

Letter of Engagement – February 2023

Dear ESA member, customer and end user of Sealing Devices,

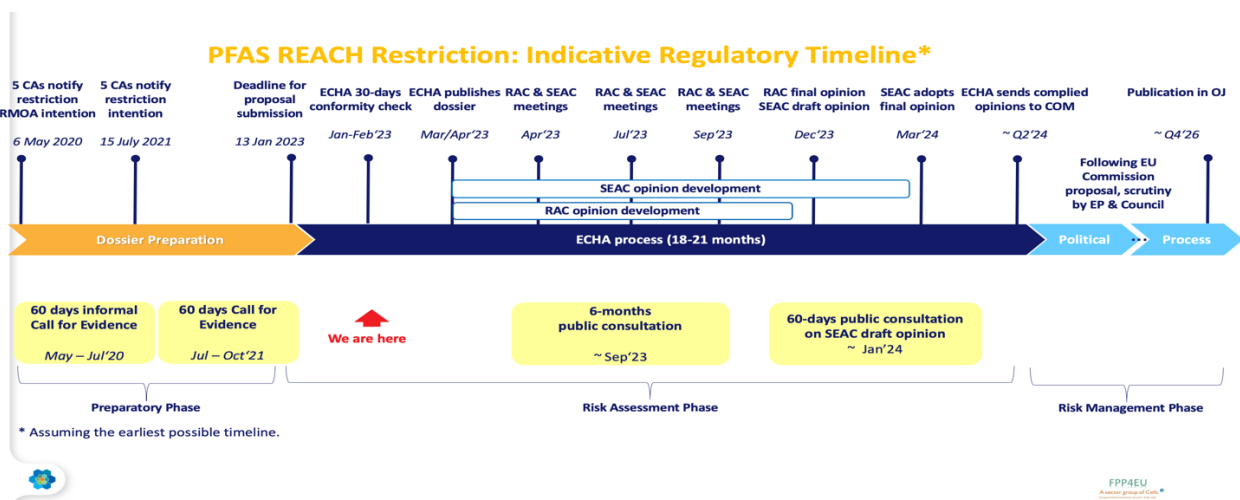
You may be aware that under the current [Proposed PFAS Restriction Directive](#) issued by ECHA on the 7th February 2023 there may be a complete ban on the manufacture, import and use of products containing PFAS e.g. PTFE, FKM, PVDF, FEP as soon as 2026. This affects many Sealing Devices (Flange Gaskets, Packings, Elastomeric & Polymeric Seals, Expansion Joints and Mechanical Seals) As a consequence many downstream users such as manufacturers of pumps and valves, etc., and all aspects of oil & gas, power generation, water, food, pharmaceutical, chemical, aerospace and defence, and automotive industry, to name but a few, will also be affected. There are very few alternatives for most applications and the impact on the environment and society will be significant. See attached [ESA position paper](#) for a fuller explanation.

The advice and route we have chosen is to produce a Socio-Economic Analysis (SEA) specifically for Sealing Devices with the Ricardo Group. This will be submitted to ECHA within the timeframe indicated with the aim of achieving at least a derogation from the ban for these products. We realise that there are other SEA's being conducted and that there will be some overlap but it is vitally important that we engage with all manufacturers and end users of Sealing Devices if you wish to continue using them.

We need specific case studies, examples, facts and figures. We can't highlight every industry but we can present industry cases which demonstrate how widely these products are used and list the industries that are affected but it needs your input.

We would like you to participate in this report. All of the communication is with Ricardo and will be conducted under NDA's generated by them. If you would like to participate then please complete this link:

Please read and complete the information request [on this link](#).



Courtesy of Cefic Fpp4EU.

Mark Neal, European Sealing Association.
Feb 2023

Inge Kukla, Ricardo Energy & Environment.