File: AHAM/EPA/DOE, CFC Consortium (new)

Meeting Memo

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Thursday, 9/21
628 Dirksen

Participants:Assn. of Home Appliance Manufacturers, Sen. Hollings; Watkins (DOE) possible, as is someone from EPA; Chafee and Claudine Schneider are expected; other Sens. and Reps. possible.

Staff: Marla/Rick

Purpose of meeting: News Conference to announce formation of **The Appliance Industry-Government CFC Replacement Consortium, Inc.**

See attached materials, which include background and draft press release to be distributed at newser. The folks sponsoring this thing ask only that in your remarks you do not advocate a specific piece of legislation. **They're trying to keep this thing bipartisan. Stress your leadership in this replacement effort, GE compromise, etc. etc...Of anyone who might show up for this event, you've actually accomplished a real reduction.**

Robert M. Gants, VP Gov't Relations of Assn. of Home Appliance Manuf. will moderate news conference. He will introduce Hollings first, then you, then other Sens. and Congressmen who attend.

After Congressional speakers, Robert L. Holding, AHAM President and President of The Appliance Industry - Government CFC Replacement Consortium, Inc. will speak, then Thomas C. Young, VP for the consortium.

The have also invited Watkins and William Rosenberg, Asst. Administrator for Air and Radiation from EPA.

Background: This consortium would represent a technological partnership: the appliance manufacturers, DOE, and EPA; with the consortium established as a subsidiary of AHAM.

The consortium's goal is to speed up research to eliminate CFC 11 and CFC 12 in refrigerator and freezer production.

NOTE IN MATERIALS THAT FOLLOW; THEY ARE SUPPORTING AN END TO CFC USE "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, IN ANY EVENT BEFORE THE YEAR 2000." They're saying they can find alternatives in two to three years.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, September 21, 1989

Contact: Marla Romash
202-224-7155
202-547-0806 (H)

GORE WELCOMES INDUSTRY-GOVERNMENT CONSORTIUM ON CFCs
Looks Forward to CFC Phase-Out Within Five Years

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Sen. Al Gore, D-TN, the author of legislation which would phase-out within five years the chemicals destroying the earth's stratopheric ozone, today (9/21) welcomed a new industry-government consortium formed to research and identify alternatives to those chemicals, called chlorofluorcarbons.

"This consortium represents an important step toward a goal we must reach, the quickest possible phase-out of the chemicals destroying the stratospheric ozone layer," said Gore, who last month successfully negotiated an agreement with the General Electric Company to offset emissions of CFCs from a refrigerator repair program with equal reductions in the company's overall use of the chemicals.

"Alternatives can be found and put into use without disruptions. We know that it can be done. We've seen it done before in the case of aerosol spray cans. And, perhaps most importantly, we know it must be done," Gore said. "The longer we wait to take action, the more we hesitate and try to convince ourselves there's no urgency, the harder it will be to repair the damage."

"We can't keep pouring these chemicals into the atmosphere and ripping away at the blanket of protection the earth's stratospheric ozone provides from ultra-violet radiation. Floppy hats and sunglasses just won't do it when we face higher rates of certain skin cancers and cataracts, and damage to our immune systems," Gore said. "We have the technological know-how to find alternatives. We need the will and the commitment to put that technological know-how to work."

Gore is the author of the World Environment Policy Act of 1989 and of three other pieces of legislation which would phase-out ozone-depleting chemicals within five years and would also control current use of these chemicals and encourage

their recapture and recycling to prevent their emission into the atmosphere.

This summer, Gore successfully negotiated an agreement with General Electric under which the company will reduce its emissions of CFCs by an amount equal to the amount being emitted in a nationwide GE program now underway to replace compressors in certain GE refrigerators. With an estimated 1 million refrigerators involved, CFC reductions could exceed 300,000 pounds.

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ASSOCIATION OF HOME APPLIANCE MANUFACTURERS
20 NORTH WACKER DRIVE • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606
312 984 5800
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: 200 DAINGERFIELD ROAD
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 703/683-8822

September 13, 1989

The Honorable Albert Gore, Jr.
United States Senate
SR-393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4202

Attention: Marla Romash, Press Secretary

Dear Senator Gore:

The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) cordially invites you to attend and present whatever remarks you may care to make at a press conference on Thursday, September 21, at 11:30 a.m. in the Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 628. The event will be filmed for television.

The press conference, sponsored by Senator Ernest Hollings, will formally announce the formation of the *Appliance Industry-Government CFC Replacement Consortium.*

The Consortium is a significant research partnership established to identify energy efficient, environmentally safe substitutes for chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) currently used in refrigerators and freezers.

Appliance manufacturers participating in the work are: Amana Refrigeration; GE Appliances; Maytag Corporation; Sub-Zero Freezer Company; Whirlpool Corporation; White Consolidated Industries and W.C. Wood Company. The U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are also involved in the Consortium's work, as are suppliers of components, materials and chemicals to the industry.

Attached are an agenda and a press release.

If you would like to make a statement at the press conference, please have your press secretary contact me at 683-8822 so that I can recognize you and allot sufficient time for you.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Gants
Vice President
Government Relations

Attachments
RMG:bdr

Draft release for handout at Press Conference

FOR RELEASE: September 21, 1989

Contact: Marian Stamos
(312/984-5816)
Tom Young
(312/984-5839)

REFRIGERATOR AND FREEZER MANUFACTURERS FORM RESEARCH CONSORTIUM TO FIND ENVIRONMENTALLY-SAFE CFC ALTERNATIVES

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Seven household refrigerator and freezer manufacturers have formed an unprecedented industry-government technological partnership to identify acceptable chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) substitutes, the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) announced at a Capitol Hill press conference today.

The Consortium's goal is to identify safe, reliable and energy efficient replacement candidates in two to three years so that refrigerator manufacturers can stop using CFCs in production as soon as possible.

The research partnership, called the *APPLIANCE INDUSTRY-GOVERNMENT CFC REPLACEMENT CONSORTIUM INC.* is a wholly-owned subsidiary of AHAM, an international trade association representing appliance manufacturers and suppliers to the industry.

The participating refrigerator companies are Admiral (Maytag Corporation), Amana Refrigeration, Inc. (Raytheon Company), GE Appliances, Sub-Zero Freezer Company, W.C. Wood Company Limited, Whirlpool Corporation and White Consolidated Industries. Also participating thus far are the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and several compressor manufacturers and chemical suppliers to the industry.

"Through this united research effort, our industry will be able to accelerate the pace and maximize the efficiency of its search for workable CFC alternatives," explains Tom Young, Consortium vice president for administration.

(more)

"This is a highly-disciplined and coordinated program designed to create as fast as possible a data base adequate for each manufacturer to determine the best CFC substitute for its product," said Young.

Operating through technical committees, the Consortium will analyze product design options and replacements for both CFC 11 -- the blowing agent used in rigid foam insulation in the cabinet walls and doors, and CFC 12 -- the refrigerant in the sealed refrigeration system.

These committees currently will evaluate a combined total of 14 potential substitutes.

Once acceptable replacement candidates are identified, it will take several years to make the manufacturing design and retooling changes necessary to accommodate the CFC substitutes -- that is, to make safe, energy-conserving appliances that provide consumers with reliable service for 15 years or more and at a production pace of about 24,000 units per day.

"Our industry accounts for only 4% of total free world CFC use, but even a little is too much," observed Robert Holding, president of both AHAM and the Consortium. "We aim to get this done right and expeditiously."

EPW

Commerce

~~ENERGY~~

Approp. Interior (Environment)

Senate Appro

draft

P R E S S C O N F E R E N C E

Announcing the Formation of

THE APPLIANCE INDUSTRY-GOVERNMENT CFC REPLACEMENT CONSORTIUM, INC.

DATE: Thursday, September 21, 1989

PLACE: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 628

TIME: 11:30

HOST: Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM)

SPONSOR: Hon. Ernest F. Hollings**
Chairman, Commerce Science and Transportation Committee
United States Senate

PROGRAM:

11:30 - 12:00	Moderator --	Robert M. Gants Vice President Government Relations, AHAM
	Remarks --	Senator Ernest F. Hollings and Invited Senators and Congressmen
		Robert L. Holding AHAM President and Consortium President
		Thomas C. Young Consortium Vice President for Administration
		Hon. James D. Watkins* Secretary of Energy U.S. Department of Energy
		William Rosenberg** Asst. Administrator for Air and Radiation Environmental Protection Agency
		Refrigerator Manufacturer Executives
12:00 - 12:15		Questions and Answers
12:15 - 1:00		Cold platter buffet

* invited
** confirmed

What is the Consortium?

A technological partnership of U.S. refrigerator and freezer manufacturers, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), established as a subsidiary of the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM).

What is its purpose?

To speed up the research needed to eliminate CFC 11 and 12 in refrigerator and freezer production, via a highly-disciplined and coordinated technological search.

CFC 12, the refrigerant circulating through the piping in the sealed refrigeration system, is the lifeblood of these appliances. And CFC 11, part of the rigid polyurethane foam insulation in the cabinet walls and doors, is the muscle and bone.

Through joint research and testing and sharing of data, each company will greatly advance its ability to decide on the most feasible substitutes. Individual companies, working alone, would take much longer to do this.

Why stop using CFCs?

CFC 11 and 12 are among chemicals now known to deplete stratospheric ozone, and they may contribute to "global warming." The refrigerator industry accounts for only 4% of total free world CFC use, but even a little is too much.

When will the industry stop using CFCs?

As soon as possible, in any event before the year 2000.

we say at earlier date.

Who can participate in the Consortium?

Any interested party who can contribute to the Consortium's goal. In addition to refrigerator and freezer manufacturers, interested government agencies; suppliers of components, materials and chemicals; and public and private laboratories are invited to participate.

Who is currently participating?

Participating refrigerator and freezer companies are:

Admiral (Maytag Corporation),
Amana Refrigeration, Inc. (Raytheon Company),
GE Appliances,
Sub-Zero Freezer Company,
W.C. Wood Company, Limited,
Whirlpool Corporation, and
White Consolidated Industries.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and several compressor manufacturers and chemical suppliers are also involved.

How is the Consortium funded?

Apart from initial "seed" money donated by the refrigerator and freezer companies, participants will fund individual research projects either monetarily or through in-kind contributions such as company or Federal laboratory facilities or providing relevant technical data.

How does the Consortium function?

Primarily, through two technical committees -- one for CFC 11 (insulation) and one for CFC 12 (refrigerant).

These committees meet regularly to define and prioritize research projects, make assignments, give reports, evaluate findings and decide on the next steps. They can also call upon special panels of technical experts as needed.

As the committees identify new research projects, they propose these, along with a funding plan, to the Consortium's Board of Directors for approval.

What tests is the Consortium conducting for CFC 11 replacements?

The insulation technical committee is developing the research protocol for

- water mixtures with two isocyanates -- MDI and TDI,
- optimization of water blends,
- HCFC 123,
- HCFC 123/141b, and
- flammability aspects of HCFC 141b.

Vacuum panels

all enviros do not support HCFC's — HCFC are unproven — substitutes a new chemical

HCFC is an ozone depleting chemical for another ozone depleting chemical

What criteria is the Consortium using to evaluate CFC 11 replacements?

Criteria include: heat transfer characteristics (i.e., impact on energy efficiency), density, demoulding time, dimensional stability regarding packing and bowing, flammability, toxicity, reliability and longevity.

What tests is the Consortium conducting for CFC 12 replacements?

Companies are conducting round-robin compressor calorimeter tests to establish a baseline for CFC 12. These tests should be completed by December 1989, since the compressors are sent to each company in turn.

In addition, companies are screening potential candidates in CFC 12 compressors and comparing results with the baseline. Each company is assigned a candidate to screen. All of these calorimeter tests, conducted simultaneously by companies, should be completed in six weeks to two months. Results will then be shared. The current candidates for screening are:

CFC 114/HCFC22/HFC 152a,

HCFC 124/22/HFC 152a,

HFC 134a,

HCFC 22,

HFC 152a,

HFC 134a/152a,

HFC 134,

HCFC 22/124, and

HCFC 22/142b.

What criteria is the Consortium using to evaluate CFC 12 replacements?

Criteria include thermodynamic and physical properties, material compatibility, oil solubility, flammability, toxicity, impact on energy efficiency, and reliability.

When does the Consortium anticipate it will have acceptable replacement candidates for identified?

In two to three years.

Does the Consortium face specific challenges in its search for acceptable CFC replacements?

Yes. Replacing CFCs involves a revolutionary change in just a few years to a product technology that evolved over 50 years.

This CFC-based technology makes possible increased interior storage space in the same size cabinet and a refined refrigeration system with a service incidence of 1% or less. Additionally, CFCs are the primary contributors to the energy efficiency gains of nearly 100% for refrigerators and 80% for freezers, achieved since 1972.

These appliances are also mass-produced -- over 24,000 units a day...and consumers expect them to last 15 years or more.

These are the challenging realities within which the Consortium must move, quickly but carefully, to find the best technology to enable companies to continue selling products that are safe, reliable, energy efficient, affordable and competitive in the marketplace.

It can -- and will -- be done.