

## **Canada Environment Minister Declares D<sub>5</sub> Safe for the Environment March 1, 2012**

The Silicone Environmental Health & Safety Council of North America (SEHSC) today commends Canada's Environmental Minister's decision to implement the findings of an independent scientific panel that concluded that Siloxane D<sub>5</sub> does not pose a danger to the environment. On February 24<sup>th</sup>, the Minister took the important step of declaring D<sub>5</sub> as safe for the environment and removing it from a proposed list of toxic substances. Prior to the Board of Review (BOR) being established, Health Canada had already deemed D<sub>5</sub> to be safe for humans.

The BOR, a panel of renowned toxicologists appointed by the Canadian Environmental Minister, conducted a comprehensive scientific evaluation of the behavior of D<sub>5</sub> in the environment. The Board's report supports the importance of using a quantitative risk assessment as the basis for determining a chemical's environmental risk, and underscores the necessity of sound science for impactful chemicals management policy.

The Canadian Government's decision to establish this independent review is a clear example of Canada's commitment to sound science in the implementation of the Chemicals Management Plan (CMP). SEHSC encourages chemical regulators around the world to review and follow Canada's lead to ensure that risk management decisions are commensurate with the risks they are intended to address, and informed by the most recent scientific information.

The silicone industry supports the goals and objectives of the CMP and will continue to work closely with Environment Canada officials and the broader scientific community to provide the latest in scientific data for all relevant materials. Our industry remains committed to ensuring the health and environmental safety of its materials that enables a strong economy, ongoing innovation and the continued safe use of these materials by consumers every day.