, environmentally acceptable, technologically adequate lead-free solutions do to our knowledge currently not exist for this application (see Annex 4).

- **Lead in high melting temperature type solders (i.e. tin-lead solder alloys containing more than 85% lead) and any lower melting temperature solder required to be used with high melting temperature solder to complete a viable electrical connection**

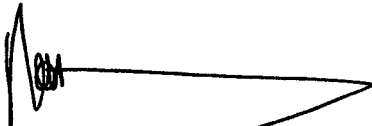
The existing RoHS exemption for high temperature melting type solder exempts the higher temperature part but not the lower temperature part. Orgalime supports ZVEI's request for an extension of the existing exemption to include the lower melting temperature solder that is necessary to create the interconnection (see Annex 5).

- **Lead in solders to complete a viable electrical connection internal to certain Integrated Circuit Packages (Flip Chips) (exemption until 2010)**

Orgalime is not aware of the existence of feasible substitutes in an industrial and/or commercial scale and strongly supports this exemption request (see Annex 6).

Orgalime would like to ask for the support of the European Commission for the above-mentioned requests, which are of high importance for the electrical/electronic industry in Europe.

Yours sincerely,



Adrian Harris

Secretary General

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Enclosures