

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Web-Distributed Labeling for Pesticide Products PPDC Update on Draft Pesticide Registration Notice

EPA plans to publish and invite public comment on a draft Pesticide Registration Notice that outlines a process by which registrants would be able to add web-distributed labeling to the container labeling for a product. The container labeling would not be shortened in any way with the addition of web-distributed labeling as proposed. EPA believes that web-distributed labeling has the potential to improve compliance with labeled use instructions by making pesticide labels easier to read and comprehend. Web-distributed labeling would accomplish this, in part, by allowing the user to obtain online legally-valid labeling that includes instructions for a specific location and intended use. EPA expects that if implemented, a web-distributed labeling program could result in faster access to new pesticide uses, quicker implementation of public health and environmental protective measures, and lower costs for industry and EPA.

The web-distributed labeling Pesticide Registration Notice recommends a method for registrants to add a web-distributed labeling section to a pesticide's labeling and to make legally valid labeling available through the Internet. The Pesticide Registration Notice:

- highlights that web-distributed labeling is a completely voluntary initiative,
- defines the terms related to web-distributed labeling,
- outlines the process that registrants could use to request the addition of a web-distributed labeling section,
- provides examples of new labeling statements for web-distributed labeling, and
- describes the website component of web-distributed labeling, including websites referenced on the pesticide labeling and the content and functionality of a web-distributed labeling website.

The Pesticide Registration Notice ends with a set of questions on which EPA specifically requests input from stakeholders.

EPA anticipates that the draft Pesticide Registration Notice will be published sometime in December 2012. The comment period will be open for 90 days. EPA will consider the comments received in determining whether and how to amend the Pesticide Registration Notice prior to publishing a final version.