



Dow Chemical (Australia) Pty Ltd

ABN 72 000 264 979

Level 17, 8 Exhibition Street,
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3000

Telephone: 61-3-9956 7500

June 9, 2017

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Phone: +61 2 6277 3515
Fax: +61 2 6277 5829
community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary,

Re: Submission on behalf of Dow Chemical (Australia) Pty. Ltd. (Dow) on the Industrial Chemicals Bill 2017.

I am writing on behalf of Dow Chemical (Australia) Pty Ltd (Dow) to strongly support the introduction and passage of The Industrial Chemicals Bill 2017 and the associated legislative framework of the Australian Industrial Chemicals Introduction Scheme (AICIS).

As a leading global chemical research and development and production company we have for some time advocated for changes to Australian regulation that decrease the time, regulation and process burden on business. We have also argued that the existing legislation limits Australian innovation and competitiveness in the Pacific region by slowing introduction of industrial chemicals (new to Australia) and mixtures containing new chemicals.

Dow welcomes the introduction of the new bill with the intention that polymers of low concern that will fall in the exempted category and will be able to be introduced into Australia from the 1st July 2017 with no fees and assessment time frames.

We note the reduction from 90 to 70 days for new chemicals requiring assessment; a quicker timeframe to get products to market is welcomed. This is an important amendment that will facilitate Australia's competitiveness in the global market place and will help our customers to succeed and grow.

We are supportive of the International pathway criteria that may allow for chemicals to be categorized as reported and as a result there will be quicker market entry. We understand that with the current reform occurring in the USA, that there are still items to review for them to meet the criteria for a trusted prescribed

international bodies. However we encourage continuing further consultation with the USA EPA to ensure they are added to the list.

We are still reviewing the data requirements with our toxicity team to ensure we can meet the specified criteria and will ensure we provide feedback to the department.

We support The Industrial Chemicals Bill 2017 and will provide further feedback on the AICIS and the associated legislative framework and instruments through consultation paper 5.

I look forward to seeing the passing of this important legislation through the parliament and senate.

Sincerely,

—
Louis A. Vega
President and Managing Director, Dow Australia & New Zealand