

Vermont Pollution Prevention PFAS Cohort

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND COLLABORATION AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the terms and understanding between the _____ (Participant) and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to collaborate through the Pollution Prevention PFAS Cohort.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Sector-specific Pollution Prevention Cohorts are based upon the understanding that collaborating closely with a group of businesses committed to achieving measurable, substantive environmental improvements in the context of a knowledge- and resource-sharing network can build the capacity and conditions for best practices to spread widely throughout the sector. The goal of the Cohort is to improve the environmental sustainability of participating businesses, and to improve the overall environmental performance of the Vermont metal plating and aerospace business sectors, through the focus on the emerging contaminants per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

PFAS COHORT OVERVIEW

In exchange for the business participating in the Cohort as described below, DEC will provide technical assistance, training, and other resources to support implementation of environmental improvements.

The Cohort will last for approximately 18 months, from April 2021 to September 2022.

Participation in the Cohort is voluntary.

There is no fee to participate.

I. COHORT PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

With support from DEC, the Participant agrees to:

- a. Participate in Cohort activities, including:
 - i. Assessment of PFAS use in the manufacturing process;
 - ii. Sampling of wastewater and products for PFAS compounds;
 - iii. Attend four group-wide Cohort meetings;
 - iv. Collaborate with DEC on the scoping of pollution prevention strategies;

- b. Commit to one or more of the following pollution prevention goals, and work towards achieving it throughout the Cohort period:
 - i. Reduction of PFAS use in manufacturing processes;
 - ii. Reduction of PFAS released into the environment;
 - iii. Substitution of greener chemistries for PFAS-containing products;
 - iv. Elimination of PFAS compounds from the manufacturing process.
- c. Comply with relevant federal, state, and local regulations.

II. DURATION

This MOU shall begin upon the date both parties sign and may be modified or terminated by either party at any time by mutual agreement. In the absence of mutual agreement, this MOU shall end on September 30, 2022.

III. THIS MOU IS NON-BINDING

Nothing in this agreement creates any contractual relationship between DEC and the Participant, or any employees, contractors, or agents.

We, the undersigned, agree to this MOU.

Signature

Printed name

Title

Organization

Date

Signature

Printed name

Title

Organization

Date

Signature

Printed name

Title

Organization

Vt. Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Date