



# Annex 15 report

## Proposal for identification of a substance of very high concern (SVHC) under UK REACH

Substance Name(s): Orthoboric acid, sodium salt

EC Number(s): 237-560-2

CAS Number(s): 13840-56-7

**March 2026**



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# 1. Proposal

**Substance name(s):** Orthoboric acid, sodium salt

**EC number(s):** 237-560-2

**CAS number(s):** 13840-56-7

The substance is proposed to be identified as a substance meeting the criteria of Article 57 (c) of UK REACH owing to its classification in the hazard class toxic for reproduction category 1B<sup>1</sup>.

## **Summary of how the substance meets the criteria set out in Article 57 of UK REACH**

Orthoboric acid, sodium salt is included in the GB Mandatory Classification and Labelling (MCL) list. It is covered by the entry with index number 005-011-00-4 and classified in the hazard class toxic for reproduction category 1B (H360FD; May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child).

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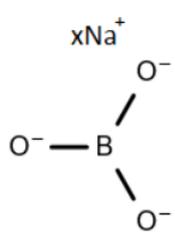
<sup>1</sup> Classification in accordance with section 3.7 of Annex I to the retained Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 as amended for Great Britain (hereinafter referred to as GB CLP).

## 2. Justification

### 2.1 Identity of the substance and physical and chemical properties

#### 2.1.1 Name and other identifiers of the substance

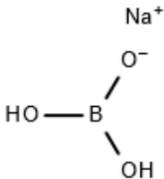
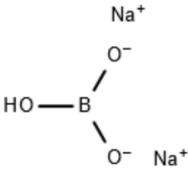
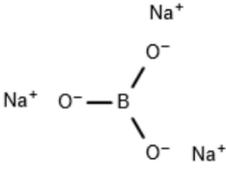
**Table 1: Substance identity**

EC number:	237-560-2
EC name:	Orthoboric acid, sodium salt
CAS number (in the EC inventory):	13840-56-7
IUPAC name:	Orthoboric acid, sodium salt
Index number in GB MCL List:	005-011-00-4
Molecular formula:	BH <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> .xNa
Molecular weight range:	-
Synonyms:	-
Structural formula:	
Substance type:	-

Data source: EU Annex 15 report [ECHA \(2021a\)](#)

Other identifiers for orthoboric acid, sodium salt as well as identifiers for hydrated forms of the substance and those with fixed ratios of sodium ions to borate are also within the scope of the entry. For examples, see table 2 below.

**Table 2: Examples of other identifiers within scope of the entry for orthoboric acid, sodium salt**

EC number	CAS number	Name and structural formula
215-604-1	1333-73-9	boric acid, sodium salt (BH <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> xNa)
	25747-83-5	boric acid (H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> ), sodium salt, hydrate (BH <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> .xH <sub>2</sub> OxNa)
	14890-53-0	boric acid (H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> ), sodium salt (1:1) 
	22454-04-2	boric acid (H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> ), disodium salt 
238-253-6	14312-40-4	trisodium orthoborate 

Data source: EU Annex 15 report [ECHA \(2021a\)](#)

### 2.1.2 Composition of the substance

Impurities and/or additives are not relevant for SVHC identification of the substance.

### 2.1.3 Identity and composition of degradation products/metabolites relevant for the SVHC assessment

Not relevant for the identification of the substance as a SVHC in accordance with Article 57 (c) of UK REACH.

### 2.1.4 Identity and composition of structurally related substances (used in grouping or read-across approach)

Not relevant for the identification of the substance as a SVHC in accordance with Article 57 (c) of UK REACH.

### 2.1.5 Physicochemical properties

Not relevant for the identification of the substance as a SVHC in accordance with Article 57 (c) of UK REACH.

## 2.2 Mandatory classification and labelling

**Table 3: Mandatory classification in the GB MCL list**

Index No	International Chemical Identification	EC No	CAS No	GB MCL list Classification		Aligned with EU CLH <sup>a</sup>
				Hazard Class and Category Code(s)	Hazard statement code(s)	Y/N
005-011-00-4	Orthoboric acid, sodium salt	237-560-2	13840-56-7	Repr. 1B	H360FD	Y

<sup>a</sup> EU CLH is harmonised classification and labelling in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1272/2008

## 2.3 Human health hazard assessment

Please see Section 2.2 (mandatory classification and labelling).

## **2.4 Conclusions on the SVHC properties**

### **2.4.1 CMR assessment**

Orthoboric acid, sodium salt is covered by the entry with index number 005-011-00-4 in the GB MCL list and is classified in the hazard class toxic for reproduction category 1B (H360FD; May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child).

Therefore, the substance satisfies the criterion in Article 57(c) of UK REACH.

## 3. Information on use, exposure and alternatives

### 3.1 UK and EU REACH registration status and tonnage

Orthoboric acid, sodium salt is not registered under UK or EU REACH<sup>2</sup>.

A total of two Downstream User Import Notifications (DUINs<sup>3</sup>) have been submitted under UK REACH.

### 3.2 General description of uses and exposure

Limited information is available regarding how orthoboric acid, sodium salt is used as it is not registered under UK or EU REACH. However, it is possible that orthoboric acid, sodium salt could be used as a substitute for other borates in similar applications (e.g. as a corrosion inhibitor).

### 3.3 Alternatives

No information available.

### 3.4 Additional information

Several other borates are already included on the Candidate List under UK and EU REACH due to their classification for reproductive toxicity. [ECHA \(2021a\)](#) notes that there is potential for orthoboric acid, sodium salt to be used as an alternative to these other borates, given the chemical similarities and the overlap in their uses/functions.

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<sup>2</sup> ECHA Chemicals database; ECHA CHEM <https://chem.echa.europa.eu/>

<sup>3</sup> GB-based companies who imported substances from EU-based suppliers before UK REACH became law on 1 January 2021 had no EU REACH registration obligations as they were classed as Downstream Users (DUs). As they are now importers from outside of GB, they may have registration obligations under UK REACH. However, a transitional measure allows former DUs to suspend the registration until one of three deadlines (depending on tonnage and hazard). Where the identity of these imported substances was known, they could be included in a Downstream User Import Notification (DUIN) submitted to the Agency.

## References

ECHA (2019) Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) Opinion proposing harmonised classification and labelling at EU level of Boric acid, Diboron trioxide, Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide hydrate, Disodium tetraborate anhydrous, Orthoboric acid sodium salt, Disodium tetraborate decahydrate and Disodium tetraborate pentahydrate; CLH-O-0000001412-86-300/F; Date: 20/09/2019. Available at:

<https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/584263da-199c-f86f-9b73-422a4f22f1c3>

[Accessed: 09/2025]

ECHA (2021a) Annex XV report PROPOSAL FOR IDENTIFICATION OF SUBSTANCES OF VERY HIGH CONCERN ON THE BASIS OF THE CRITERIA SET OUT IN REACH ARTICLE 57. Available at: <https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/b4629148-2a72-ca60-a659-07a0d84c3259>

[Accessed: 09/2025]

ECHA Chemicals database; ECHA CHEM. Available at: <https://chem.echa.europa.eu/>

[Accessed: 09/2025]

HSE (2021a) Agency technical report on the classification and labelling of Boric acid, Diboron trioxide, Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide hydrate, Disodium tetraborate anhydrous, Orthoboric acid sodium salt, Disodium tetraborate decahydrate and Disodium tetraborate pentahydrate. Available at: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/chemical-classification/assets/docs/mcl-gaaa-0082.pdf> [Accessed date: 09/2025]

HSE (2021b) Initial assessments of substances added to the EU Candidate List in 2021.

Available at: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/reach/assets/docs/svhc-assessment-summaries.pdf>

[Accessed: 09/2025]

Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures, amending and repealing Directives 67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EC, and amending Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (Text with EEA relevance). Available at:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2008/1272/contents> [Accessed 09/2025]

Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency, amending Directive 1999/45/EC and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC (Text with EEA

relevance). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2006/1907/contents> [Accessed 09/2025]

# Glossary of terms used in Agency Annex 15 report

## Agency, the HSE

<b>CLH</b>	Harmonised Classification and Labelling
<b>CLP</b>	Classification, labelling and packaging
<b>DUIN</b>	Downstream User Import Notifications
<b>ECHA</b>	European Chemicals Agency
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>HSE</b>	Health and Safety Executive
<b>MCL</b>	Mandatory Classification and Labelling
<b>RAC</b>	Committee for Risk Assessment
<b>REACH</b>	Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals regulation
<b>SVHC</b>	Substance of very high concern





## Further information

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