



Chemical Industry Council of California

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CICC Voices Support for Phase 1 of the Green Chemistry Initiative

The Chemical Industry Council of California* (CICC) has been and remains a strong advocate for the principles of green chemistry and green engineering. Several CICC member companies are proud recipients of the prestigious *Presidential Award for Green Chemistry*. "Our members routinely implement the principles of green chemistry and green engineering in their daily commitment to sustainable chemistry and sustainable development," said CICC Executive Director, John Ulrich.

Simultaneous protection of the environment, enhancement of worker and community health and safety, and financial success are the hallmarks of the chemical industry's sustainability effort. Numerous concepts embodied in the Governor's *Green Chemistry Initiative* (GCI) are consistent with the chemical industry's aggressive drive toward sustainability. For this reason, CICC and member companies have participated throughout the initial GCI process, contributing positive ideas, and making public presentations to assist and enlighten the effort.

CICC is pleased therefore, upon conclusion of the initial phase of the *Green Chemistry Initiative*, to voice its support for the conduct of the process thus far. "Today's release by CalEPA of a report cataloging and categorizing hundreds of ideas and suggestions from a broad range of stakeholders is a significant milestone," said Ulrich. "CICC compliments CalEPA Secretary Linda Adams, Director of the Department of Toxic Substances Control, Maureen Gorsen, and the interagency staff for their leadership in defining and implementing a unique and highly transparent process for eliciting the widest range of ideas from manufacturers, industry, environmental groups, academics, labor organizations, and the public."

Clearly there are many ideas identified within the CalEPA report with which the Chemical Industry Council of California is not in agreement. There are, however, many ideas with which CICC does agree and still others on which CICC believes significant progress can be achieved. The key to future progress and the successful development of a new regulatory paradigm will be reliance by all parties on scientific integrity.

"Today's report by itself is not determinative," said Ulrich. "The next phase will become more challenging as the abstract becomes concrete and broad generalizations give way to specifics," he added. Nonetheless, CICC, encouraged by the transparency and balance exhibited by CalEPA during the initial exercise, is cautiously optimistic that progress can be made on many of the difficult issues that lie ahead.

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* The Chemical Industry Council of California (CICC) is a voluntary trade association comprised of large and small chemical manufacturers and distributors throughout California. CICC represents multiple facilities including: forty-three (43) manufacturing plants; five (5) research laboratories; and sixty-seven (67) sales, service, and distribution centers. Our California members account for annual sales in excess of \$3,000,000,000 and directly employ more than 5700 workers with combined annual payroll in excess of \$283,000,000. See also www.cicc.org