



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT
Circular Economy & Green Growth
Sustainable Chemicals

Brussels
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Dear ,

Thank you for your letter, in which you raise the concerns of EU textiles companies as regards the amendment of Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 2019/1021 (the POPs Regulation) to include PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds.

The Commission Delegated Regulation follows the decision of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention. The assessment performed by the POP Review Committee indicated that alternatives to PFOA were available for the uses in medical textiles. It was not possible for the Commission to add exemptions that are not available under the Convention. However, Article 4(2) of the POPs Regulation introduces an exemption for articles "already in use" which would apply to medical textiles produced before the date of entry into application of the PFOA listing (4 July) and not covered by other exemptions. We discussed in detail the interpretation of this exemption in the meeting of the POPs CAs on 9 June and we will publish a clarification shortly.

Yours faithfully,

e-signed

Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË - Tel. +32 22991111

Office: - Tel. direct line

@ec.europa.eu