

Unpicking the hidden toxicity in activewear



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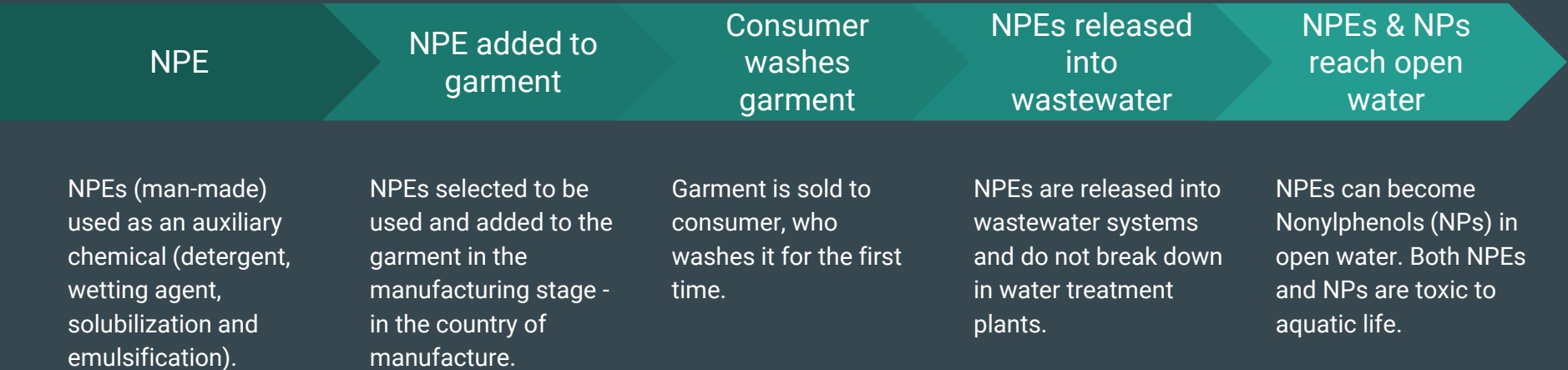
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Overview:

Nonylphenol-Ethoxylates (NPEs) are a group of man-made chemicals used in the textile processing industry. If NPEs reach open water they enter the food of aquatic life and cause damage through disrupting hormones.

Why and how are NPEs used in textile manufacturing?



Project aim:

To understand the prevalence of nonylphenol-ethoxylates used in popular activewear purchased New Zealand and the negative impact on ecosystems in Hamilton, New Zealand.



Van Vuuren Bros. [ChristaainVanVuuren]. (2015, September 22). "Activewear" by Skit Box [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYRENWT8lz8&feature=emb_logo

Project objectives:

- to determine the present amount of NPEs and NPs in a range of activewear purchased in New Zealand**
- look for any correlation between branding, country of origin, colour and fibres in the use of NPEs**
- understand how far these pollutants are transferred in the environment and potentially affect the aquatic life in Hamilton, New Zealand**

Project hypothesis:

The hypothesis is that activewear garments contribute to the increasing amount of NPs and NPEs found in Hamilton wastewater.

Project methodologies:

Literature review

Purchase 15 garments

Testing phase 1

 Testing phase 2

Analysis of findings

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