

Synopsis

The substance 3,5-dimethylaniline, which is reported to be mainly used as an intermediate in the manufacture of azo dyes, is not produced or imported into Canada. It is anticipated that 3,5-dimethylaniline will not persist in the environment since, by analogy to aniline, it should readily undergo biological degradation in water and soil, and photolysis in water, air and on soil. No information was found in the literature on the concentrations of 3,5-dimethylaniline in air, surface waters, ground water, biota, soil or sediment in Canada or elsewhere.

Available data on the toxic effects of 3,5-dimethylaniline on aquatic organisms indicate that concentrations in the low mg/L range would be required before adverse effects could be predicted; however, such levels are unlikely given the lack of use of this substance in Canada. No data on its toxicity to wild mammals, birds, sediment or soil biota were identified.

3,5-Dimethylaniline is expected to be of low to moderately volatility, and to readily photolyze in air. Consequently, it is unlikely that this substance would contribute to ozone depletion, global warming or the formation of ground-level ozone.

The available information was considered inadequate to quantitatively estimate the exposure to 3,5-dimethylaniline by the general population in Canada, or the associated potential health risk.

Based on these considerations, the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of National Health and Welfare have concluded that 3,5-dimethylaniline is not entering the environment in a quantity or concentration or under conditions that constitute a danger to the environment or to the environment upon which human life depends. The Ministers have concluded that there are insufficient data to determine whether 3,5-dimethylaniline constitutes a danger in Canada to human life or health.