

European Commission

Directorate-General for the Environment

Unit ENV/B3 –Waste Management and Secondary Materials

To the attention of the Head of Unit Mr. Mattia Pellegrini

Avenue de Beaulieu (BU) 9 - 5/106, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium

Subject: RoHS exemption renewal application, product category 11 – Exemption 18 (b): “Lead as activator in the fluorescent powder (1 % lead by weight or less) of discharge lamps when used as sun tanning lamps containing phosphors such as BSP (BaSi2O5:Pb)”

Brussels, 6th of December 2022

Dear Mr. Pellegrini,

As the voice of the European indoor tanning industry, representing 24 national indoor tanning associations and leading equipment manufacturers in Europe, we would hereby like to express our support of LightingEurope’s renewal application for Directive 2011/65/EU (RoHS) Annex III **exemption 18(b) product category 11** (*other electrical and electronic equipment not covered by any of the other categories*)

Since our previous joint exemption request from 2020 for product category 5 (lighting equipment), despite the efforts made, there were no new technological developments providing comparable substitutes that could satisfy the market at the moment. Therefore, there is no further information to be added in this renewal application for the exemption 18 (b) product category 11 than what has already been submitted in 2020. The indoor tanning industry benefits from these exemptions greatly not only due to the fact that the lamps in question present an essential component of the tanning equipment but also given that there is no suitable substitute available yet nor expected to be developed in short term.

Moreover, as mentioned in the previous exemption renewal application, it should be noted that any future alternative would require substitute lamp technology and also changes in the control gear such as power supplies which would have a significant economic bearing on the manufacturers and on the operators that purchase these machines (tanning salons) many of which are small, independent business owners. These businesses play a strong role in their local economy making the annual turnover of the indoor tanning industry (together with the manufacturers and dealers) to about 2.1 billion Euros without even including businesses that provide indoor tanning as an additional service (such as fitness and beauty studios). With this in mind, we are asking you to consider the socio-economic effects if these exemptions are not renewed. Furthermore, the industry is continuously putting effort to ensure the WEEE Directive 2012/19/EU compliance with regards to the waste disposal and recycling which diminishes the environmental impact.

In light of the above, we are seeking your support for renewal of the Annex III exemption 18 (b), category 11 products for a maximum validity period.

With our best regards,



Frank Harbusch
Secretary General of the European Sunlight Association