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Canadian Asbestos Proposal Fails to Recognize the Chlorine Industry’s Long History of Safe Use

The Canadian Government’s proposal to phase out the use of chrysotile asbestos by 2025 in chlor-alkali manufacturing fails to recognize the chlor-alkali industry’s strong track record of using chrysotile asbestos safely.

Facilities that use chrysotile asbestos diaphragms during the manufacturing process adhere to established safety protocols to minimize potential asbestos exposure to workers, the public, and the environment. The chlor-alkali industry is highly regulated to ensure the safe use of asbestos from the point of entry into the U.S., through the transport, use, and disposal.

Unfortunately, Canada’s proposed phase out of asbestos in the chlor-alkali industry was driven by political pressure rather than an objective examination of the scientific evidence and industry safety performance. ACC disagrees with this policymaking approach and encourages the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to follow a risk-based approach for its evaluation of asbestos.

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