

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

1. **Date** February 28, 2000
2. **Name of Applicant/Notifier** Ticona
3. **Address** All communications on this matter are to be sent in care of Counsel for Notifier, Jerome H. Heckman, Keller and Heckman LLP, 1001 G Street, N.W., Suite 500 West, Washington, D.C. 20001. Telephone: (202) 434-4110.

**4. Description of the Proposed Action**

The action requested in this Notification is the establishment of a clearance to permit the use of polyphenylene sulfide polymers as components of repeated-use food contact articles. The polymers that are the subject of this notification are marketed under the name "Fortron® PPS." The polyphenylene sulfide polymers are intended to be used under all conditions of use and in contact with all types of food.

The subject polyphenylene sulfide polymers offer several technical properties that make them useful in a variety of food, pharmaceutical, and medical device applications. In particular, Fortron® PPS polyphenylene sulfide possesses high thermal stability and excellent chemical resistance.

**5. Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action**

- a. *Production of the food-contact substance:* There are no extraordinary circumstances that apply to the manufacture of the food-contact substance that would present a significant environmental effect from the proposed action.
  
- b. *Use and disposal of the food-contact substance:* This action involves a food-contact substance that is a component of a repeated use article. The principal route of potential environmental introduction of the food-contact substance follows from its disposal after use. However, the potential for significant introduction of substances resulting from disposal is very low because of the long service life of articles manufactured from polyphenylene sulfide (such articles will have a useful service life of at least 15 months) and because of the limited market volume of the substance (an estimate of the market volume of the polyphenylene sulfide polymers is provided separately in a confidential section of the Notification). Therefore, the proposed action will not have a significant environmental effect.

**6. Alternatives to the Proposed Action**

Alternatives to the proposed action need not be considered because no potential adverse effects have been identified.

**7. List of Preparers**

- c. Lester Borodinsky, Staff Scientist, Keller and Heckman LLP, 1001 G Street, N.W., Suite 500 West, Washington, D.C. 20001; Ph.D. in Chemistry.

**8. Certification**

The undersigned official certifies that the information provided herein is true, accurate, and complete to the best knowledge of Ticona.

Date: February 28, 2000



*Jerome H. Heckman*  
Jerome H. Heckman

Counsel for Ticona