

Meeting Syensqo on PFAS restriction 14 May 2024

Participants

- [redacted] and [redacted] (Syensqo)
- [redacted] (DG ENV)

Notes

The purpose of the meeting was to provide information on Syensqo actions to reduce PFAS emissions on the two European productions sites (Tavaux in France and Spinetta Marengo in Italy). Syensqo does not sell PFAS for consumer products, only industrial and professional applications. The largest volume produced is for the fluoropolymer PVDF, mostly used in batteries for electric vehicles (4% of the weight is PVDF). PFAS polymerisation aids are being phased out in Spinetta Marengo (they were never used in Tavaux), except for a specific product produced in low volumes, for which R&I is still ongoing. The company is investing in reverse osmosis and activated carbons in Spinetta Marengo to treat water. Fluorinated gases are being phased out for their use in chillers in the production sites.

DG ENV asked for clarification on the status of substitution of PFAS in batteries. Syensqo replied that solid state batteries will work without PFAS, but they are not yet commercially available. DG ENV also asked if a fluorine balance is planned to be performed, to understand which other PFAS are emitted, in addition to the polymerisation aids. Syensqo replied that it is very difficult to understand the emissions to water deriving from their plants, because of contamination coming from other industrial activities in the area.