

National Chemical Inventory of Philippines

Philippine Inventory of Chemicals and Chemical Substances (PICCS)

Overview of the PICCS:

The Philippine Inventory of Chemicals and Chemical Substances (PICCS) is an official list maintained by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). It catalogues chemical substances that are manufactured, imported, or used in commerce within the Philippines. The primary purpose of the PICCS is to determine whether a chemical substance is new to the Philippines, thereby supporting the country's Pre-Manufacturing and Pre-Importation Notification (PMPIN) system.

The PICCS was established under Republic Act 6969, also known as the “Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Waste Control Act of 1990,” which provides the legal framework for managing chemicals in the Philippines. The inventory helps regulate the introduction of new chemicals into the market and aims to mitigate potential environmental and health risks.

Key Components of the PICCS:

1. Inventory Composition:

- The PICCS includes chemicals that were imported or manufactured in the Philippines within any twelve-month period between January 1, 1988, and January 1, 1993.
- All naturally occurring substances are considered existing chemicals and are not subject to the notification requirements.
- The PICCS contains chemical substances identified by their IUPAC nomenclature, CAS Registry Numbers, and molecular formulas (where available).

2. Regulation of New Chemical Substances:

- Any chemical substance not listed in the PICCS is considered new to the Philippines. Manufacturers or importers must submit a Pre-Manufacturing or Pre-Importation Notification (PMPIN) to the EMB for approval before the substance can be produced or imported.

- The PMPIN process is designed to prevent the introduction of chemicals that lack adequate toxicological, human health, or environmental impact data. This ensures that only chemicals with sufficient safety data enter the Philippine market.

3. Confidentiality Provisions:

- If a company believes that the inclusion of a chemical in the public version of the PICCS would lead to significant commercial disadvantage, they can request that the chemical be listed in the Confidential Business Information (CBI) section of the inventory. The EMB will review these requests on a case-by-case basis.

Timeline for Inclusion and Import/Production Regulations:

- **Inclusion of New Chemicals:**

- New chemicals undergo a rigorous evaluation process before they can be added to the PICCS. The exact timeline for this inclusion can vary depending on the completeness of the safety data and the complexity of the assessment process.

- **Importation and Production:**

- Once a chemical is listed in the PICCS, it can be freely imported or manufactured in the Philippines without needing further notification under the PMPIN system. However, ongoing compliance with other relevant safety and environmental regulations is required to maintain this status.

Accessing the PICCS:

- The Environmental Management Bureau manages the PICCS under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of the Philippines by visiting the official website of the EMB: [EMB-DENR](#).