



Ms. Cate Farhrmann MLC  
Chair, Select Committee on PFAS Contamination in Waterways and  
Drinking Water Supplies Throughout NSW  
NSW Legislative Council  
Parliament of NSW  
6 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
By Email: PFAS@parliament.nsw.gov.au

12 March 2025

Dear Ms Fahrmann

**Re: Responses from Gayle Sloan to supplementary questions arising from PFAS Committee hearing  
on 5 February 2025**

Please find below my responses to the supplementary questions.

*(1) Should landfills and incinerators be banned from accepting PFAS-contaminated waste?*

No, the reality is we cannot see the PFAS coming in to be able to identify it, so it would be practically impossible to do. Further it is far better for this to be either destroyed or containerised at end of life in well managed, best practice facilities.

*(2) What new waste management policies are needed to prevent PFAS contamination?*

As mentioned in our submissions we advocate was for adoption in Australia for a comprehensive EU [Waste Directives Framework](#) be adopted in Australia that would include generator obligations to design for recovery (the presence of PFAS can inhibit this), hold generator accountable for the cost of managing these products and materials through their lifecycle, as well as required the adoption of the [CLP](#) and [REACH](#) approach that requires chemicals to be registered and products that contain prescribed chemicals to be labelled. Currently what is proposed in Australia with iCHEMS is inadequate as it fails to create generator obligations, nor include any design obligations or labelling to protect the public.

*(3) Should NSW introduce an industry levy on PFAS-containing products to fund cleanup efforts?*

Those that generate products containing PFAS should be responsible for managing all aspects of the supply chain, including financial impacts.

*(4) How can waste industry leaders help phase out PFAS from supply chains?*

Industry continues to advocate for the elimination of PFAS in products as a matter of urgency and raising the fact that action taken by most to date (fire foam) is only a small part of what is placed on market- as such educating broader business and community about its prevalence.

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We understand the importance of managing safe levels of exposure to PFAS and have undertaken scientific work with government to determine what that level is, given we know that PFAS is everywhere. It is vital that our industry is not left with the burden of managing a substance/ chemical that we did not make, and legislation must be adopted to create this positive generator obligation to manage PFAS (and other problematic materials) through their lifecycle.

*Reference to research referenced during the inquiry*

I note the request also for the research from the University of Queensland on PFAS in consumer products (“*Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in consumer products: current knowledge and research gaps*”), the details of which are provided below:

Dewapriya, Pradeep, Chadwick, Lachlan, Gorji, Sara Ghorbani, Schulze, Bastian, Valsecchi, Sara, Samanipour, Saer, Thomas, Kevin V., and Kaserzon, Sarit L. (2023). *Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in consumer products: current knowledge and research gaps*. Journal of Hazardous Materials Letters 4 100086 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hazl.2023.100086>

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Yours sincerely

Gayle Sloan

**Chief Executive Officer**

Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia