

## Data Quality Record for Long-Term Performance Goals

**Long-Term Performance Goal Text:** By September 30, 2022, complete all EPA-initiated Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) risk evaluations for existing chemicals in accordance with statutory timelines

**Performance Measure Text:** (PM TSCA1) Number of final EPA-initiated TSCA risk evaluations completed within statutory timelines

**Goal Number/Objective:** Goal 1: Core Mission/Objective 1.4: Ensure Safety of Chemicals in the Marketplace

**NPM Lead:** Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSP)/Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT)

### 1a. Purpose of Long-Term Performance Goal:

This long-term performance goal enables the Agency to monitor and evaluate its progress in completing risk evaluations of TSCA existing chemicals. Under the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (TSCA amendments enacted June 2016), EPA has a base period of three years to complete a risk evaluation, with a possible extension of up to six months. To count toward the target, a risk evaluation must be completed within the 3.5-year statutory period. Timely completions will indicate that the Agency is carrying out this responsibility in compliance with the schedules set by the statute.

To ensure timely completion of risk evaluations, EPA will closely monitor progress toward achievement of interim milestones such as the release of scoping documents; publication of the draft risk evaluation, review of public comments received during 60-day public comment period and publication of the final risk evaluation. Close adherence to the detailed series of steps laid out in EPA's Risk Evaluation Process Rule (July 2017)<sup>1</sup>, including opportunity for public comment, helps ensure that EPA's final risk evaluations are thorough and well supported by data.

### 1b. Performance Measure Term Definitions:

Risk evaluation: A risk evaluation conducted under TSCA is an evaluation to determine whether a chemical substance presents an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment, without consideration of costs or other non-risk factors, including to potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulation(s) under the conditions of use identified by the Administrator for the risk evaluation (TSCA Section 6(b)(4)(A)).

EPA-initiated: A risk evaluation is initiated by EPA if: (1) the chemical is among the initial 10 chemicals selected by EPA for risk evaluation (announced December 16, 2016) or (2) the chemical substance is designated by EPA as a High-Priority Substance through the Agency's prioritization process, the first cycle of which was completed in FY 2020.

Complete: A risk evaluation is considered complete when the final risk evaluation is signed by the Administrator.

Within statutory timelines: A risk evaluation is completed within statutory timelines if the final risk evaluation is published no later than 3.5 years from the date on which the risk evaluation is initiated (i.e., the base period established by law, plus the statutorily allowed extension of up to six-months).

**1c. Unit of Measure:** Final EPA-initiated TSCA risk evaluations completed no later than 3.5 years from the date on which the risk evaluation is initiated.

### 2a. Data Source:

- Relevant information system: EPA's Project Management Tool (a Salesforce-based tool), and EPA Lean Management System bowling chart (produced by EPA's Budget Formulation System) enable the Agency to track progress toward the long-term performance goal target via the associated annual budget measure and quarterly measure targets.
- Entity that reports data to the system: EPA/OCSP/OPPT/ECRAD and OPPT IO report data to the systems.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0654-0108>

- Frequency of reporting primary data: OPPT uses its data systems to track progress toward completion of risk evaluations daily, monthly, quarterly, semiannually, and annually.
- Reference to Quality Assurance Project Plan: The collection of data on risk evaluation completions is not covered under a QAPP. The actual conduct of a risk evaluation is covered by many QAPPs for several contracts.

**2b. Data needed for interpretation of (calculated) Performance Result:**

- Baseline: As EPA is operating under new statutory authority enacted in FY 2016, there was no relevant baseline information. No risk evaluations were completed under Section 6 of TSCA, as amended by the Lautenberg Act, as of September 30, 2017.
- Progress toward long-term performance goal target is monitored via the associated GPRA Budget Measure, reported annually; and the EPA Lean Management System, reported monthly.
- Universe includes all existing chemical risk evaluations conducted pursuant to Section 6 of TSCA. Effective December 2019, as required by statute, EPA will have 20 risk evaluations underway at all times for high priority chemicals identified by the Agency.

**3. Methodology:**

The performance result is the number of EPA-initiated TSCA risk evaluations completed within statutory timelines, based on simple counting. No further calculation or aggregation is needed.

**4. Data Limitations/Qualifications:**

Since the completion of a risk evaluation is defined in terms of signature by the Administrator, no significant data limitations are anticipated. The possibility of error in reporting performance results is minimal.

**5. Technical Contact:**

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**6. Certification Statement/Signature**

**I certify the information in this DQR is complete and accurate.**

**DAA Signature** \_\_\_\_\_