

Australia Restricts More POP Chemicals

On December 12, 2023, Australia published the Industrial Chemicals Environmental Management (Register) Amendment (2023 Measures No. 1) Instrument 2023 to introduce additional industrial chemicals to Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 under the Industrial Chemicals Environmental Management (Register) Instrument 2022.

Summary of the additional prohibition

Schedule 6—Relevant industrial chemicals that are likely to cause serious or irreversible harm to the environment with essential uses:

	Chemical	Requirement for Unintentional trace contamination (UTC) level:	Effective date
1	DecaBDE and NonaBDE (three congeners)	Chemical substances: ≤10 mg/kg for each NonaBDE and DecaBDE Articles: ≤ 500 mg/kg for sum of all tetra-, penta-, hexa-, hepta-, octa-, nona- and decaBDE	1-Jul-25

Schedule 7—Relevant industrial chemicals that are likely to cause serious or irreversible harm to the environment with no essential uses:

	Chemical	Requirement for Unintentional trace contamination (UTC) level:	Effective date
1	Pentachlorobenzene	level at which the chemical cannot be meaningfully used in substances, mixture or articles	1-Jul-24
2	Hexabromocyclododecane (α-, β- and γ-HBCDD)	Chemical substances, mixture or articles ≤100 mg/kg	1-Jul-24
3	OctaBDE, HeptaBDE and HexaBDE (All congeners)	Chemical substances and mixture: ≤10 mg/kg for each Articles: ≤ 500 mg/kg for sum of all tetra-, penta-, hexa-, hepta-, octa-, nona- and decaBDE	1-Jul-24
4	PentaBDE and TetraBDE	Chemical substances and mixture: ≤10 mg/kg for each PentaBDE and tetraBDE Articles: ≤ 500 mg/kg for sum of all tetra-, penta-, hexa-, hepta-, octa-, nona- and decaBDE	1-Jul-24
5	Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), its salts and its related compounds	Chemical substances, mixture or articles: ≤ 0.025 mg/kg for PFHxS and its salts; ≤ 1 mg/kg for PFHxS-related compounds (individual and sum)	1-Jul-25
6	Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and its related compounds	Chemical substances, mixture or articles: ≤ 0.025 mg/kg for PFOS and its salts, PFOS-F; ≤ 1 mg/kg for PFOS-related compounds (individual and sum)	1-Jul-25

7	Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and its related compounds	Chemical substances, mixture or articles: ≤ 0.025 mg/kg for PFOA and its salts; ≤ 1 mg/kg for PFOA-related compounds (individual and sum)	1-Jul-25
8	Short-chain chlorinated paraffins (SCCP)	Chemical substances and mixture: ≤ 10000 mg/kg (1%) Articles: ≤ 1500 mg/kg (0.15%)	1-Jul-24

Additional Information

Industrial Chemicals Environmental Management (Register) Instrument 2022

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/F2022L01658/latest/text>

Industrial Chemicals Environmental Management (Register) Amendment (2023 Measures No. 1) Instrument 2023

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/F2023L01689/latest/text>

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