

Supporting Information for PFOA in Class B Firefighting Foams

November 2021

Definition of substances referred to as Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds as set out by the UK POPs Regulation

“Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds” means the following:

- (i) perfluorooctanoic acid, including any of its branched isomers;
- (ii) its salts;
- (iii) PFOA-related compounds which, for the purposes of the Convention, are any substances that degrade to PFOA, including any substances (including salts and polymers) having a linear or branched perfluoroheptyl group with the moiety (C₇F₁₅)C as one of the structural elements.

The following compounds are not included as PFOA-related compounds:

- (i) C₈F₁₇-X, where X = F, Cl, Br;
- (ii) fluoropolymers that are covered by CF₃[CF₂]_n-R', where R'=any group, n> 16;
- (iii) perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (including their salts, esters, halides and anhydrides) with ≥ 8 perfluorinated carbons;
- (iv) perfluoroalkane sulfonic acids and perfluoro phosphonic acids (including their salts, esters, halides and anhydrides) with ≥ 9 perfluorinated carbons;
- (v) perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and its derivatives (PFOS), as listed in this Annex.

Unintentional trace contamination limits as set out by the UK POPs Regulation

1. For the purposes of this entry, point (b) of Article 4(1) shall apply to concentrations of PFOA or any of its salts equal to or below 0,025 mg/kg (0,000025 % by weight) where they are present in substances, mixtures or articles.

2. For the purposes of this entry, point (b) of Article 4(1) shall apply to concentrations of any individual PFOA-related compound or a combination of PFOA-related compounds equal to or below 1 mg/kg (0,0001 % by weight) where they are present in substances, mixtures or articles

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