

## Government Affairs Update



### Major Toxic Chemical Rules Reform Signed into Law

President Obama signed into law to the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (H.R. 2576) on Wednesday, June 22, 2016. The measure, passed both House and Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support, will fundamentally revise the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), the nation's primary chemicals law. AFS participated in a coalition of over 200 organizations led by the American Chemistry Council.

### EPA Releases First Environmental Justice Regulatory Guide

In June, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued its first-ever technical guidance document covering how agency officials should incorporate environmental justice principles in regulatory actions and enforcement. This could mean new requirements for businesses covered by future EPA rules or settlements. EPA will be holding webinars on June 23rd, from 1:00 to 2:00 pm EST, and July 11th, from 3:00 to 4:00 pm EST. You can register for either webinar at this link: <http://ej-tech-guidance-webinar.eventbrite.com>

### Update on AFS Silica Litigation – AFS Files Statement of Issues

On May 31, AFS/NAM submitted, a broad statement of issues which will be raised in the legal challenge, focusing on the economic and technological feasibility of the new PEL, action level and hierarchy of controls; the procedures OSHA used to justify and support its rulemaking; whether OSHA deprived the public of the opportunity to comment on significant exposure data that OSHA relied upon that was not made available for public review; and a number of other issues. Several other business-advocacy groups are challenging the silica rule, including the National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association, Brick Industry of America, and a consortium of leading construction-related associations. The US Chamber of Commerce and Portland Cement are intervening in the case.

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