CAR 2014-4 Include Reference Exposure Level for Caprolactam:

Fareed presented the summation of the issue and background in the issue paper. The committee discussed the need for setting this as the precedent within NSF 140; it is California Standard method and within Green Label Plus. This is incorporated by reference to Green Label Plus Program. Caprolactam is included in the CRI Green Label Plus because it was taken from an older version of Cal 1350 from a list of select compounds; not necessarily a particular threat or hazard. Since CAL CDH has not adopted it into the 1350 management tool, it may not need to be managed but is under the GLP program.

Motion by Fareed Ferhut to send this to ballot as proposed in the issue paper; seconded by Jeff Olsen.

Discussion: There was a question for pulling out Caprolactam versus others that are in the GLP. That is a good question - there was not specific reason to pull it out from an industry standpoint. There was a toxicity study by a university in Germany on Caprolactam with an issue of indoor air quality. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has investigated caprolactam under California’s Air Toxics “Hot Spots”, and in October 2013 OEHHA adopted a Chronic Reference Exposure Level (REL) for long-term exposure to caprolactam of 2.2 μg/m³. The 100 μg/m³ recommended emission limit for caprolactam is currently utilized in Carpet and Rug Institute’s Green Label Plus Program. The chemical is an irritant. This is not a significant health issue. There are specific compounds with new carpet smell - Caprolactam is not part of that. There are several chemicals that have risk assessments that are within Green Label Plus Program. Green Label Plus references CDPH and the standard references them.

Vote: 11 Affirmative; 6 negative; 1 abstention.

Motion passed.