



Australian POPs compliance process

With the increasingly serious global environmental issues, chemical safety management has become a focus of international attention. As a party to the Stockholm Convention, Australia has an obligation to promote the approval of chemical inventories and contribute to achieving environmental protection and sustainable development.

IChEMS is the national method for managing the introduction, use, and disposal of chemicals in Australia, which categorizes and manages chemicals based on their environmental risks in the IChEMS registry. The IChEMS register includes 7 appendices, of which Appendix 6 and Appendix 7 are the most concerned industrial chemicals, which may cause serious or irreversible damage to the environment and will eventually be phased out. Currently, there are no substances in Appendix 6, while Appendix 7 contains three substances: hexabromobiphenyl, hexachlorobutadiene, and polychlorinated naphthalenes.

Recently, the Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment, and Water Resources (DCCEEW) notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of the draft chemical management standards for various persistent organic pollutants. Once listed in Appendix 6 or Appendix 7 of the IChEMS register, it means that the import, export, manufacturing, or use of these chemicals in Australia will be prohibited.

The dynamics of chemical substances controlled in Appendix 6 and Appendix 7 of the IChEMS register are as follows:

No.	SUBSTANCE	Control requirements	Effective date	Original link
1	hexabromobiphenyl	Prohibited	July 1, 2023	https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2022L01658
2	hexachlorobutadiene	Prohibited		
3	polychlorinated naphthalenes	Prohibited		
4	Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), including any of its branched isomers, its salts and any related compound	<p>The import, export, manufacture, and use of the chemical (either alone or in combination) or articles containing the chemical is prohibited, except in the following cases:</p> <p>The chemical is in the form of unintentional trace pollutants and meets the following conditions (to be reviewed by the relevant authorities by July 1, 2027)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PFOA and its salts are ≤ 0.025 mg/kg; 2. PFOA-related compounds ≤ 1 mg/kg individually or in total; 3. PFOA and its salt ≤ 0.8 mg/kg in fire fighting foams used for liquid fuel vapor suppression and liquid fuel fires (Class B fires). 	Proposed effective on July 1, 2025	G/TBT/N/AUS/160
5	Perfluorooctane	The import, export, manufacture, and use of		



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	<p>sulfonic acid (PFOS), including any of its branched isomers, its salts and related substances</p>	<p>the chemical (either alone or in combination) or articles containing the chemical is prohibited, except in the following cases: The chemical is in the form of unintentional trace pollutants and meets the following conditions (to be reviewed by the relevant authorities by July 1, 2027)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PFOS and its salts are ≤ 0.025 mg/kg; 2. PFOS-related compounds ≤ 1 mg/kg individually or in total; 3. PFOS and its salt ≤ 0.8 mg/kg in fire fighting foams used for liquid fuel vapor suppression and liquid fuel fires (Class B fires). 		
6	<p>Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), including its linear and branched isomers, their salts and any related substance</p>	<p>The import, export, manufacture, and use of the chemical (either alone or in combination) or articles containing the chemical is prohibited, except in the following cases: The chemical is in the form of unintentional trace pollutants and meets the following conditions (to be reviewed by the relevant authorities by July 1, 2027)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PFHxS and its salts are ≤ 0.025 mg/kg; 2. PFHxS-related compounds ≤ 1 mg/kg individually or in total; 3. PFHxS and its salt ≤ 0.1 mg/kg in fire fighting foams used for liquid fuel vapor suppression and liquid fuel fires (Class B fires). 		
7	<p>Pentachlorobenzene</p>	<p>Prohibited</p>	<p>Proposed effective on July 1, 2024</p>	
8	<p>Tetrabromodiphenyl ether</p>	<p>The import, export, manufacture and use of the chemical (either alone or in combination) or articles containing the chemical are prohibited, except in the following cases: 1. The chemical is in the form of an unintentional trace contaminant and meets the following conditions (to be reviewed by the relevant authorities by July 1, 2027) a. Present in a substance or mixture: ≤ 10</p>	<p>Proposed effective on July 1, 2024</p>	<p>G/TBT/N/AUS/162</p>
9	<p>Pentabromodiphenyl ether</p>			
10	<p>Hexabromodiphenyl ether</p>			
11	<p>Heptabromodiphenyl ether</p>			
12	<p>Octabromodiphenyl ether</p>			



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13	Nonabromodiphenyl ether	mg/kg (for any of tetra-, penta-, hexa-, hepta-, octa-, nona-, deca-bromodiphenyl ether)		
14	Decabromodiphenyl ether	<p>b. Presence in articles: ≤ 500 mg/kg (sum of concentrations of tetra-, penta-, hexa-, hepta-, octa-, nona-, deca-bromodiphenyl ether)</p> <p>2. As an exemption, the manufacturing, placing on the market, and use of products for the following purposes are allowed:</p> <p>a. Aircraft or aircraft parts manufactured before January 1, 2027 (until the end of the aircraft's service life)</p> <p>b. Polyurethane foam for building thermal insulation (until January 1, 2027)</p> <p>c. Electrical and electronic equipment (until January 1, 2027)</p> <p>d. Motor vehicle spare parts manufactured before 2019 (until January 1, 2036)</p> <p>e. Textiles that require anti-flammable characteristics (excluding clothing and toys) (until January 1, 2027)</p>	Proposed effective on July 1, 2025	
15	Hexabromocyclododecane	<p>The import, export, manufacture, and use of the chemical (either alone or in combination) or articles containing the chemical is prohibited, except in the following cases:</p> <p>the chemical is present as an unintentional trace contaminant in a substance, mixture or article at a concentration of ≤ 10mg/kg (to be reviewed by the relevant authority by July 1, 2027)</p>	Proposed effective on July 1, 2024	

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