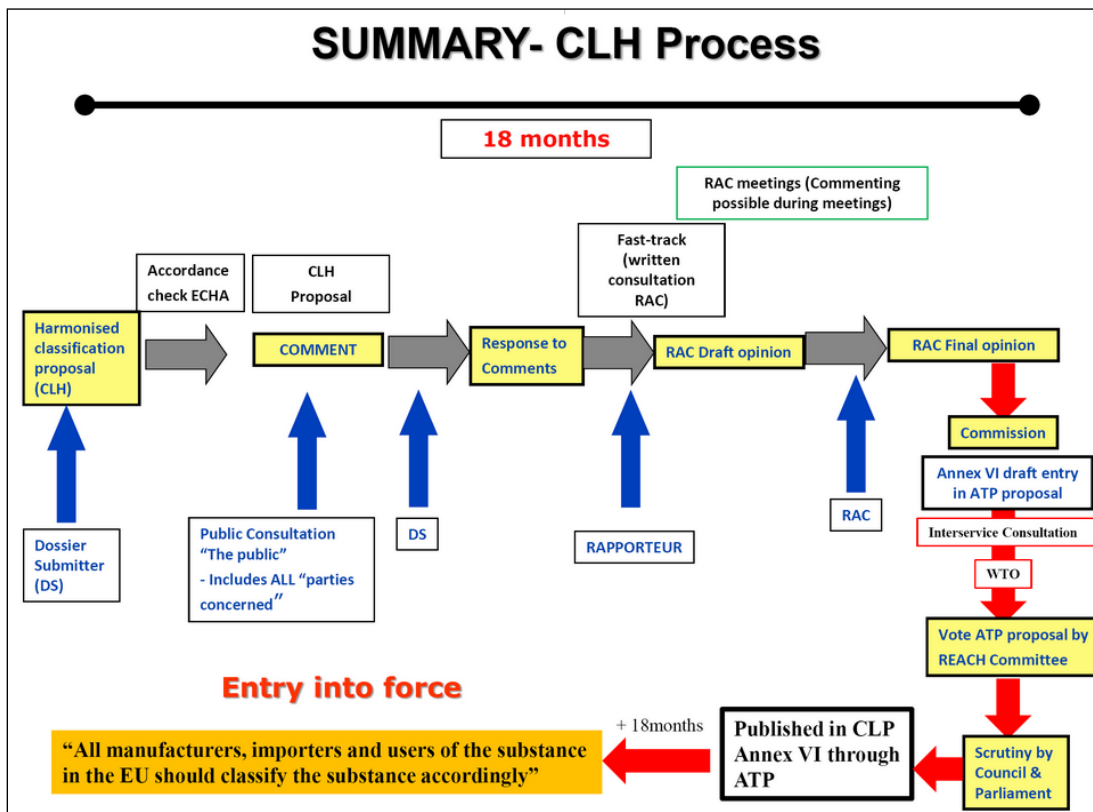


Customers of SiC_{Ma} members buying crude and grain not affected by CLH dossier

On 14th March 2017, the European Chemical Agency (ECHA) published a draft proposal for harmonized classification and labelling (CLH) of silicon carbide (SiC) fibres inviting stakeholders to comment by 28th April 2017. This draft proposal does not concern SiC crude and grain. Customers of SiC_{Ma} members buying crude and grain are therefore not affected by the draft CLH proposal.

The draft CLH proposal concludes that SiC fibres and cleavage fragments that fall within the World Health Organization (WHO) definition of a ‘fibre’ should be classified as carcinogenic 1B. The WHO defines ‘fibres’ as particles with a length of >5µm, a diameter of <3µm and an aspect ratio (length/diameter) of >3:1.

SiC_{Ma} disagrees with this draft conclusion from a scientific perspective and will provide comments during the public consultation. Scientific studies undertaken by SiC_{Ma} and other publicly available information indicate that a differentiated view on SiC fibres is required. None of the scientific studies, to our knowledge, showed evidence that cleavage fragments and short fibres have carcinogenic effects. Only very long fibres, so-called ‘whiskers’ (diameter <1µm, length >10µm; aspect ratio >10) may be considered carcinogenic.



Source: www.reach-metals.eu