

Helsinki, 15 April 2024

[REDACTED]
Conseiller adjoint

Secrétaire de la commission de l'Energie, de l'Environnement et du Climat

Chambre des représentants de Belgique
Palais de la Nation,
B-1008 Bruxelles

Sent by email only: [REDACTED]dekamer.be

Subject: DOC 55 3791 - PFAS - Schriftelijk adviesaanvraag/ Demande d'avis écrit

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for reaching out to the European Chemical Agency and for sharing the proposed resolution of the Belgian Parliament to address exposure and pollution of PFAS with us.

Please be informed that [REDACTED] has retired and the Chair of the Risk Assessment Committee is now [REDACTED], and the responsible Director for Risk Management is [REDACTED].

ECHA's role is to provide independent scientific opinions on proposed restrictions to the European Commission for its decision making. Such opinions are formulated by ECHA's scientific committees for Risk Assessment (RAC) and for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC).

We are therefore unable to take a position with respect to the proposed resolution you presented.

You can find all relevant information regarding ECHA's work related to PFAS on our dedicated hot topics page: <https://echa.europa.eu/hot-topics/perfluoroalkyl-chemicals-pfas>.

RAC and SEAC have adopted their opinion on the proposed restriction on PFAS in fire-fighting foams in 2023, which can be accessed at: <https://echa.europa.eu/registry-of-restriction-intentions/-/dislist/details/0b0236e1856e8ce6>.

The universal PFAS restriction proposal submitted in 2023 by five national authorities (Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, Denmark and Norway) is currently being evaluated by RAC and SEAC (such a proposal covers also the use of PFAS in packaging including food contact material). Both committees assess the information in the restriction proposal and information received during the consultation period and provide their opinions to the European Commission. It is the European Commission who will take the decision on the restriction together with the European Member States. At this stage, we cannot comment on ongoing work on this case. You can access the latest relevant documents at: <https://echa.europa.eu/fi/registry-of-restriction-intentions/-/dislist/details/0b0236e18663449b>.

ECHA refers to the provisions of Article 129 of REACH in case a Member State wishes to take appropriate provisional measures to protect human health and the environment.

We remain at your disposal should you need further clarification. For new questions we kindly ask to use the ECHA contact forms: <http://echa.europa.eu/en/contact>.

Helsinki, 15 April 2024

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[redacted]

Kind regards,

*[e-signed]*¹

[redacted]
Director of Risk Management

[e-signed]

[redacted]
Chair of the Risk Assessment Committee

¹ As this is an electronic document, it is not physically signed. This communication has been approved according to ECHA's internal decision approval process.