



The Alliance

for Responsible Atmospheric Policy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alliance Applauds International Cooperation to Manage HFCs

Parties Move Closer to Achieving an HFC Amendment Under the Montreal Protocol

Geneva, Switzerland (April 11, 2016) — The Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy today commended the notable progress made by governments working over the last week to complete an international agreement to phase down hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) consumption as part of the Montreal Protocol treaty. “Significant work remains in reaching consensus on a range of issues. The cooperation on display during the Geneva negotiating sessions, however, showed thoughtful consideration of each country’s circumstances. The initial draft language resulting from those negotiations provides a strong signal that the Dubai Pathway will lead to an HFC agreement in 2016 that is environmentally effective, technologically feasible, and economically viable for all Parties,” stated Lennox International’s John Hurst, who serves as the Alliance Chairman.

On Friday, the Parties to the Montreal Protocol completed one week of preparatory negotiations in Geneva in advance of additional sessions in Vienna in July and October this year. The Parties made substantive progress on a path forward on a temporary exemption from reduction schedules for countries with high ambient temperature conditions and on funding for developing countries to implement the provisions of an HFC amendment. Late last year, the Parties agreed to work towards an amendment to the Montreal Protocol in 2016 to manage HFCs to promote a transition to alternative products that reduce impacts on the climate. The Parties have been considering the issue of HFC usage and emissions for more than six years.

“It will be critical for the remaining negotiating sessions this year to be inclusive of all Parties and for discussions to be based on a clear assessment of the state of our industry’s development of next generation, low global warming potential products and technologies which support a healthy climate and ozone layer,” added Kevin Fay, the Executive Director of the Alliance. “The Alliance is prepared to continue its active support for the negotiations in any way that assists the Parties to achieve consensus.”

HFCs were introduced in order to achieve a rapid phase out of ozone depleting substances and are used widely in air conditioners, refrigerators, foam insulation, technical aerosols, fire protection systems and other critical uses. The demand for these technologies continues to grow due to expansion of developing country economies and the added health, safety, comfort and productivity benefits these technologies provide.

The Montreal Protocol treaty was first signed on September 16, 1987, and is considered to be one of the most effective multilateral environment treaties ever negotiated. It is the only treaty in the United Nations system to which every country is a signatory. The Protocol’s success has been a result of its reliance on sound scientific reviews, ongoing technology assessments and a funding mechanism to assist developing countries. A hallmark of the treaty is the decades-long cooperation among governments, industry and the environment community.

About the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy

The Alliance is an industry coalition organized in 1980 to address the issue of stratospheric ozone depletion and the production and use of fluorocarbon compounds. It is the leading voice of manufacturers, businesses and trade associations who make or use fluorinated gases for the global market. Today, Alliance member companies are leading the development of safe, efficient, next-generation, climate- and ozone-friendly technologies and applications. According to a recent study, the US fluorocarbon using and producing industries contribute more than \$158 billion annually in goods and services to the US economy, and provide employment to more than 700,000 individuals with an industry-wide payroll of more than \$32 billion. The Alliance represents companies across several sectors engaged in the development of economically and environmentally beneficial international and domestic policies regarding fluorinated gases. Alliance member companies, which represent more than 95 percent of US HFC production and a significant majority of the manufacturing and other user industries, have pledged their commitment to the research, development and commercialization of new technologies with low climate impact, and are supporting a global agreement under the Montreal Protocol to facilitate the orderly transition to such technologies.

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