

Excerpts from investor letter sent by the members of the Investor Initiative on Hazardous Chemicals (IIHC) to the 50 ChemScore-ranked companies on November 15, 2023.

The letter outlined the following three asks:

- 1) **Increase transparency.** To help investors appraise relevant risks at the company, disclose both the share of revenue and production volume of products that are, or contain, hazardous chemicals.¹ This information should cover all your operations (including subsidiaries) worldwide.
- 2) Publish a time-bound phase-out plan of products that are, or contain, persistent chemicals.² The phase-out plan should include a realistic road map with clear KPIs to track progress.
- 3) **Develop safer alternatives for hazardous chemicals.** Following a robust evaluation, substantially ramp up R&D and investment in the development of safer alternatives. Although a universally accepted definition of safer alternatives is still pending, safer products that substitute the use of hazardous chemicals and support accelerated phase-out are likely to present a significant opportunity for value creation.

The letter also stated:

Manufacturers and users of PFAS chemicals are exposed to deep liability and insurance risks, reminiscent of those historically linked to asbestos, which could materially adversely harm the long-term value of companies involved in their manufacture and sale.

¹ Disclosure should be reported on substance by substance. By hazardous chemicals, we mean (A) substances meeting the Substances of Very High Concern (SVHCs) criteria, as defined in Article 57 of the REACH regulation; (B) substances meeting the criteria as Substances of Concern (SoCs) as defined in Annex 2 of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD); and (C) persistent chemicals. By persistent, we mean organic substances meeting the persistence criteria in Article 57d of the REACH regulation

² Defined in footnote 2 as organic substances meeting the persistence criteria in Article 57d of the REACH regulation.

³ Defined in footnote 2 as (A) substances meeting the Substances of Very High Concern (SVHCs) criteria, as defined in Article 57 of the REACH regulation; (B) substances meeting the criteria as Substances of Concern (SoCs) as defined in Annex 2 of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD); and (C) persistent chemicals (see footnote 3).

The letter was signed by:

IIHC Steering Committee

Eugenie Mathieu, Earth Lead **Aviva Investors**

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Cecilia Fryklöf, Head of Active Ownership Nordea Asset Management

Rashila Kerai, ESG & Sustainability Expert **Robeco**

Victoria Lidén, Senior Sustainability Analyst & Active Ownership

Storebrand Asset Management

IIHC Active Members

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Virginie Derue, Head of ESG Research **AXA Investment Managers**

Constantina Bichta, Associate Director of ESG Research

Boston Common Asset Management

Mariët Druif, Responsible Investment Officer **Cardano**

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Mary Beth Gallagher, Director of Engagement **Domini Impact Investments**

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Folksam

Aurora Samuelsson, Head of Sustainability Handelsbanken Fonder

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Héléna Charrier, Head of Solutions ISR **LBP AM**

Kathlyn Collins, Head of Responsible Investment & Stewardship

Matthews Asia

Caroline Boden, Director of Shareholder Advocacy Mercy Investment Services, Inc.

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Minoru Matsubara, Managing Executive Officer and Chief Sustainability Officer, Responsible Investment Division

Resona Asset Management Co., Ltd.

Michèle Lacroix, Group Head of Sustainability **SCOR SE**

Anita Lindberg, Senior ESG Analyst **Skandia**



Pia Gisgård, Head of Sustainability & Corporate Governance

Swedbank Robur

Jenny Gustafsson, Head of Etikrådet

The Council on Ethics of the Swedish National Pension Funds (AP 1-4)

Susan Baker, Director of Shareholder Advocacy **Trillium Asset Management**

Dick van Ommeren, Chair of the Management Board

Triodos Investment Management

Seb Beloe, Partner – Head of Research WHEB Asset Management

Viktoria Voskressenskaia, Sustainability Analyst Öhman Fonder

IIHC Supporting Members

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Achmea Investment Management

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Vincent Kaufmann, CEO **Ethos Foundation**

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Tom McCaney, Director, Corporate Social Responsibility

Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia

Cathy Rowan, Director, Socially Responsible Investments

Trinity Health

Kelly Hirsch, Head of ESG

Vancity Investment Management



The letter was sent to the following companies:

Bayer

3M **Lotte Chemical** AGC LyondellBasell

AkzoNobel Mitsubishi Chemical Arkema Mitsui Chemicals Nan Ya Plastics Asahi Kasei **Avery Dennison** Nippon Paint **BASF** Nitto Denko Nutrien

Braskem **PPG Industries**

PTT Global Chemical Chemours

SABIC Corteva Covestro Sasol

Daikin Sherwin-Williams

Shin-Etsu **DIC Corporation** Dow Resonac **DuPont** Sika **Eastman Chemical** Solvay

Ecolab Sumitomo Chemical

Evonik Teijin

Hanwha Solutions The Mosaic Company

Toray Industries Honeywell

Indorama Ventures Umicore

Johnson Matthey Wanhua Chemical Westlake Chemical Lanxess

LG Chem Yara

