

Meeting Minister of Economic Baden-Württemberg

Consequences of possible ban on PFAS

Landesvertretung Baden-Württemberg, Rue Belliard 60

19/06/2023, 15:30 – 16:30

Interlocutors:

- [REDACTED] Minister for Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism of Baden-Württemberg;
- [REDACTED] Medical Mountains GmbH;
- [REDACTED] Government Affairs, [REDACTED] SE & Co. KG
- [REDACTED] cellcentric GmbH & Co. KG
- [REDACTED] ZF Friedrichshafen;
- [REDACTED] ZF Brussels Office;
- [REDACTED] Health Industry Unit, Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Economy, Labour and Tourism;
- [REDACTED] European Department of the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism;
- [REDACTED] Economic Policy in Europe of the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism;
- [REDACTED] Ministry of Economy, Labour and Tourism, Baden-Württemberg;
- [REDACTED] Economic Policy in Europe Unit of the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism;
- [REDACTED] Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism at the Representation of the Land in Brussels;
- [REDACTED] Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism of Baden-Württemberg at the Representation of the Land in Brussels;
- [REDACTED] Land of Baden-Württemberg to the EU;
- [REDACTED] Representation of the country in Brussels;

DG GROW Participants:

- Hubert Gambs, Deputy Director-General
- [REDACTED] Init F.1 – REACH

Agenda and notes

Time	Speaker	Notes
15:30	[REDACTED]	Welcome Introduction of the aim meeting Many concerns regarding the proposed PFAS restriction also related to SMEs. Decision process will take several years, during this period also large uncertainty. Specific attention to medical devices and automotive sector.
15:35	Mr. Gambs	PFAS pose human health and environmental concerns At the same time needed in critical applications for which derogations are envisaged. Dossier will be assessed by independent scientific committees. Final opinion is expected by end of 2024. Important to consider complete life cycle of fluoropolymers and not only the use-phase.
Representatives of the Medtech industry		
15:45	[REDACTED]	Underlines the importance of the medical industry for the health of patients mentioning several examples. Without PFAS/fluoropolymers this would not be possible. Disagree with the group approach to restrict all PFAS; fluoropolymers and elastomers should be derogated.
15:50	[REDACTED]	Importance of fluoropolymers for minimally invasive surgery and complex supply chains. Demonstrating a medical instrument with different fluoropolymer (PTFE) components.
Representatives of the automotive component industry		
15:55	[REDACTED]	Underline the importance of /PFAS fluoropolymers for fuel cells and electrolyzers, other technologies in the hydrogen value chain. Alternatives are not equally good.
16:00	[REDACTED]	Not much to add to previous speakers.
Reactions/Discussion		
16:05	Mr. Gambs	Thanked for the information, took note.

		The Commission will consider all aspects. Highlighting again the importance of also submitting information during the consultation. On ECHA's webpage some more guidance is given. Derogations including the transitional periods will be main point of discussion during the assessment. The dossier submitter has proposed very specific derogations. Commission expect discussion on the granularity of the derogations, however a general derogation for all fluoropolymers or for all medical applications is considered not likely.
--	--	---