

Meeting with Chemours on Essential Uses and F-gases

1 February 2022, Microsoft Teams

Participants

Chemours: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (consultant)

DG GROW: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

- Chemours requested the meeting to discuss the concept of Essential Uses but, in fact, it was a discussion on F-gases, which are the substances they manufacture.
- Chemours explained that F-gases fall under the EU legislation on F-gases and Mobile Air Conditioning (MAC). Due to their low hazard profile, they do not fall under the scope of REACH (no PBTs). However, some of the F-gases degrade in the environment into another substance that is Persistent, Mobile and Potentially Toxic (PMT). It is called TFA – Trifluoroacetic Acid - a substance that is 95% of natural origin and 5% man-made). So, industry's main concern under REACH is not the substance they placed on the market, but a breakdown of that substance.
- COM clarified that in the CSS the concept of essential uses is not targeting PMT substances. Furthermore, possible discussions in the context of PFAS will take place before the ESU concept will be developed at EU level. COM recommended to contact ECHA or any of the five Member States working on the restriction on PFAS for a more detailed discussion on that topic.