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For Immediate Release

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**Styrene industry highlights flaws in NTP process:  
Congressional subcommittees hear recommended solutions**

Washington, April 25, 2012 – Toxicologist James Bus, PhD, DABT, ATS, testified at a joint congressional subcommittee hearing today that the National Toxicology Program’s (NTP) *Report on Carcinogens* (RoC) process needs comprehensive oversight and fundamental reforms to assure that its listings are based on all of the scientific information.

Bus spoke on behalf of the Styrene Information and Research Center (SIRC), of which his employer (The Dow Chemical Company) is a member, to members of the U.S. House of Representatives’ Committee on Science, Space and Technology’s Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, and the Committee on Small Business’ Subcommittee on Health Care and Technology.

Bus told the committees: “A thorough assessment of the RoC process is needed, ideally through a National Academy of Science (NAS) review,” and that the “current process lacks explicit criteria to ensure consistency and transparency.

“NTP fails to use many scientific best practices, does not meet minimum standards of peer review and, going forward, has reduced transparency by not providing written responses to public comments,” he added. “The only way to restore public and industry confidence in the RoC is through an NAS review.”

In addition to Bus, two representatives of small businesses discussed the negative consequences and regulatory effects resulting from styrene’s inclusion in the RoC.

NTP’s 12<sup>th</sup> RoC, released last June, listed styrene as “reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen.” SIRC, along with Dart Container Corporation, is challenging the legality of the listing.

For more information on styrene, its safety and uses, visit [www.YouKnowStyrene.org](http://www.YouKnowStyrene.org). For more information on SIRC and the styrene industry’s challenge to the RoC listing, visit the “Newsroom” at [www.styrene.org](http://www.styrene.org). To request copies of Bus’ oral testimony and/or written comments, email [joe.walker@styrene.org](mailto:joe.walker@styrene.org).