

Early risk management actions on residuals present in fluorotelomer based substances

*Consultation Meeting on
PFCA Action Plan
February 2006*

Overview

Need for Action
Considerations
Options for Early Action
Next Steps

Need for Action

Fluorotelomer based substances already in commerce can also be a source of PFCAs

Concerns:

- Fluorotelomer based substances can contain up to 2 wt% unreacted or “residual” fluorotelomer intermediates
- Volatile residuals can escape from fluorotelomer based substances and can be dispersed
- Residual fluorotelomer intermediates can degrade to form PFCAs

Considerations

- Data show residual fluorotelomer intermediates are a source of PFC precursors
- Certain companies have indicated that reducing residuals in commercial substances is achievable
- Some companies are starting to take steps to reduce residuals
- Possible issues with technical aspects (i.e. analytical methods)

Options for Early Action

- Risk management options being considered include:
 - Voluntary agreement (i.e. Environmental Performance Agreement) with industry
 - Listing on Schedule 1 and regulating
- Analysis of options is required
- Industry should be engaged to provide information that will support the analysis of options

Next Steps

- Gather required information
- Meet with industry to discuss
- Select and draft measure
- Conduct consultations on proposed measure
- Finalize and implement measure