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AR 226 - 1007

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY
WASHINGTON D.C., 20460

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PREVENTION, PESTICIDES AND
TOXIC SUBSTANCES

APR 25 2001

NOTE

SUBJECT: Summary of March 7, 2001, meeting with Fluoropolymer Manufacturing Group

TO: AR-226

FROM: Mary F. Dominiak, 202-260-7768

Members of the Fluoropolymer Manufacturing Group (FMG), including Dupont, Atofina, Ausimont, Daikin, Dyneon, AG Fluoropolymers, and the Society for the Plastics Industry, met with EPA staff on March 7, 2001 to air their concerns about the continuing use and availability of ammonium perfluorooctanoate (APFO), a derivative of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). According to FMG, 3M, which produces over 80% of APFO, is discontinuing APFO production along with its discontinuation of the perfluorooctyl sulfonates (PFOS), and the users and remaining producers of APFO are considering both how to fill the production void left by the departure of 3M, and how to address concerns about potential risks from APFO. They described their ongoing toxicology research program on APFO and outlined their plans to assess and further restrict exposures and releases associated with manufacture and use of APFO. A copy of FMG's presentation materials is attached to this note.

Following the FMG presentation, EPA indicated that it could not provide the assurances sought by FMG concerning the continued production and use of APFO, because decisions on possible future EPA action would depend upon the outcome of ongoing hazard assessments on PFOA and the receipt of new hazard and exposure data on APFO and PFOA. EPA encouraged FMG to further develop their program to address additional areas, including biomonitoring and international assessment, and requested that FMG submit to the Agency additional exposure and release information, possibly including a copy of the questionnaire used in developing their mass balance data. EPA and FMG also discussed scheduling follow-up meetings to address the issues of substitute chemicals and the ongoing progress of their research program.

PFOS and the proposed significant new use rule (SNUR) on PFOS (OPPTS-50639) were not discussed at the meeting.

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