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## **DuPont Response to Environmental Working Group and North Carolina C8 Working Group Allegations**

*For attribution to Barry Hudson, DuPont Fayetteville site manager:*

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C., Jan. 17, 2005 -- DuPont strongly disputes the Environmental Working Group's (EWG) and the North Carolina C8 Working Group's allegations that DuPont fell short of fulfilling our reporting obligations to federal and North Carolina regulatory agencies on PFOA at our facility in Fayetteville, N.C. We are in full compliance with reporting requirements. DuPont also leads our industry in emissions reductions of PFOA, which we have reduced by 98 percent nationwide. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency can confirm this fact.

The following facts clearly show DuPont has been transparent in its reporting on PFOA.

- In January 2003, the DuPont Fayetteville facility began voluntary, annual sampling of groundwater and surface water for PFOA. We voluntarily shared the data with the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources in June 2003. We shared all the data during a series of meetings with employees, neighbors and our Community Advisory Board in August 2004.
- DuPont has taken approximately 60 samples from groundwater monitoring wells during the last three years. All of the results, with the exception of one well location, have been less than 3 parts per billion (ppb). One well, adjacent to the APFO plant, had a result of 765 ppb. While we are continuing further investigation and sampling, we are making very good progress in understanding the cause for this result in this one monitoring well.
- DuPont continues to meet regularly with our employees, our neighbors, and our Community Advisory Board at Fayetteville. Recently, a meeting was held with our neighbors to share the most recent sampling data, including samples from two neighbors' wells. The sample result from the first neighbor's well was non-detectable. The second well had a result of 11 parts per trillion. This trace level of PFOA is hundreds of times less than any established regulatory standard and the water is safe to drink.
- The North Carolina Division of Waste Management (DWM) is addressing the PFOA monitoring program as part of DuPont Fayetteville's RCRA permit. This was formalized by letter from the DWM to DuPont on Sept. 23, 2005. The current plan was approved by the DWM on Jan. 4, 2006. It

covers, among other things, PFOA investigation and monitoring activities. A report detailing recent findings and recommending further investigation activities is due to the DWM on May 31, 2006.

DuPont has been in compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources reporting requirements and has voluntarily provided all data related to Fayetteville and PFOA in a timely manner.

In a statement released today by the EWG, Richard Wiles referred to PFOA as a cancer-causing chemical. That statement is false. The weight of scientific evidence, based on published, peer-reviewed health and toxicological studies, show that PFOA does not pose a human cancer risk and does not pose a health risk to the general public. To date, no human health effects are known to be caused by PFOA. DuPont is committed to continued safe and environmentally sound operations.

Once again, EWG has leveled allegations that are false. These allegations are the latest in EWG's campaign of untruths directed against the company and the safety of our operations and products. They follow at least two other instances where EWG's false claims were subsequently refuted by federal regulatory agencies as completely unsubstantiated. We expect the news media will examine EWG's claims for accuracy and not report misinformation and unnecessarily alarm the public as has happened in the past.

**EWG False Charges Against Paper Products:** In a Nov. 16, 2005, news conference, EWG falsely claimed that this company suppressed documents revealing a supposed consumer risk from grease-resistant food packaging made with our materials. More than two dozen news organization reported this misinformation to an audience of more than 30 million readers and viewers even though there was existing proof that EWG was wrong and the safety standard DuPont allegedly violated did not, in fact, exist.

On Dec. 20, 2005, the Food and Drug Administration informed EWG in writing that the documents DuPont supposedly concealed were "irrelevant" to any consumer safety determination and that estimated consumer exposure to the substance used in paper coatings is 45 times lower than the actual safety standard FDA has set. EWG has yet to share the FDA letter with the reporters who were misled. EWG continues to post two of the inaccurate news reports on its website.

**EWG False Charges Against Cookware Coated with Teflon®:** In 2003 EWG launched an attack on cookware coated with Teflon®, erroneously claiming that consumers were at risk. In a June 27, 2003, letter, the Consumer Product Safety Commission rejected EWG's request to require a warning label on non-stick cookware on the grounds that EWG had failed to provide any evidence that chemicals released during consumer use of the cookware "would cause human illness or injury."

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