



## OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

October 11, 2024

Heather J. Blankinship  
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Dear Ms. Blankinship:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the North American Metals Council (NAMC) dated October 8, 2024, in which you requested a 30-day extension to the deadline to comment on pre-prioritization and the consideration of existing chemical substances for future prioritization actions under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) using docket ID. No. EPA-HQ-OPPT-2023-0606. Specifically, your letter states that a 30-day extension is necessary “to engage stakeholders, develop robust comments, provide time for stakeholder review, and submit the comments to EPA” and that NAMC is interested in addressing risk assessment issues unique to metals at various stages of their lifecycle.

EPA has decided to deny the request to extend the comment period deadline from October 31, 2024, to December 2, 2024. While EPA appreciates NAMC’s engagement, the time allotted during this pre-prioritization timeframe is sufficient. Further, extending the comment period by 30 days to December 2, 2024, will not allow EPA sufficient time to review all submitted comments and information prior to the Agency’s anticipated initiation of prioritization in mid-December 2024.

Stakeholders will have additional opportunities to provide feedback and potentially relevant information on the chemical substances identified as candidates of future prioritization actions after the current public comment period closes on October 31, 2024. When EPA initiates prioritization for the next chemical substances undergoing prioritization, the Agency plans to re-open docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OPPT-2023-0606 for comment and submission of potentially relevant information on the chemical candidates identified during the public webinars but not selected for this round of prioritization.

If you have further questions or concerns regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Eva Wong, Supervisor of the Prioritization and Data Review Branch, at [wong.eva@epa.gov](mailto:wong.eva@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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