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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OPPT-2003-0004; FRL-9953-42]

Access to Confidential Business Information by Abt Associates, Inc. and Its Identified Subcontractor, Versar, Inc.

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has authorized its contractor, Abt Associates of Bethesda, MD, and Versar, Inc., of Springfield, VA to access information which has been submitted to EPA under all sections of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Some of the information may be claimed or determined to be Confidential Business Information (CBI).

DATES: Access to the confidential data occurred on or about July 26, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *For technical information contact:* Scott Sherlock, Environmental Assistance Division (7408M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 564-8257; email address: sherlock.scott@epa.gov.

For general information contact: The TSCA-Hotline, ABVI-Goodwill, 422 South Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14620; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; email address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may, however, be of interest to all who manufacture, process, or distribute industrial chemicals. Since other entities may also

be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action.

B. How Can I Get Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?

The docket for this action, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPPT-2003-0004, is available at <http://www.regulations.gov> or at the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics Docket (OPPT Docket), Environmental Protection Agency Docket Center (EPA/DC), West William Jefferson Clinton Bldg., Rm. 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the OPPT Docket is (202) 566-0280. Please review the visitor instructions and additional information about the docket available at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

II. What Action is the Agency Taking?

Under EPA contract number EP-W-16-009, contractor Abt Associates of 4800 Montgomery Lane, Bethesda, MD and 55 Wheeler Street, Cambridge, MA; and Versar, Inc., of 6850 Versar Center, Springfield, VA, are assisting the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT) by supporting scientific and engineering assessments of chemicals. For chemicals identified by the Agency, they are assisting in preparing evaluations of the following: physical/chemical properties, hazards, and functions; production/processing/use methods; occupational exposure, environmental release, fate, transport, and other human and environmental exposure risks; life-cycle environmental impacts; methods to prevent or control waste generation, releases or exposure; and comparison of substitute chemicals or technologies. They will also assist in developing methods for chemical ranking by hazard and other factors and for assessing exposure and release.

In accordance with 40 CFR 2.306(j), EPA has determined that under EPA contract number EP-W-16-009, Abt Associates and Versar were given access to CBI submitted to EPA under all section(s) of TSCA to perform successfully the duties specified under the contract. Abt Associates and Versar personnel were given access to information submitted to EPA under all section(s) of TSCA. Some of the information may be claimed or determined to be CBI.

EPA is issuing this notice to inform all submitters of information under all sections of TSCA that EPA has provided Abt Associates and Versar access to these CBI materials on a need-to-know basis only. All access to TSCA CBI under this contract is taking place at EPA Headquarters and Abt Associates' sites located in Bethesda, MD and Cambridge, MA, in accordance with EPA's *TSCA CBI Protection Manual*.

Access to TSCA data, including CBI, will continue until March 30, 2021. If the contract is extended, this access will also continue for the duration of the extended contract without further notice.

Abt Associates and Versar personnel have signed nondisclosure agreements and were briefed on appropriate security procedures before they were permitted access to TSCA CBI.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*

Dated: September 29, 2016.

Pamela S. Myrick,

Director, Information Management Division, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

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