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Green campaigners urge EU bisphenol-A curbs

Friends of the Earth has called on the EU to clamp down on the controversial plastics intermediate bisphenol-A (BPA). In a report published on Thursday the group says the chemical should be substituted by safer alternatives through the Reach policy and urges companies to stop using it in consumer products.

The campaign group's call follows new research and regulatory moves on BPA across the Atlantic, where the Canadian government has announced a ban in baby bottles and a senator in the US has proposed a ban in children's products and food containers.

FoE's Brussels office said BPA should be added to a list of candidate substances of very high concern under Reach ([EED 02/07/08](#)) and should ultimately only be used under strict authorisation conditions.

The group also wants the European food safety authority (Efsa) to reverse a decision taken last year to revise upwards the EU tolerable daily intake level for BPA ([EED 29/01/07](#)). Efsa risk assessors met in Parma, Italy, this week, to discuss this issue, but no outcome has yet emerged. An official said a new report on BPA would be issued "soon", but ENDS understands that the authority is unlikely to revise the TDI level immediately.

Follow-up: See FoE [press release](#)

(http://www.foeeurope.org/press/2008/Jul10_Regulators_shirking_responsibility_on_BisphenolA.htm and [report](http://www.foeeurope.org/safer_chemicals/Blissfully_unaware_of_BPA_report.pdf)(http://www.foeeurope.org/safer_chemicals/Blissfully_unaware_of_BPA_report.pdf) , and [Efsa information page](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_BisphenolAFAQs.htm)(http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_BisphenolAFAQs.htm) . See also [BPA industry information page](http://www.bisphenol-a.org/) (<http://www.bisphenol-a.org/>) .

Article Index: [Chemicals](#) · [Health/Consumers](#) · [Products](#)

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