



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMES

Consumer, Environmental and Health Technologies
REACH

Brussels,
GROW.D.1 [REDACTED]

MEETING WITH CEFIC, FLUOROCOUNCIL AND CHEMOURS

8 JANUARY 2019 (15:00-16:00)

Participants:

[REDACTED] (Cefic), [REDACTED] (Kreab), [REDACTED] (Chemours), [REDACTED]
(Fluorocouncil, Daikin)
[REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (DG GROW)

The representatives of industry requested this meeting to present their views on two topics: for environmental effects¹; 2.) on regulatory action on perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA).

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- 2.) The point on PFHxA was motivated by the proposal of Germany to identify the substance as SVHC (ELoC, environmental effects). The proposal was discussed in the last Member State Committee meeting, but withdrawn since it became apparent

[REDACTED]

that a unanimous agreement could not be reached. The German authorities announced their intention to propose a restriction instead.

The industry representatives gave an overview on properties, uses (including precursors and fluoropolymers) and environmental concentrations of PFHxA. Main applications are textiles, carpets, paints, electronics, and firefighting foams (chemical industry, petrol and gas plants and airports). It was highlighted that the use of C6 fluorotelomers is critical for car industry (due to heat resistance properties) and also the efforts made to phase out C8 use. They stated that the proposal for SVHC-identification was inter-alia based on wrong assumptions as regards emissions and exposure of PFHxA, and voiced concern that the restriction proposal could be based on the same assumption and possibly on the precautionary principle. The industry representatives estimate that the restriction proposal may have been submitted by the end of 2019.

COM recalled that according to Article 68 of REACH, restrictions can be set if there is an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Hazard and risks have to be addressed in a dossier that follows the outline of REACH Annex XV.

COM said it has currently no further information on the intention of the German authorities or on how the restriction will be justified.

