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In another blow to the manner in which the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) has failed to enforce the requirement that testing on animals shall be undertaken only as a last resort, the Agency's Board of Appeal today annulled a decision by ECHA that required CINIC CHEMICALS EUROPE, Sarl to conduct an extended one generation reproductive toxicity study (EOGRTS). ECHA has refused to consider new information and updates to the registrant's dossier after a self-imposed deadline.

The PETA International Science Consortium Ltd., intervened in this case and called for changes to ECHA's strict administrative processes to ensure that all data are assessed prior to requiring the animal test. In this precedent-setting case, the Board's decision requires the Agency to reopen the case, which should result in sparing approximately 1300 animals from being fed the substance during pregnancy or as newborns before being killed and dissected. It could also prevent tens of thousands of other animals from being used in similarly avoidable tests.

By requiring ECHA to assess new information, the Board has ensured that all relevant data will be considered prior to requiring the test. This critical change to ECHA's restrictive administrative processes will help ensure that registrants test on animals only as a last resort, as required by law.



# PETA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE CONSORTIUM

PISC@piscltd.org.uk +44 (0) 20 7837 6327

### **MEMBERS**

# PETA Foundation (UK)

PO Box 70315 London N1P 2RG

### PETA US

1536 16th St NW Washington, DC 20036

### PETA Asia

GPO Box 1700 Hong Kong

# PETA Australia

Box 20308, World Square Sydney NSW 2002

### PETA France

6, place de la Madeleine 75008 Paris

# **PETA Germany**

Benzstrasse 1 D-70839 Gerlingen

### PETA India

PO Box 28260 Juhu, Mumbai 400 049

# PETA Netherlands

Postbus 2570 1000 CN Amsterdam

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