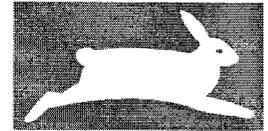


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**PETA**

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

HEADQUARTERS  
501 FRONT STREET  
NORFOLK, VA 23510  
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March 29, 2004

Michael O. Leavitt, Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Ariel Rios Bldg. (1101A)  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Comments on the HPV test plan for 2-naphthalenesulfonic acid,  
6-hydroxy-5-[(2-methoxy-5-methyl-4-sulfophenyl)azo], disodium salt  
(FD&C red no. 40)

Dear Administrator Leavitt:

The following comments on the International Association of Color Manufacturers' test plan for FD&C red no. 40 (CAS no. 25956-17-6) are submitted on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, the Humane Society of the United States, the Doris Day Animal League, and Earth Island Institute. These animal, health and environmental protection organizations have a combined membership of more than ten million Americans.

The International Association of Color Manufacturers has carried out a thorough survey of the available information on the toxicity of FD&C red no. 40, and has presented an enormous volume of data in its summaries document. On the basis of these data, the Association has appropriately concluded that no further testing of this material is required under the EPA's HPV program. We commend the Association for its thorough presentation of existing data.

Sincerely,

Jessica Sandler  
Federal Agency Liaison

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