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DuPont Statement – EPA Draft Risk Assessment

DuPont issued the following statement in response to the draft Risk Assessment on perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) released today by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

DuPont welcomes the EPA's draft risk assessment and the formation of a Science Advisory Board as important steps in addressing questions about PFOA. The formation of the Science Advisory Board is a critical action to evaluate data and assumptions related to exposure to PFOA.

As a science company, and consistent with our core values, DuPont is committed to continue working with the regulatory and scientific communities and others in industry to gain additional understanding of PFOA to assure protection of public health, safety and the environment.

We continue to focus extensive resources on scientific research to better understand the bio-persistence of PFOA, to evaluate potential routes of human and environmental exposure, and to reduce current or potential sources of exposure to the compound. Although, to date, no human health effects are known to be caused by PFOA, the company recognizes that the presence of PFOA in human blood raises questions that should be addressed. It is important to increase our knowledge and understanding about exposure to PFOA.

DuPont has taken significant steps to minimize emissions and exposures. Over the past five years, DuPont has reduced emissions of PFOA from its U.S. operations by 98 percent and has designed systems that capture and recycle or destroy PFOA. Global emissions have been reduced by 90 percent. DuPont has offered its new technology to others who use PFOA. We are applying our knowledge globally and are sharing what we learn with regulatory officials and industry.

DuPont will continue ongoing research of PFOA in cooperation with regulators, industry and the academic community to expand the understanding of the compound. The company's commitment to objective and transparent research of PFOA remains strong. We will continue to seek external input and share our findings with the EPA and other regulatory agencies, as well as the public as more data become available.

EPA has asked the Science Advisory Board "to review and comment on the scientific soundness of this assessment." We look forward to the recommendations of the SAB, and the actions the agency will take as a result of those recommendations.

About Fluoropolymers and Fluorotelomers

PFOA is an essential processing aid used to produce fluoropolymer high performance materials. Fluoropolymers are used in architectural fabrics; chemical processing piping and vessels; automotive fuel systems; telecommunications and electronic wiring insulation; and computer chip processing equipment

and systems – in addition to consumer products such as cookware and apparel. The aerospace, transportation and electronics industries rely on products manufactured using PFOA for purity, reliability and durability of many of their key systems. PFOA may be found at very low trace levels in some fluorotelomers. Fluorotelomers provide protection and soil and stain resistance in medical apparel and some paper and textile products. They are also used in fire-fighting foams.

DuPont is a science company. Founded in 1802, DuPont puts science to work by creating sustainable solutions essential to a better, safer, healthier life for people everywhere. Operating in more than 70 countries, DuPont offers a wide range of innovative products and services for markets including agriculture, nutrition, electronics, communications, safety and protection, home and construction, transportation and apparel.

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