

United States of America

**Registration for an Exemption Pursuant to
Article 6, Paragraph 1, of the Minamata Convention on Mercury**

Pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 1 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the United States hereby registers for an exemption from the phase-out date listed in Annex B for the use of mercury in chlor-alkali production. The United States also provides the following statement explaining the need for the exemption:

The United States supports the phase-out of mercury use in chlor-alkali production facilities. It has implemented domestic strategies to encourage a timely transition to mercury-free alternative technologies with a view to phasing out all mercury use in domestic chlor-alkali production facilities. New or reconstructed chlor-alkali production facilities in the United States are already effectively prohibited from using mercury under section 112 of the Clean Air Act. See 40 C.F.R. § 63.8190. Most mercury cell chlor-alkali facilities in the United States have already closed or converted. While there were 14 such facilities in 1998, only two remained as of late 2013. The United States will, pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 7, withdraw this exemption if that becomes possible prior to its expiration date.