

Projects on PFASs in firefighting foams

CTIF Airport Commission annual
meeting

Ljubljana
11 September 2019

Denis Mottet
Scientific officer
Risk Management Unit II

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

- REACH Restrictions in place for PFOS and PFOA
- Proposals for Restrictions for PFHxS and PFHxA under way
- Many other PFASs in the earlier stages of the regulatory pipeline (substance evaluation)
- Information on remediation/clean-up costs available – applicable for many PFASs

ECHA and European Commission project on fire-fighting foams

Object

Contractors to make a study on **PFASs in firefighting foams, analysis of alternatives and impact assessment**

Aim

To provide to the European Commission a sound basis for the decision on the appropriate regulatory measure to control the risk and to ECHA input to a possible REACH restriction report.

To tackle the problem faster instead of substance by substance and to avoid regrettable substitution by industry.

Study components

Tasks of contractors (blue: European Commission; black: ECHA):

- Identification of PFASs in firefighting foams (FFF) and constituents in alternatives
- Market analysis on different applications of FFFs and related tonnages
- Analysis of alternatives including hazard and risk of alternative FFFs
- Socio-economic impacts including releases of PFASs and remediation/clean up costs

What are the costs and benefits of restricting PFAS in FFFs?

- What are the differences between sectors?
- Is there fire safety related reasons for derogations?
- What about pre-installed foams (already in use)?
- What concentration limits and transitional periods would be practical?

Deliverables & timing of consultant

- A brief report (pre-Risk Management Option Analysis) to identify most appropriate risk management measure (planned for autumn 2019)
- **Stakeholder workshop (in Helsinki on 24 September) – WebEx possible**
- Final report early 2020
- Joint steering group (COM & ECHA + some member state representatives)
- All info in REACH restriction format from both contractors

Other up-coming restriction reports

- Proposal by Norway (summer) on PFHxS
 - Covers firefighting foams as impurities
 - Two what extent FFF covered depends e.g. on concentrations limits proposed and scoping decisions
- Proposal by Germany (autumn) on PFHxA
 - May cover also firefighting foams
- Parallel processes not optimal but difficult to avoid

Next steps for you

- Our consultants (Wood) are taking care of the stakeholders consultation (questionnaire  + September workshop) 
[https://
.echa.europa.eu/si](https://echa.europa.eu/si) [https://
.echa.europa.eu/si](https://echa.europa.eu/si)
- **Key stakeholder to be consulted – you can contribute by** responding to the questionnaire (see attachment) or attending the workshop. For more info and workshop registration please contact:
kalle.kivela@echa.europa.eu
denis.mottet@echa.europa.eu
- We wish good co-operation!

Thank you!

More information:

kalle.kivela@echa.europa.eu

denis.mottet@echa.europa.eu

