

EFCTC statement on European Parliament Plenary vote on the F-gas Regulation review

Following the publication of the European Commission's legislative proposal to update The F-gas Regulation ([No 517/2014](#)) in April 2022, the European Parliament voted today in Plenary on their position on the proposal. At the Council level, national delegations in the Working Party on Environment continue to negotiate their position on the legislation.

Following the European Parliament Plenary vote today, the European FluoroCarbons Technical Committee (EFCTC) members release the following statement:

"The European FluoroCarbons Technical Committee (EFCTC) members recognise the importance of the work and contribution from all stakeholders to date on the F-gas Regulation. F-gas producers, downstream users and industry associations have been proactively engaged in the process, collaborating constructively with the authorities.

EFCTC members are disappointed by the amendments adopted by the European Parliament in Annex IV of the proposal which now covers all F-gases, including those with a very low Global Warming Potential (GWP), banning their use in a wide range of applications in the next 3-5 years. Low GWP fluorinated refrigerants are part of the long-term solution for the transition away from higher GWP HFCs, whilst maintaining energy efficiency and safety. The transition to non-fluorinated industrially-produced alternatives may result in risks primarily in the area of safety in many circumstances, such as high-density buildings.

If low GWP HFCs are excluded in the final compromise text, there will be significant consequences for the operation of refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment and the use of some high-efficiency insulation materials vital to achieving the EU's building decarbonisation goals. This may also jeopardise the widescale rollout of heat pumps in the EU and consequently undermine the REPowerEU programme.

EFCTC members welcome amendments voted by the European Parliament Plenary which will improve the future enforcement of the F-gas Regulation. In particular, through use of the Customs Single Window, as well as through promoting increased inspections of facilities by Member States and data collection, reporting and analysis. These measures will help minimise the imports of illegal and possibly unsafe F-gases in the European market. "

Next steps in the legislative process

In the Council of the European Union, the legislative proposal to regulate F-gases is still being discussed by the national delegations. Once the Council has reached its General Approach, the co-

legislator will negotiate to achieve a compromise text. The parties (the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council) must agree on a final text together before the review of the F-gas Regulation is adopted.

About EFCTC

The European FluoroCarbons Technical Committee is a Cefic Sector Group that monitors legislation related to HFCs (hydrofluorocarbons), and HFOs (hydrofluoro-olefins) in the EU and at global level.

Fluorocarbons are used as feedstock, as refrigerants, as solvents and as blowing agents for insulation plastic foams.

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