



Styrene Information and Research Center (SIRC)

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SIRC Statement on Decision in SIRC/Dart vs. HHS

(The following statement may be attributed in whole or in part to SIRC Executive Director Jack Snyder.)

The Styrene Information and Research Center (SIRC) is disappointed that Judge Reggie B. Walton of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia has granted the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS's) cross-motion for summary judgment and, accordingly, has upheld HHS's inclusion of styrene in its 12th Report on Carcinogens (RoC).

Today's decision relates to challenges to the procedure that HHS's National Toxicology Program (NTP) used to reach its decision to include styrene in the RoC. It does not speak to the fundamental science on styrene's carcinogenic potential, which we continue to believe NTP inaccurately assessed.

We look forward next year to receiving the conclusions of the National Academy of Sciences' review of the styrene listing, which should provide a science-based assessment of the NTP's decision to list styrene in the RoC, as well as a comprehensive assessment of whether the collective scientific data support a cancer concern about styrene.

We challenged the RoC listing in court because we believe that it is unsupported by the science and resulted from a seriously flawed process. SIRC filed its suit contesting styrene's listing as "reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen" on June 10, 2011, the day that HHS published the RoC. Judge Walton handed down his decision on May 15, 2013.

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