

August 18, 2021

Elizabeth Scheele
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, CA 95812

Electronic submittal: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php>.

Re: FluoroFusion Specialty Chemicals, Inc. Comments Regarding California Air Resources Board 2nd Draft 15 – Day Proposed Amendments to the Prohibitions on Use of Certain Hydrofluorocarbons in Stationary Refrigeration, Chillers, Aerosols-Propellants, and Foam End-Uses Regulation

Dear Ms. Scheele,

On behalf of FluoroFusion Specialty Chemicals, Inc., I respectfully submit the following comments and proposal in response to California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) 2nd Draft 15 – Day Proposed Amendments to the Prohibitions on Use of Certain Hydrofluorocarbons in Stationary Refrigeration, Chillers, Aerosols-Propellants, and Foam End-Uses Regulation and discussions with CARB regarding the direction given from the Air Resources Board on December 10, 2020.

FluoroFusion enjoys the unique position of being both an EPA Certified Reclaimer and manufacturer of low-GWP HFC and HFO refrigerant blends. We have done extensive research on reclaiming the HFC refrigerants that are being recovered in today's market. Given the amount and type of recovered refrigerant we are collecting from the market, it is clear that even advanced separation and reclamation technologies will require a minimum of 22% virgin refrigerant in order to bring the market's core refrigerant blends back to specification (40 C.F.R. Part 82, Subpart F, Appendix A). Simply put, a 15% limit on new refrigerant is untenable given the amount of highly mixed refrigerants coming back from the market.

FluoroFusion advocates that the definition of “Certified Reclaimed Refrigerant” should be modified to allow for the inclusion of no greater than twenty-five percent (25%) new (virgin) refrigerant by weight to meet specifications in 40 C.F.R., Part 82, Subpart F, Appendix A (Specifications for Refrigerants) (January 1, 2017), updating the requirements as follows.

- (1) Meets all specifications in 40 C.F.R. Part 82, Subpart F, Appendix A (Specifications for Refrigerants) (January 1, 2017), which is incorporated herein by reference;
- (2) Must have results of the analysis conducted to verify that reclaimed refrigerant meets the necessary specifications as required in (1) above; and
- (3) **Contains no greater than twenty-five percent (25%) new (virgin) refrigerant by weight to meet specifications in 40 C.F.R., Part 82, Subpart F, Appendix A (Specifications for Refrigerants) (January 1, 2017). The certified reclaimer must have documentation that supports it has not exceeded the maximum allowable virgin refrigerant content.**

Alternatively, in order to maximize the benefits of refrigerant recycling and reclamation, CARB should allow for the use of reclaimed refrigerant that cannot be brought to proper specification using 25% or less new (virgin) refrigerant. FluoroFusion recommends that the definition of “Certified Reclaimed Refrigerant” be updated as follows.

- (1) Meets all specifications in 40 C.F.R. Part 82, Subpart F, Appendix A (Specifications for Refrigerants) (January 1, 2017), which is incorporated herein by reference;
- (2) Must have results of the analysis conducted to verify that reclaimed refrigerant meets the necessary specifications as required in (1) above; and
- (3) Contains no greater than fifty percent (25%) new (virgin) refrigerant by weight to meet specifications in 40 C.F.R., Part 82, Subpart F, Appendix A (Specifications for Refrigerants) (January 1, 2017). The certified reclaimer must have documentation that supports it has not exceeded the maximum allowable virgin refrigerant content.
- (4) Any reclaimed refrigerant that contains more than 25% and up to 50% new refrigerant would be discounted and classified as 50% reclaim.**

We welcome the opportunity to continue this discussion and to present our reclamation modeling data with CARB staff in order to illustrate and clarify our findings and concerns.

Please contact David Couchot at dave@fluorofusion.com or 513-545-0680.

We thank CARB staff for their hard work and for addressing many of industry’s concerns during the rule-making process and we look forward to working with you to develop solutions that will benefit the world we live in.

Sincerely,



David P. Couchot
President
FluoroFusion Specialty Chemicals, Inc.