Proposed Rules

Federal Register
Vol. 91, No. 210
Monday, November 2, 2026

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Parts 30, 40, 50, 70, and 72

[NRC–2017–0021]

RIN 3150–AJ92

Alternatives to the Use of Credit Ratings

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Discontinuation of rulemaking activity.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is discontinuing the rulemaking activity, ''Alternatives to the Use of Credit Ratings.'' This rulemaking activity will no longer be reported in the NRC's portion of the Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions (the Unified Agenda).

DATES: Effective November 2, 2026, the rulemaking activity discussed in this document is discontinued.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2017–0021 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2017–0021. Address questions about NRC dockets to Helen Chang; telephone: 301–415–3228; email: *Helen.Chang@nrc.gov.*
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at *https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.* To begin the search, select ''Begin ADAMS Public Search.'' For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, at 301–415–4737, or by email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov.* For the convenience of the reader, the ADAMS accession numbers are provided in the ''Availability of Documents'' section of this document.
- *NRC's PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov* or call 1–800–397–4209 or 301–415–4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Suchy, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001; telephone: 301–415–4130; email: *David.Suchy@nrc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Congress passed the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the Dodd-Frank Act or the Act) to ''promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system,'' (Pub. L. 111–203). In the Act, Congress found that ''ratings on structured financial products have proven to be inaccurate'' and that ''[t]his inaccuracy contributed significantly to the mismanagement of risks by financial institutions and investors, which in turn adversely impacted the health of the economy.'' In section 939A of the Act, Congress directed each Federal agency to ''review any regulation issued by such agency that requires the use of an assessment of the credit-worthiness of a security or money market instrument and any references to or requirements in such regulations regarding credit ratings.'' Section 939A of the Act further directed each such agency to ''modify any such regulations identified by the review . . . to remove any reference to or requirement of reliance on credit ratings and to substitute in such regulations such standard of credit-worthiness as each respective agency shall determine as appropriate for such regulations.'' A discussion of the NRC's decision to discontinue this rulemaking activity is provided in section II of this document.

II. Discussion

As directed by section 939A of the Dodd-Frank Act, the NRC reviewed its regulations for any references for requirements of reliance on credit ratings. In accordance with this review, the NRC issued a proposed rulemaking and associated guidance for public comment January 3, 2023 (88 FR 25). The NRC received two public comment submissions on the proposed rulemaking; the public comments were considered during the final rule revision efforts, but the NRC will not be responding due to the discontinuation of the rulemaking.

As part of the final rule revisions, the NRC reviewed Dodd-Frank Act policies and rulemakings published by other Federal agencies to examine the manner in which they implemented the removal of references to credit ratings when they are used to assess the credit-worthiness of the underlying security. In 2023, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission issued implementing regulations to ''remove certain existing rule exceptions that reference credit ratings for nonconvertible debt securities, nonconvertible preferred securities, and asset-backed securities and substitute in their place new exceptions that are based on alternative standards of creditworthiness,'' (88 FR 39962; June 20, 2023). The NRC staff also learned from the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) that the NRC was the only non-financial regulator that submitted a rulemaking in response to section 939A of Dodd Frank for Executive Order 12866, ''Regulatory Planning and Review.'' In reviewing regulatory actions of other Federal agencies related to Dodd Frank, the NRC determined that it is in the best interest of the agency to discontinue this rulemaking as it would assess the credit-worthiness of an entity (not a security), whereas it is Federal best-practice to utilize the bottom-line credit-worthiness determination of the underlying regulation operated on a security or money market instrument.

III. Conclusion

The NRC is no longer pursuing the rulemaking for Alternatives to the Use of Credit Ratings. In the next edition of the Unified Agenda, the NRC will update the entry for this rulemaking activity and reference this document to indicate that the rulemaking activity is no longer being pursued. This rulemaking will appear in the completed actions section of that edition of the Unified Agenda but will not appear in future editions. The NRC

will inform the public of future associated rulemakings through new rulemaking entries in the Unified Agenda.

Dated: October 29, 2026.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Jody Martin,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2026–22293 Filed 10–30–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Copyright Office

37 CFR Part 201

[Docket No. 2026–4]

Exemptions To Permit Circumvention of Access Controls on Copyrighted Works; Correction

AGENCY: U.S. Copyright Office, Library of Congress.

ACTION: Proposed rule; correction.

SUMMARY: This document corrects the preamble to a proposed rule published in the **Federal Register** on October 28, 2026, regarding Exemptions to Permit Circumvention of Access Controls on Copyrighted Works. The correction fixes a typographical error within a subsection discussing a petition to renew a current exemption.

DATES: November 2, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rhea Efthimiadis, Assistant to the General Counsel, by email at *USCOGeneralCounsel@copyright.gov* or by telephone at (202) 707–8350.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Correction

In proposed rule FR Doc. 2026–21939, beginning on page 67788 in the issue of October 28, 2026, make the following correction, in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. On page 67794 in column 1, in line 8, add the word ''not'' before the phrase ''permitted by the exemption.''

Dated: October 28, 2026.

Emily L. Chapuis,

General Counsel and Associate Register of Copyrights.

[FR Doc. 2026–22274 Filed 10–30–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1410–30–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 721

[EPA–HQ–OPPT–2026–5974; FRL–13610–01–OCSPP]

RIN 2070–AB27

Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (26–7)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing significant new use rules (SNURs) under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) for certain chemical substances that were the subject of premanufacture notices (PMNs) and are also subject to an Order issued by EPA pursuant to TSCA. Once finalized, the SNURs would require persons who intend to manufacture (defined by statute to include import) or process any of these chemical substances for an activity that is proposed as a significant new use by this rulemaking to notify EPA at least 90 days before commencing that activity. The required notification initiates EPA's evaluation of the conditions of that use for that chemical substance. In addition, the manufacture or processing for the significant new use may not commence until EPA has conducted a review of the required notification, made an appropriate determination regarding that notification, and taken such actions as required by that determination.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 2, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPPT–2026–5974, online at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Additional instructions on commenting and visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, are available at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For technical information: Nicole Scharko, New Chemicals Division (7405M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001; telephone number: (202) 566–1165; email address: *Scharko.Nicole@epa.gov.*

For general information on SNURs: Iliriana Mushkolaj, New Chemicals Division (7405M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001; telephone number: (202) 564–6877; email address: *Mushkolaj.Iliriana@epa.gov.*

For general information on TSCA: The TSCA Assistance Information Service Hotline, Goodwill of the Finger Lakes, 422 South Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14620; telephone number: (800) 471–7127 or (202) 554–1404; email address: *TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Executive Summary

A. What is the Agency's authority for taking this action?

TSCA section 5(a)(2) (15 U.S.C. 2604(a)(2)) authorizes EPA to determine that a use of a chemical substance is a ''significant new use.'' EPA must make this determination by rule after considering all relevant factors, including the factors in TSCA section 5(a)(2) (see also the discussion in Unit II.).

B. What action is the Agency taking?

EPA is proposing SNURs for the chemical substances discussed in Unit III. These SNURs, if finalized as proposed, would require persons who intend to manufacture or process any of these chemical substances for an activity that is designated as a significant new use to notify EPA at least 90 days before commencing that activity.

C. Does this action apply to me?

1. General Applicability

This action applies to you if you manufacture, process, or use the chemical substances contained in this proposed rule. The following list of North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes is not intended to be exhaustive but rather provides a guide to help readers determine whether this document applies to them. Potentially affected entities may include:

- Manufacturers or processors of one or more subject chemical substances (NAICS codes 325 and 324110), *e.g.,* chemical manufacturing and petroleum refineries.

2. Applicability to Importers and Exporters

This action may also apply to certain entities through pre-existing import certification and export notification requirements under TSCA (*https://www.epa.gov/tsca-import-export-requirements*).