

The PFAS REACH restriction – State of play

- The PFAS restriction proposal is now at ECHA level.
- Public consultation closed.
- Both RAC and SEAC have initiated the draft opinion drafting process.
- Both RAC and SEAC proposed to examine the restriction sector by sector, all members approved, but no formal decision taken yet.

- SEAC draft opinion leaked to Politico → reminder of confidentiality to all stakeholders.
- Meetings focused on scope, hazards as well as FCM & Packaging sector.
- Understanding that fluoropolymers are non-hazardous (PLC), but entire life-cycle needs to be assessed.
- Manufacturing and waste considered as major PFAS emission sources for fluoropolymers.
- Request for more data, mainly on emissions, to
 - Properly assess restriction and to fill potential data gaps;
 - Assess impact of derogation on emissions as lack of alternatives may not be sufficient to grant derogation.

Next steps

Nov-Dec 2023, RAC-67 and SEAC-61:

- *Overview of consultation input.*
- *Work plan for 2024.*

March 2024, RAC-68 and SEAC-62

- *Next discussions on draft opinion.*

High costs for EEA economy and society

The net present value of loss for EU fluoropolymer industry in case of limited derogation for 2025-2030 period can be in the range of €6.2 – 18 billion. NPV of relevant downstream markets for the same period can be as high as €4.8 – 7.2 trillion.

Critical role of fluoropolymers

Fluoropolymers combine a range of properties that make them the only suitable material for several applications. Fluoropolymers are material of choice in many cases required by the industry standards.

Safe incineration demonstrated

Incineration study showed fluoropolymers can be safely incinerated under typical municipal waste incinerator conditions

Ongoing end-of-life studies

Accelerated degradation study of fluoropolymers is currently ongoing

FPG Manufacturing Programme

The Manufacturing Programme includes a concrete commitment to minimize emissions of non-polymeric PFAS residues from polymerization aids to the environment from fluoropolymer manufacturing by the following FPG member companies: AGC, Arkema, Chemours, Daikin Chemical Europe, W. L. Gore & Associates and Solvay

An industry-led commitment to achieve Average Emissions Factors for non-polymeric PFAS residues from polymerization aid technology that is used in the fluoropolymer manufacturing process

- By end 2024: 0.009% to air; 0.001% to water
- By end 2030: 0.003% to air; 0.0006% to water

A platform to promote the adoption of commercially available state-of-the-art technologies to minimise non-polymeric PFAS emissions in our manufacturing

A commitment to inform downstream users of fluoropolymers on their safe handling and use in the Guide for the Safe Handling of Fluoropolymer Resins.

The manufacturing programme is anchored in three pillars and its implementation will begin no later than 31 Dec. 2023