

29 Jul 2026

Ref: PCD1/TIW/26-07

To: Industry Stakeholders,
General Waste Disposal Facilities (GWDFs),
Toxic Industrial Waste Collectors (TIWCs)

Dear Sir/Madam

FURTHER GUIDANCE REGARDING THE DISPOSAL OF FIREFIGHTING FOAM CONTAINING PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)

NEA had previously issued 2 circulars (i.e. PCD1/TIW/25-01 and PCD1/TIW/26-01) on 3 Jan 2025 and 14 Jan 2026 respectively, to inform the industry on the regulatory requirements regarding the collection, treatment, and disposal of firefighting foams containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). As mentioned in the circulars, firefighting foams containing perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), their salts and/or related compounds at or above their respective threshold concentrations¹ must be collected by a Toxic Industrial Waste Collector (TIWC) that is licenced to collect this waste (i.e. **TIWC licences that have a specific entry on “firefighting foam containing PFAS”**).

2 Companies and waste collectors intending to collect or dispose such foams, are responsible for conducting due diligence checks to determine whether the firefighting foams contain PFAS above the regulatory thresholds. Some of the recommended checks include, but not limited to:

- Confirming with the supplier whether the firefighting foam contain any of the aforementioned groups of PFAS above the threshold concentrations, and retain a copy of the technical specifications, composition analysis of the foam and confirmation from the supplier; or
- Reviewing publicly available information to confirm whether this brand and type of foam contain the abovementioned PFAS exceeding the threshold concentrations (e.g. references identifying firefighting foam brands/products that may contain PFAS); or
- Engaging a third-party accredited laboratory to test the firefighting foam using widely recognised test methods to ascertain the PFAS types and concentrations.

3 For firefighting foams that contain PFAS above the applicable thresholds, companies must engage a TIWC licensed to collect “firefighting foam containing PFAS” for collection and disposal. For firefighting foams that contain PFAS below the thresholds, companies may engage a General Waste Disposal Facility (GWDF) with incinerator to dispose of the foams. All fire-fighting foams shall not be directly landfilled.

4 If the PFAS content of the firefighting foam is not determined or cannot be determined despite due diligence checks outlined above, as a precaution the firefighting foam shall be disposed via a TIWC licensed to collect “firefighting foam containing PFAS”. NEA may conduct random checks and take enforcement action against any companies that improperly dispose of firefighting foam containing PFAS above the stipulated thresholds.

¹ The respective PFAS threshold concentrations are:-

- PFOA, including their salts and related compounds: 25 ppb
- PFOS, including their salts and related compounds: 10,000 ppb
- PFHxS, including their salts and related compounds: 100 ppb

5 GWDFs that receive fire extinguishers containing firefighting foam for the purpose of recycling the containers as scrap metal are required to ensure that the disposal of firefighting foam extracted from the extinguishers is conducted in line with the requirements stated in this circular.

6 We seek your cooperation in ensuring compliance with these requirements to ensure proper disposal of firefighting foam containing PFAS. If you have any further queries, you may wish to contact Ms Heng Hui Yee (heng_hui_yee@nea.gov.sg) and Ms Hanisah Akram (hanisah_akram@nea.gov.sg).

Yours faithfully

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