



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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April 13, 2018

Meredith Williams, Deputy Director  
Safer Products and Workplaces Program  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
1001 I Street, 12th Floor  
P.O. Box 806  
Sacramento, California 95812-0806

**RE: Comments regarding Product-Chemical Profile for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs) in Carpets and Rugs.**

Dear Ms. Williams:

On behalf of the Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction (HWTR), I am pleased to provide input on the *Product-Chemical Profile for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs) in Carpets and Rugs discussion draft*. HWTR supports the DTSC proposal to list carpets and rugs containing PFASs as a priority product. Ecology offers the following feedback for several of the questions you requested stakeholder input.

**PRODUCT AND CHEMICAL DESCRIPTION (CH. 1)**

*2. Are the GPC GS1 and NAICS codes relevant and comprehensive?*

GS1 brick for sports mats/carpets (10001900) – is this brick excluded (for example car mats are on the excluded list)?

NAICS codes that appear to be missing:

- 313110 – Fiber, Yarn, and Thread Mills – specifically for carpet and rug yarn spinning
- 314110 – Carpet and Rug Mills
- 326150 – Urethane and other foam product (except polystyrene) manufacturing  
Cushions, carpet and rug, urethane and other foam plastics (except polystyrene), manufacturing

*3. Is the definition of the class of PFASs clear and accurate?*

The definition of the entire class of PFAS is consistent with the scope of the Chemical Action Plan under development by Ecology and the Washington Department of Health (Health).

## **PRODUCT-CHEMICAL POTENTIAL EXPOSURES AND IMPACTS (CH. 2-6)**

5. *What methods are used for handling and disposing of PFAS waste and PFAS-containing carpet and rug pre- and post-consumer waste?*

In Washington State, hazardous wastes are managed in accordance with our Dangerous Waste Regulations (Washington Administrative Code [173-303](#)). Wastes containing over 100 parts per million of halogenated organic compounds (which includes all PFAS) designate as a state-persistent (state-only criteria) dangerous waste. These wastes must be managed according to WAC 173-303. At this time, no carpet has been designated a state-only dangerous waste. The Ecology point of contact for more information about our Dangerous Waste regulations is Tom Cusack at [tom.cusack@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:tom.cusack@ecy.wa.gov) or 360-407-6755.

## **ALTERNATIVES (CH. 7)**

2. *Are there other functionally acceptable alternatives to the use of PFASs in carpets and rugs?*

Ecology partnered with the Washington Department of Enterprise Services (DES) on the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) Flooring Contract. State agencies in Washington obtain flooring from the NASPO flooring contract. Of possible interest to DTSC are responses from vendors on the NASPO flooring contract to inquiries about PFAS-free carpet options. The responses from Interface, Mohawk, Shaw, Tandus Centiva, and Mannington are attached to this letter. The Ecology point of contact for more information about the contract and attachments is Tina Simcich at [tina.simcich@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:tina.simcich@ecy.wa.gov) or 360-407-7517.

- NASPO Flooring Contract  
<https://fortress.wa.gov/es/apps/ContractSearch/ContractSummary.aspx?c=03916>

### **Additional information submitted to DTSC:**

Ecology and Health recently published the Interim PFAS Chemical Action Plan:

- Interim Chemical Action Plan for Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances, 2018  
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/summarypages/1804005.html>
- Information about the PFAS CAP, meeting documents, draft documents:  
<https://www.ezview.wa.gov/?alias=1962&pageid=37105>

Ecology conducted the following studies of PFAS in Washington State, available online:

- Survey of Per- and Poly-fluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs) in Rivers and Lakes. Washington State Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA. Publication Number: 17-13-021. <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1703021.html>
- Pharmaceuticals, Personal Care Products, and Perfluoroalkyl Substances in Elliott Bay Sediments: 2013 Data Summary. Washington State Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA. Publication Number: 14-03-049. <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1403049.html>
- PBT Chemical Trends in Washington State Determined from Age-Dated Lake Sediment Cores, 2012 Sampling Results. Washington State Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA. Publication Number: 13-03-036. <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1303036.html>
- PBTs Analyzed in Bottom Fish from Four Washington Rivers and Lakes: Hexabromocyclododecane, Tetrabromobisphenol A, Chlorinated Paraffins,

Polybrominated Diphenylethers, Polychlorinated Naphthalenes, Perfluorinated Organic Compounds, Lead, and Cadmium. Washington State Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA. Publication Number 12-03-042.

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/summarypages/1203042.html>

- Perfluorinated Compounds in Washington Rivers and Lakes. Washington State Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA. Publication Number: 10-03-034.  
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/summarypages/1003034.html>
- Quantification of pharmaceuticals, personal care products, and perfluoroalkyl substances in the marine sediments of Puget Sound, Washington, USA – Article in Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. Publication Number: 13-03-038.  
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1303038.html>
- Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products and Perfluorinated Chemicals in Puget Sound Sediments - Poster. Washington State Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA. Publication Number: 11-03-051.  
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1103051.html>

On page 57 of the Product-Chemical Profile, DTSC refers to two bills in Washington State related to PFAS in products. Those two bills passed the 2018 legislature and were signed into law in March 2018. The Code Revisers office will update the online text by this fall, until then, the links to the laws are:

- **[Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill \(ESSB\) 6413](#) - Reducing the use of certain toxic chemicals in firefighting activities.** Beginning July 1, 2018, use of PFAS containing firefighting foam for training purposes is not allowed. Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, the sale of firefighting foam containing PFAS chemicals is prohibited. Exempt from the ban are the military, airports, oil refineries, and chemical plants. Beginning July 1, 2018, the bill also requires manufacturers to notify purchasers if protective equipment for firefighters contains PFAS. Creates a new section in Chapter 70 of the Revised Code of Washington.
- **[Engrossed Substitute House Bill \(ESHB\) 2658](#) - Concerning the use of perfluorinated chemicals in food packaging.** Beginning Jan. 1, 2022, this bill will prohibit the sale of food packaging containing PFAS chemicals. Before the ban takes effect, Ecology must first conduct an alternatives assessment to determine whether there are safer alternatives to PFAS used in food packaging. Amends Revised Code of Washington Chapter 70.95G Packages Containing Metals.

If you have questions about these comments, please contact Kara Steward of my staff at (360) 407-6250 or [kara.steward@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:kara.steward@ecy.wa.gov).







Sincerely,



Ken Zarker, Manager  
Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program

Attachment: Manufacturers Response/NASPO

## Manufacturer Responses to DES/Ecology Requests for PFAS Information – Dec. 2017

Manufacturers	PA* signed	PFAS Submittal
<b>Interface</b> 1503 Orchard Hill Road LaGrange, GA 30240 Mark Iberri 415.309.7318 <a href="mailto:Mark.Iberri@Interface.com">Mark.Iberri@Interface.com</a>	Yes	 Washington State Ecology Submittal.p asked for more info on stain resistance
<b>Mohawk</b> Greg Whitman <i>Sr. Account Executive</i> 206-972-2307 C <a href="mailto:greg_whitman@mohawkind.com">greg_whitman@mohawkind.com</a> <a href="http://www.mohawkgroup.com">www.mohawkgroup.com</a> 160 South Industrial Boulevard, Calhoun, GA 30701  We are looking forward to opening up a direct dialogue with the DOE team and interested parties – ILFI, Declare, Living Building, mindful materials... Our technical people are always available to speak with your chemists or other thought leaders	Yes	 Non-Fluorine Products Oct 2017.p   MHK Group Non-Fluorine Produ
<b>Shaw Industries</b> Paul Gibian, FMP account manager western Washington shaw contract m 425 941 7197 Karen Kramer VP of Government and Education Strategic Accounts Shaw Industries, Inc. <a href="mailto:karen.kramer@shawinc.com">karen.kramer@shawinc.com</a> m: 206.437.1540 <a href="http://www.patcraft.com">www.patcraft.com</a>   <a href="http://www.shawcontractgroup.com">www.shawcontractgroup.com</a>	Yes	 PFC's and EcoWorx Tile Products.pdf
<b>Tandus Centiva</b> Jessica Fuller Contract Sales Support Specialist Tandus Centiva Inc 1735 Cleveland Hwy Dalton GA 30721 USA	Yes	 State of Washington-NASPO
<b>Mannington Commercial</b> 1844 US HWY 41 SE Calhoun, GA 30701 Jody Steger 703.489.5698 <a href="mailto:jody_steger@mannington.com">jody_steger@mannington.com</a>	Yes	 Fluorine Statement.pdf
<b>Milliken</b>	No	

\* PA = participating addendum

## Manufacturer Responses to DES/Ecology Requests for PFAS Information – Dec. 2017

### DES Participating Addendum Language

A formal letter of declaration concerning the use of per and poly-fluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS, formerly known as PFCs) for stain, water and grease resistance, per carpet line used. The CAS # for each substance added or applied must be included.

- Provide a statement concerning whether the company's carpet offered under the PA has been treated either topically or permanently with any chemical in the group of per- and poly-fluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS). (Note: In the past, this group of chemicals has often been referred to as perfluorinated compounds (PFCs), but that term is no longer being used because of a lack of specificity and confusion with perfluorocarbons (also PFCs), a key greenhouse gas.)
- If PFAS are present, provide the CAS Registry Number of the PFAS chemical present in each specific carpet line offered under the PA.

<http://www.cas.org/about-cas/faqs>

A formal letter of declaration disclosing the use of any anti-microbial compounds, per carpet line offered. The CAS #s for each substance used or applied must be included.

- Some carpet manufacturers use anti-microbial compounds in their carpet. Provide a statement concerning whether the company's carpet offered under the PA has been treated with or applied with an anti-microbial compound.
- If anti-microbial compounds are present, provide the CAS Registry Number of the anti-microbial used for each carpet line offered under the PA.

<http://www.cas.org/about-cas/faqs>

**Note:** Washington signed on to this multistate NASPO contract in 2017, it expires 12/2020. Shaw offers 30 lines of carpet tile that meet the San Francisco regulation.