

Albemarle Response to the Proposed Canadian Regulation of Decabromodiphenyl Ethane (DBDPE)

Albemarle contends ECCC decision relies on outdated theoretical hypotheses disproven through sound scientific research. Company urges regulatory body to reassess DBDPE status to help prevent fire-related injuries and fatalities.

CHARLOTTE, N.C., June 15, 2022 - Albemarle Corporation (NYSE: ALB), a global specialty chemicals company and leading producer of life-saving flame retardants, opposes the recent proposed addition of decabromodiphenyl ethane (DBDPE) to a regulatory list called *Prohibition of Certain Toxic Substances Regulations, 2012* by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). Despite concluding that “DBDPE is not harmful to human health¹”, ECCC nevertheless proposed to ban the sale, import and use of any product containing DBDPE in Canada. Albemarle objects to the conclusions drawn by the committee, which failed to base its decision on the most current scientific research.

“By not using the most up-to-date science, ECCC has not complied with its mandate to ensure safety for Canadians and the environment,” said Matt Von Holle, vice president Fire Safety Solutions, Albemarle. “At stake is the access to life-saving products used throughout our society. Given the fact that there are currently no identified alternatives to DBDPE, this decision may put families at increased risk of fire while increasing costs and reducing availability of electronic and household products to consumers.” This proposed regulation has far-reaching impacts in both Canada and the United States, directly impacting products from computers and servers to vehicles and household appliances. It will require new material development, testing, potentially reduced safety standards, and certifications, thus increasing costs and reducing availability to a supply chain that is already impacted by shortages.

Albemarle commends ECCC for beginning the original process reviewing the science available at the time. However, the committee failed to acknowledge the relevance of new scientific research presented.

ECCC continues to rely on their original theoretical based science around photodegradation that uses decabromodiphenyl ether (decaBDE) as a model to try and predict how DBDPE will break down into lower brominated molecules of concern. This comparison is not scientifically justified and is contradicted by a study from the National Academy of Sciences that lists DBDPE and decaBDE into different sub-classes of flame retardants that should be evaluated separately. Furthermore, actual photodegradation experiments performed by Albemarle in simulated real-world conditions show that DBDPE does not degrade into lower brominated molecules of concern. The North American Flame Retardant Alliance (NAFRA) has provided this research to ECCC and offered to validate the results by working together through a third-party laboratory.

Albemarle prides itself on operating with transparency and integrity and we will continue to defend the use of this product and work collectively with our customers and ECCC to seek a path forward reversing this proposal through strong scientific evidence.

About Albemarle

Albemarle Corporation (NYSE: ALB) is a global specialty chemicals company with leading positions in lithium, bromine and catalysts. We think beyond business as usual to power the potential of companies in many of the world's largest and most critical industries, such as energy, electronics, and transportation. We actively pursue a sustainable approach to managing our diverse global footprint of world-class resources. In conjunction with our highly experienced and talented global teams, our deep-seated values, and our collaborative customer relationships, we create value-added and performance-based solutions that enable a safer and more sustainable future.

We regularly post information to www.albemarle.com, including notification of events, news, financial performance, investor presentations and webcasts, non-GAAP reconciliations, SEC filings and other information regarding our company, its businesses, and the markets it serves.

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¹Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), *Decabromodiphenyl ethane (DBDPE) – information sheet*, [Decabromodiphenyl ethane \(DBDPE\) - information sheet - Canada.ca](https://www.ec.gc.ca/ccc-ccc/decabromodiphenyl-ethane-dbdpe-information-sheet), (2019)