

Proposed Changes to Phosphorus Concentration Regulations

Applies to:

Persons manufacturing, importing or selling Household Laundry Detergents, Household Hand Dishwashing Detergents, Household Automatic Dishwashing Detergents and Household cleaners including glass cleaners, floor cleaners, sink, tub and tile cleaners, carpet cleaners, disinfectants, waxes and polishes, scouring powders, spot removers, toilet bowl cleaners, and kitchen cleansers.

Does not apply to:

Commercial, Industrial or Institutional Products, with the exception of the existing phosphorus limit of 2.2% for laundry detergents.

Proposed phosphorus limits:

Product Category	Expressed as Elemental Phosphorus (P)		Expressed as Phosphorus Pentoxide (P ₂ O ₅)	
	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed
Household laundry detergents	2.2%	0.5%	5.0%	1.1%
Commercial and industrial laundry detergents	2.2%	2.2%	5.0%	5.0%
Household dish-washing compounds	None	0.5%	None	1.1%
Household cleaners	None	0.5%	None	1.1%

When do the regulations take effect?

Proposed for July 1st, 2010

What do these regulations do?

Set maximum permissible limits of phosphorus content in each product category.

Why are these regulations required?

To limit the quantity of phosphorus discharged to environment. Phosphorus discharges contribute to the eutrophication of fresh water lakes and rivers and the growth of algae blooms.

What is required?

Compliance – No product in the subject categories will be permitted to exceed the prescribed concentration limits after July 1st, 2010.

Record Keeping – These proposed changes to the regulations require manufacturers, importers and sellers to keep records supporting product compliance with these regulations for a minimum of 5 years at their principal place of business in Canada. Testing is not mandatory but results of any testing must include the name and address of the testing laboratory.

Exemptions

There are no exemptions to the proposed regulations.

The full text of the proposed changes may be found at <http://canadagazette.gc.ca/part1/2008/20080628/html/regle2-e.html#1>

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