

HERO QUARTERLY UPDATE – July 2020

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL (DTSC)

HUMAN AND ECOLOGICAL RISK OFFICE (HERO)



HERO is pleased to announce our thirteenth “Quarterly Updates from HERO” – July 2020

1. NEW – DTSC Toxicity Criteria Rule for Human Health Risk Assessments: Response to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), June 2020:

The FAQ was developed to provide brief answers to the most frequently asked questions regarding the 2018 Toxicity Criteria Rule.

The FAQ can be found at: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2020/07/FINAL-Toxicity-Criteria-Rule-for-HHRA-FAQs-June-2020-A.pdf> and at <https://dtsc.ca.gov/human-health-risk-hero/>

2. Updated Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) Note 3 – DTSC-Modified Screening Levels (DTSC-SLs), June 2020. The update to the HHRA Note is described below with a link to the entire HHRA Note:

HHRA Note 3. The June 2020 update incorporates changes from the USEPA in their May 2019 and November 2019 Regional Screening Levels (RSLs).

The updated HHRA Note 3 can be found at: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2019/04/HHRA-Note-3-June-2020-A.pdf> and at <https://dtsc.ca.gov/human-health-risk-hero/>

3. Updated Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) Note 8 – Recommendation for Evaluating Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) at Contaminated Sites in California, June 2020:

HHRA Note 8. The June 2020 update to HHRA Note 8 incorporates the following revisions: 1) Sections 5 and 7 to update the industrial screening levels and some regulatory threshold values for PCBs so that they are consistent with HHRA Note 3; 2) Section 6 is updated to include the requirements of California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Div. 4.5, Toxicity Criteria Regulation (22 CCR 68400.5 and 69020-69022); and 3) references in Section 8 are updated to reflect the latest versions.

The updated HHRA Note 8 can be found at: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/01/HERO-HHRA-Note-8-June-2020-A.pdf> and at <https://dtsc.ca.gov/human-health-risk-hero/>

4. May 2020 USEPA Regional Screening Levels (RSLs).

The USEPA released their latest version of the RSL tables which can be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>. There were no chemicals with new toxicity criteria due to updates from USEPA Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS). The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) listed a new inhalation noncancer value for antimony, the Provisional Peer-Reviewed Toxicity Values (PPRTV) listed three new toxicity criteria for hexane, 2-amino-4,6-dinitrotoluene, and 4-amino-2,6-dinitrotoluene, and RSLs included several new toxicity criteria from Cal EPA (Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment – OEHHA). For all other updates please see <https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-whats-new>.

5. NEW Response Levels (RLs) for Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) in drinking water.

The State Water Resources Control Board set new response levels (RLs) of 10 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and 40 ppt for PFOS in February 2020. These values replace the previous RL of 70 ppt for the total concentration of the two contaminants combined. More information can be found at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/press_room/press_releases/2020/pr02062020_pfoa_pfos_response_levels.pdf.

6. ITRC Online Free Course – TPH Risk Evaluation at Petroleum-Contaminated Sites.

This online training course will cover the TPH guidance document released in November 2018.

Thursday, September 17th – 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Tuesday, December 8th – 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Registration: <https://clu-in.org/live/>

7. ITRC Online Free Course – Bioavailability of Contaminants in Soil: Considerations for Human Health Risk Assessment.

This online training course will include a discussion on the California Arsenic Bioaccessibility (CAB) Method discussed in the HERO HHRA Note 6.

Thursday, October 15th – 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Registration: <https://clu-in.org/live/>

8. ITRC Online Free Course – Issues and Options in Human health Risk Assessment – A Resource When Alternatives to Default Parameters and Scenarios are Proposed.

This online training course will cover commonly encountered issues and discusses options in risk assessment when applying site-specific alternatives to defaults.

Tuesday, October 20th – 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Registration: <https://clu-in.org/live/>

9. HERO News E-List. HERO has created a Listserv where subscribers will receive e-mail notifications regarding news on topics related to human and ecological risk assessment including

HERO Quarterly Updates, new and updated HHRA Notes, new and updated EcoNotes, as well as other risk assessment guidance documents, presentations, and publications.

To subscribe: 1) Go to the “E-Lists” tab near the upper right border of any DTSC or HERO web page; 2) Please read the instructions on signing up for E-Lists; 3) Scroll down until you see “**HERO News**”, click “**Subscribe**”, then fill out the requested information.

The direct link to the DTSC E-List sign-up page can be found at: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/dtsc-e-lists/>.

Please contact your site toxicologist if you have any site-specific questions or the contact person indicated in each HERO HHRA Note document for more general questions.

Thank you,

HERO