Workshop 24-11-2017: REACH Annex XV restriction plastic and rubber granules used as infill material in synthetic turf pitches

Introduction
Workshop programme

9.00 Welcome and purpose of the workshop
9.15 Tour de table
9.45 Introduction on the Annex XV dossier and the discussion of today
10.00 Theme 1. Risk of granules used on synthetic turf pitches
11.15 Theme 2. Scope of the restriction and restriction options
12.30 Lunch break
13.30 Theme 3. Alternatives
14.45 Theme 4. Socio-economic effects of a restriction
16.00 Summary of discussions
17.00 Closure, drinks
17.30 End of the meeting
Chatham House Rules

When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.
Legal background and concern

Restrictions (annex XVII) in the REACH Regulation

- When unacceptable risk to humans or the environment have been identified
- Initiative for proposals: Member State competent authorities or European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) (at request of European Commission)
- Commission decides based on opinions of ECHA’s two scientific committees

Rubber granules used as infill in synthetic turf pitches

- Concerns raised related to recycled rubber granules
- US (cancer risk doubts), EU: MSs’ and Commission’s discussions
- Knowledge gap about substances in rubber granules and their concentrations and possible risks
- The Netherlands published an evaluation report in December 2016
- ECHA published a preliminary evaluation report in February 2017
I: Preparing REACH Restriction infill granules

The Netherlands

● Notified its intention to prepare the restriction proposal on PAHs in plastic and rubber infill material in June 2017
● Workshop in the Hague on 24 November

The European Commission

● Requested on 29 August ECHA to support the Netherlands and investigate if other substances may cause concern (both human health and the environment) that needs to be managed at EU-level

ECHA

● Continue to support the Netherlands
● Call for evidence ended on 18 October
● Further investigation related to other substances ongoing
Processing the dossier

II Ongoing: Preparation and submission of the restriction proposal
- Comments received from the call for evidence and during the workshop to be used in dossier development
- Submission of the restriction proposal to ECHA on PAHs in plastic and rubber granules in April 2018

III-IV Opinion development by RAC and SEAC*
- Six months’ public consultation on the restriction proposal report to start in June 2018
- Opinion of RAC and draft opinion on SEAC in March 2019
- 60 days public consultation of the SEAC draft opinion
- Final opinion of SEAC in June 2019

* RAC= Committee for Risk Assessment
SEAC= Committee for Socio-economic Analysis
Decision making and possible further action

Decision on restriction proposal

- After receiving the opinions, the Commission drafts the amendment to the Annex XVII of REACH
- Comitology procedure involving the Member States and the European Parliament
- Restriction in place earliest in 2020

ECHA’s investigation on other substances ongoing

- if concern from other substances arises;
  - preparation of a separate restriction proposal for other substances
Timelines for the restriction

- **Start ~ 2016**
  - Concerns raised, US, EU, NL
  - RIVM/ECHA reports

- **Preparation June- Oct '17**
  - Registry of Intentions NL
  - Stakeholder consultation
  - Drafting

- **Submission Oct'17-Apr’18**
  - NL (RIVM) with ECHA’s support

- **RAC and SEAC Jun’18-Jun’19**
  - Consultation dossier (Jun-Dec’18)
  - Consultation SEAC opinion (Apr-May’19)

- **Decision making 2019**
  - Comitology procedure
  - Earliest entry into force 2020

- **Enforcement 2020 onwards**
  - Monitoring
  - Inspection