

Format for submitting pursuant to Article 8 of the Stockholm Convention the information specified in Annex E of the Convention

Introductory information	
Name of the submitting Party/observer	Australia
Contact details (name, telephone, e-mail) of the submitting Party/observer	Lee Eeles Director Chemical Policy Section Department of the Environment and Heritage lee.eeles@deh.gov.au Ph 61 2 6274 1427
Chemical name (as used by the POPS Review Committee (POPRC))	Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) Octanesulfonate, 1,1,2,2,3,3,4,4,5,5,6,6,7,7,8,8,8-heptadecafluoro-
Date of submission	(to be completed when submitted)

(a) Sources, including as appropriate (provide summary information and relevant references)	
(i) Production data:	
Quantity	PFOS is not manufactured in Australia.
Location	
Other	Imports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PFOS was identified as a trace impurity ($\leq 0.015\%$) in a product in Australia. • Approximately 3 tonnes of a Perfluoroalkyl sulfonate (PFAS) compound was imported into Australia in 2003. As the PFAS compound consists of perfluorinated C4-8 chains, PFOS forms a portion of the structure.
(ii) Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of the product containing PFOS as an impurity was as a specialised industry additive for coating metal components. • The product containing the PFAS compound (including PFOS) is used as an industry sealant.
(iii) Releases:	
Discharges	No information available
Losses	
Emissions	
Other	

(b) Hazard assessment for endpoints of concern, including consideration of toxicological interactions involving multiple chemicals (provide summary information and relevant references)	
No hazard assessment has been conducted in Australia.	

(c) Environmental fate (provide summary information and relevant references)	
Chemical/physical properties	
Persistence	Not aware of any Australian specific data.
How are	Not aware of any Australian specific data.

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chemical/physical properties and persistence linked to environmental transport, transfer within and between environmental compartments, degradation and transformation to other chemicals?	
Bio-concentration or bio-accumulation factor, based on measured values (unless monitoring data are judged to meet this need)	Not aware of any Australian specific data.

(d) Monitoring data (provide summary information and relevant references)	
<p>Trends in the levels of perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs) in serum related to gender, age and region were evaluated in an Australian study (Kärman et.al., 2005). Serum samples were obtained from males and females (in five different age groups) living in urban and rural areas of Australia. PFCs including PFOS were detected in all serum sample pools (ranging in concentration from 13-29 ng/mL for PFOS). Only a marginal difference between serum levels in rural and urban regions could be observed. The differences between PFOS median for women and men (20 and 23 ng/mL respectively) were also small. Age and gender were not found to be clear determining factors for the levels of studied PFCs in serum. The PFOS median in Australian serum (21 ng/mL) is just below the North American range but higher than for example Belgium and Japan.</p> <p>Reference Kärman A, Mueller J F, Harden F, Toms L M L, Bavel B V & Lindström G (2005). "Perfluorinated compounds in serum from Australian urban and rural regions" Organohalogen Compounds." In: Proceedings of the Dioxins 2005: 25th International Symposium on Halogenated Environmental Organic Pollutants and POPs, Toronto, Canada: vol 67, 780-783</p>	

(e) Exposure in local areas (provide summary information and relevant references)	
- general	
- as a result of long-range environmental transport	
- information regarding bio-availability	

(f) National and international risk evaluations, assessments or profiles and labelling information and hazard classifications, as available (provide summary information and relevant references)	
<p>No national assessment, however Australia participated in the OECD hazard assessment of PFOS.</p> <p>The chemical is not classified in Australia (i.e. in Hazardous Substances Information System)</p>	

(g) Status of the chemical under international conventions	
<p>PFOS is nominated under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) Protocol on persistent organic pollutants. It has been the subject of an international environmental and human health hazard assessment by the OECD and the final OECD report is available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/23/18/2382880.pdf</p> <p>The OECD also conducts a survey every 2 years to collate information on quantities of PFOS in use globally, essential uses of PFOS, and available alternatives to PFOS.</p>	

