

**Question for written answer E-003460/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Ban on trimethylbenzoyl diphenylphosphine oxide in nail products

On 12 May 2025, the Commission adopted a new implementing regulation on prohibited cosmetic substances. Those substances include trimethylbenzoyl diphenylphosphine oxide (TPO), which makes nail products harden. Until now, nail professionals have commonly used products containing TPO, but can no longer do so as of 1 September. That means that the whole sector has had only about three months to sell existing stocks before having to write them off as a complete loss.

However, in 2014, the Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety issued a favourable opinion regarding the use of TPO, as long as that use was confined to professional settings¹. As is often the case with Commission decisions, it is hundreds of small business owners who are penalised, punished without cause and left at the mercy of arbitrary decisions made with no regard for those affected.

1. Where can we find the assessment the Commission certainly carried out regarding the impact of such a short deadline on the businesses concerned?
2. What is the benefit as far as the Commission is concerned, and what is the immediate emergency that justifies not allowing the remaining stocks to be sold, given that, in any case, production is now banned?
3. With the Commission giving nail professionals so little time to adjust, did it seek to respect the principle of legal certainty?

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¹ https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/trimethylbenzoyl-diphenylphosphine-oxide-tpo_en