Filed: 12/11/2024 10:24 AM David R. Lloyd, District Clerk Johnson County, Texas By: Amaris Montemayor, Deputy

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JOHNSON COUNTY, TEXAS

STATE OF TEXAS,	§	DISTRICT COURT	Johnson County - 18th Distric
	§	JUDICIAL DISTRICT	·
Plaintiff,	§		
	§	CAUSE NO.	
V.	§	DC-C202400996	
	§		
3M COMPANY; CORTEVA, INC., DUPONT	§		
DE NEMOURS, INC., and EIDP, INC. F/K/A	§		
E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND	§		
COMPANY,	§		
	§		
Defendants.	§		

PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION

TO THE HONORABLE DISTRICT JUDGE:

Plaintiff, STATE OF TEXAS, acting by and through the Attorney General of Texas, KEN PAXTON (the "State"), complains of Defendants 3M COMPANY ("3M"); CORTEVA, INC. ("Corteva"); DUPONT DE NEMOURS AND CO., INC. ("New DuPont"); and EIDP, INC. F/K/A E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY ("Old DuPont") (collectively, "Defendants") and would respectfully show Defendants have engaged in deceptive trade practices by failing to disclose health risks and environmental harms associated with their products, and representing and/or implying their products were "safe" in a false, deceptive, or misleading manner, in violation of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices—Consumer Protection Act, Tex. Bus. & Com. Code §§ 17.41–17.63 ("DTPA").

INTRODUCTION

1. For decades, Defendants manufactured, marketed, and sold a wide array of consumer products containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS"), including perfluorooctane sulfonic acid ("PFOS") and perfluorooctanoic acid ("PFOA"). Defendants State of Texas v. 3M Company, et al.

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marketed these products in Texas and elsewhere to consumers as having remarkable benefits such as resistance to heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. Defendants' PFAS-containing materials included products used in or on food packaging, carpeting, cookware, upholstery, cosmetics, and many other consumer products, which Defendants sold to Texas consumers under well-known brand names including Teflon® and Scotchgard®.

2. But Defendants knew for much of this time, during which they profited immensely from the sale of their products, that PFAS pose risks to people's health and impact the environment. For example, PFAS are "persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic" ("PBT"), and exposure in humans may be associated with diseases such as cancer and decreased vaccine response. Further, PFAS, once introduced into the environment, accumulate in fish, game, and other animal and plant life, contaminate drinking water and other natural resources, and accumulate in the blood of humans. Defendants knew of these risks, knew they could not contain PFAS in their consumer products, and – as early as the 1970s – knew that their PFAS chemistry was already building-up in the blood of most Americans. Nonetheless, Defendants concealed these substantial risks from consumers and the State, and for decades, they even affirmatively claimed their products were "safe."

I. DISCOVERY

- 3. The discovery in this case should be conducted under Level 3 pursuant to Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 190.4.
- 4. This case is not subject to the restrictions of expedited discovery under Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 169 because the State's claims include non-monetary injunctive relief.
- 5. In addition to the claims for non-monetary injunctive relief, the State seeks monetary relief of \$1,000,000 or more, including civil penalties, attorneys' fees, and costs.

II. JURISDICTION

6. This action is brought by the Attorney General, Ken Paxton, in the name of the State of Texas, through his Consumer Protection Division and in the public interest under the authority granted by § 17.47 of the DTPA upon the grounds that Defendants have engaged in false, deceptive, and misleading acts and practices in the course of trade and commerce as defined in, and declared unlawful by, §§ 17.46(a) and (b) of the DTPA. In enforcement suits filed pursuant to § 17.47 of the DTPA, the Attorney General is further authorized to seek civil penalties, redress for consumers, and injunctive relief. The Attorney General may also seek reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs for prosecuting this action, as authorized by Texas Government Code § 402.006(c).

III. SCOPE OF THIS ACTION

7. Through this action, the State is not seeking any relief with respect to the manufacture, marketing, or sale of Aqueous Film-Forming Foam—a specific category of products that contain PFAS—as that is the subject of a separate action.

IV. DEFENDANTS

- 8. Defendant 3M Company is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business located at 3M Center, St. Paul, Minnesota 55144-1000. 3M is registered to do business in Texas and may be served through Corporation Service Company d/b/a CSC-Lawyers Incorporating Service Company, 211 E. 7th Street, Suite 620, Austin, Texas 78701-3136, or wherever it may be found.
- 9. Defendant EIDP, Inc. (*i.e.*, Old DuPont), f/k/a E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business located at 974 Centre Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19805 and

9330 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis, Indiana. In 2015, facing billions of dollars in liabilities

arising from its use of PFAS, Defendant Old DuPont began engaging in a series of transactions

meant to distance its valuable assets from the liability created by its actions in unleashing and

marketing these products to the public, ultimately resulting in the creation of New DuPont and

Corteva. Old DuPont may be served through the Texas Secretary of State, P.O. Box 12079,

Austin, Texas 78711.

10. Defendant DuPont de Nemours, Inc., d/b/a DuPont (i.e., New DuPont), is a

Delaware corporation with its principal place of business located at 974 Centre Road Building

730, Wilmington, Delaware 19805. In 2015, Old DuPont created New DuPont to facilitate a

merger with third party The Dow Chemical Company ("Old Dow") and serve as a holding

company for the combined assets of the two companies. In connection with a series of subsequent

transactions in 2019, New DuPont assumed certain Old DuPont liabilities—including those

relating to PFAS. New DuPont does business throughout the United States, including in the State

of Texas. New DuPont may be served through the Texas Secretary of State, P.O. Box 12079,

Austin, Texas 78711.

11. Defendant Corteva, Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of

the State of Delaware, with its principal places of business located at 974 Centre Road,

Wilmington, Delaware 19805 and 9330 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46268. In 2019,

New DuPont spun off a new, publicly traded company, Corteva, which currently holds Old

DuPont as a subsidiary. In connection with this transfer, Corteva assumed certain of Old

DuPont's liabilities—including those relating to PFAS. Corteva is registered to do business in

Texas and may be served through CT Corporation System, 1999 Bryan Street, Ste. 900, Dallas,

Texas 75201-3136, or wherever it may be found.

V. VENUE

12. Venue of this suit lies in Johnson County, Texas, pursuant to DTPA § 17.47(b), because transactions forming the basis of this suit occurred in Johnson County, Texas, and Defendants have done business in Johnson County, Texas.

VI. PUBLIC INTEREST

- 13. Plaintiff has reason to believe that Defendants are engaging in, have engaged in, or are about to engage in, the unlawful acts or practices set forth below. Plaintiff has further reason to believe Defendants have caused injury, loss, and damage to the State of Texas, and have caused adverse effects to the lawful conduct of trade and commerce, thereby directly or indirectly affecting the people of this State. The allegations herein focus on two specific types of PBT PFAS–PFOS and PFOA.
- 14. PFOS exposure is associated with numerous adverse health effects in humans, including increases in serum lipids (*i.e.*, high cholesterol); decreases in antibody response to vaccines; increases in risk of childhood infections; adverse reproductive and developmental effects; and pregnancy-induced hypertension and preeclampsia. PFOA exposure is associated with, among other things, decreased birthweight, testicular and kidney cancers, ulcerative colitis, medically diagnosed high cholesterol, and thyroid disease.
- 15. Therefore, the Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Texas is of the opinion that these proceedings are in the public interest.

VII. TRADE AND COMMERCE

16. Defendants have, at all times described below, engaged in trade and commerce as defined by § 17.45(6) of the DTPA.

VIII. ACTS OF AGENTS

17. Whenever in this Petition it is alleged that Defendants did any act, it is meant that Defendants performed or participated in the act or Defendants' officers, agents, or employees performed or participated in the act on behalf of and under the authority of Defendants.

IX. APPLICABLE LAW

- 18. The DTPA prohibits "false, misleading, or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce." DTPA § 17.46(a).
- 19. Section 17.47 of the DTPA authorizes the Consumer Protection Division to bring an action for temporary and permanent injunction whenever it has reason to believe that any person is engaged in, has engaged in, or is about to engage in any act or practice declared unlawful by the DTPA.

X. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

PFOS and PFOA

20. PFAS are a family of human-made chemical compounds containing a carbon chain on which all hydrogen atoms are replaced by fluorine atoms. The carbon-fluorine bond is the strongest bonds in organic chemistry and the many carbon-fluorine bonds in PFAS impart their unique chemical properties. Figure 1 below shows the chemical structures of PFOS and PFOA.

Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid ("PFOS")

Perfluorooctanoic Acid ("PFOA")

Figure 1

- 21. 3M developed PFOS and PFOA in the 1940s. Old DuPont, in 1951, began manufacturing products containing PFOA. Old DuPont purchased PFOA from 3M.
- 22. Defendants marketed products containing harmful PFAS chemicals for over 70 years and were aware of the harmful effects of PFAS chemicals for over 50 years. Despite this knowledge, Defendants continued to market PFAS products and chemicals in Texas and elsewhere as safe for consumer use, misrepresent their environmental and biological risks, and conceal risks of harm from the public.
- 23. For decades, advertisements included images of family home life in and around these products, were marketed to women cooking for their families, and specifically promoted the value of the products for households with children and pets. These advertisements did not disclose material information regarding the harms of the chemicals, and through the context and claims of the advertisements, misrepresented their safety for household and family use.

Defendants' Manufacture, Marketing, and Sale of PFAS-Containing Products Old DuPont's Deception Relating to PFAS Products

- 24. Old DuPont began using PFOA and other PFAS in its specialty chemical production applications, including household applications and products, like Teflon® and Stainmaster®. Old DuPont advertised Teflon® as a protective non-stick coating for cookware and Stainmaster® as a soil and stain repellant for fabrics and textile products. For instance, Old DuPont released Stainmaster® Carpet in 1986. Old DuPont advertised this product as being helpful for families with children and pets, which is particularly concerning due to the additional exposure for children, who spend more time on or near the floor.
- 25. Old DuPont also manufactured and advertised Zonyl[®] as a cheaper and less labor-intensive alternative to wax-paper food packaging beginning in the 1960s. On information and State of Texas v. 3M Company, et al.

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belief, this material has been used for fast food packaging and microwave popcorn bags, among

other consumer uses.

26. On information and belief, the Teflon® PTFE chemical has been used in a wide

variety of cosmetics, to make them long-lasting and easier to apply.

27. As early as the 1960s, Old DuPont was aware that PFOA is toxic to animals and

humans and that it bioaccumulates and persists in the environment. Old DuPont also knew that

Teflon[®], and associated industrial facilities, emitted and discharged large quantities of PFOA and

other PFAS into the environment and that many people had been exposed to its PFAS, including

via public and private drinking water supplies. Yet, it continued to develop and market products

for consumers as safe and without revealing this knowledge that would have been material

information to consumers' purchasing decisions.

28. Old DuPont's scientists issued internal warnings about PFOA toxicity as early as

1961, including warnings that PFOA caused adverse liver reactions in rats and dogs. Old

DuPont's Toxicology Section Chief opined that such products should be "handled with extreme

care" and that contact with the skin should be "strictly avoided." However, advertisements from

the 1970s promoted family and household use of Teflon® pans through "women [who] test[ed]

pans like these in their own homes"—touting the "preference" of Teflon® by these women and

the implied safety for family and household use while failing to disclose the already known

dangers associated with PFAS.

29. In 1978, based on information it received from 3M about elevated and persistent

organic fluorine levels in workers exposed to PFOA, Old DuPont initiated a plan to review and

monitor the health conditions of potentially exposed workers to assess whether any negative

health effects were attributable to PFOA exposure. This monitoring plan involved obtaining and

analyzing the blood samples from its workers for the presence of fluorine.

30. By 1979, Old DuPont had data indicating that, not only was organic

fluorine/PFOA building up in the blood of its exposed workers (and was, thus, "biopersistent"),

but those workers exposed to PFOA had a significantly higher incidence of health issues than did

unexposed workers. Old DuPont did not share this data or the results of its worker health analysis

with the general public or government entities, including the State of Texas, at that time.

31. The following year, Old DuPont internally confirmed, but did not make public,

that PFOA "is toxic," that humans accumulate PFOA in their tissues, and that "continued

exposure is not tolerable."

32. At around this same time, Old DuPont, on information and belief, was releasing

advertisements encouraging families not to worry, because they had Teflon® carpet protector.

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33. Not only did Old DuPont know that PFOA accumulated in humans, it was also aware that PFOA could cross the placenta from an exposed mother to her gestational child. In 1981, Old DuPont conducted a blood sampling study of pregnant or recently pregnant employees. Of the eight women in the study who worked with Teflon®, two—or 25%—had children with

birth defects in their eyes or face, and at least one had PFOA in the umbilical cord. Instead of addressing this concern, in the same year Old DuPont communicated to its employees that "there is no known evidence that our employees have been exposed to C8 levels that pose adverse health effects." C8 refers to PFAS like PFOA and PFOS with an eight-carbon chain structure. It also quietly moved female employees away from areas where PFAS may have been present.

- 34. Old DuPont selectively reported to the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") in March of 1982 that results from a rat study showed PFOA crossing the placenta if present in maternal blood, but Old DuPont concealed the results of its own study of its human workers.
- 35. Not only did Old DuPont know about PFOA's toxicity danger as early as the 1960s, but it was also aware that PFAS were capable of contaminating the surrounding environment, leading to human exposure. For example, no later than 1984, Old DuPont was aware that PFOA released from its manufacturing operations was contaminating local drinking water supplies, but said nothing to regulators or the impacted communities.
- 36. Old DuPont was long aware that the PFAS it was releasing from its facilities could leach into groundwater used for public drinking water—a fact that could both impact its corporate image, as discussed below, and materially impact consumers' purchasing decisions. Old DuPont held a meeting at its corporate headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware in 1984 to discuss health and environmental issues related to PFOA, and employees spoke of the PFOA issue as "one of corporate image, and corporate liability." They were resigned to Old DuPont's "incremental liability from this point on if we do nothing" because Old DuPont was "already liable for the past 32 years of operation." They also stated that the "legal and medical [departments within Old DuPont] will likely take the position of total elimination" of PFOA use State of Texas v. 3M Company, et al. Page 11 of 45

in Old DuPont's business and that these departments had "no incentive to take any other position." Nevertheless, Old DuPont not only decided to keep using and releasing PFOA, marketing brands containing PFOA, but affirmatively misrepresented to regulators, the scientific community, and the public that its PFOA releases presented no risks to human health or the environment.

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

TO: T. M. KEMP

T. L. SCHRENK

FROM: J. A. SCHMID

C-8 MEETING SUMMARY 5/22/84 - WILMINGTON

THE REVIEW WAS HELD WITH BESPERKA, BENNETT, RIDDICK, GLEASON, HEGENBARTH, SERENBETZ, RAINES, KENNEDY, VON SCHRILTZ, AND INGALLS IN ATTENDENCE. COPIES OF THE CHARTS USED ARE ATTACHED.

THERE WAS A CONSENSUS THAT C-B, BASED ON ALL THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM WITHIN THE COMPANY AND FROM 3M, DOES NOT POSE A HEALTH HAZARD AT LOW LEVEL CHRONIC EXPOSURE.

THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT A DEPARTMENTAL POSITION NEEDED TO BE DEVELOPED CONCERNING THE CONTINUATION OF WORK DIRECTED AT ELIMINATION OF C-8 EXPOSURES OFF PLANT AS WELL AS TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THEY OPERATE.

THERE WAS CONSENSUS REACHED THAT THE ISSUE WHICH WILL DECIDE FUTURE ACTION IS ONE OF CORPORATE IMAGE, AND CORPORATE LIABILITY. LIABILITY WAS FURTHER DEFINED AS THE INCREMENTAL LIABILITY FROM THIS POINT ON IF WE DO NOTHING AS WE ARE ALREADY LIABLE FOR THE PAST 32 YEARS OF OPERATION. CORPORATE IMAGE DISCUSSION CENTERED AROUND THE PERCEIVED DILIGENCE VERSUS DUR POLICIES IF WE ELECTED TO STOP WORK.

CURRENTLY, NONE OF THE OPTIONS DEVELOPED ARE, FROM A FINE POWDER BUSSINESS STANDPOINT, ECONOMICALY ATTRACTIVE AND WOULD ESSENTIALLY PUT THE LONG TERM VIABILITY OF THIS BUSSINESS SEGMENT ON THE LINE. FROM A BROADER CORPORATE VIEWPOINT THE COSTS ARE SMALL.

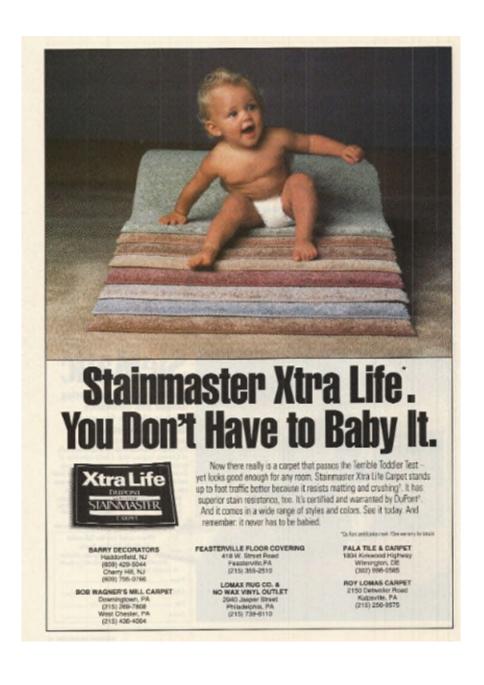
THE BASIS FOR A DECISION AT THIS POINT IS SUBJECTIVE AND IS MADE MORE DIFFICULT BY OUR CURRENT UNDERSTANDING OF TECHNOLOGY AND COST, AND THE IMPACT ON THE FINE FOWDER BUSSINESS. IT'S NOT AN EASY AND OBVIOUS DICISION AS FOR EXAMPLE TBSA WAS.

RJZ00998

37. Despite knowledge of potential health hazards and contamination, Old DuPont introduced Stainmaster[®] carpet to the public in 1986, spending \$10 million on the first campaign of national advertisements. Old DuPont marketed Stainmaster[®] carpet as safe for families and targeted families with babies in particular, through advertisements such as those below, whose misleading messages DuPont aimed to get into every American household.









38. However, infants and toddlers in homes with Stainmaster[®] carpets are consistently exposed to PFAS. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, infants and toddlers are at increased risk of ingesting these chemicals through hand to mouth transfer of PFAS from carpets. Similarly, the EPA reported that children are particularly susceptible to inhaling PFAS in carpets, with inhalation levels reaching 32,500 pg/cm³.

39. Old DuPont also continued to advertise its Teflon® brand for household use, touting nonstick benefits but failing to disclose to consumers the serious adverse effects of PFAS. On information and belief, the advertisements below are from the 1990s.





40. In 2000, the email below from Old DuPont employees demonstrated that the company was aware that biopersistence is an important consumer issue due to "an overwhelming public attitude that anything biopersistent is harmful," yet they continued to conceal the biopersistence of PFAS in chemical products such as Teflon[®].

John R Bowman 11/09/2000 05:04 PM

To: Thomas L Sager/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Martha L Rees/AE/DuPont@DuPont
Bernard J Reilly/AE/DuPont@DuPont

Subject: Lubeck-Dawn Jackson note

In view of the interest the letter is getting I think we need to make more of an effort to get the business to look into what we can do to get the Lubeck community a clean source of water or filter the C-8 out of the water. I spent a good bit of time over the past two days talking to an in house lawyer from Exxon and Chris Gibson from Archer and Greiner about their experience in defending MTBE water contamination suits. They both told me that experience has told them it is less expensive and better to remdiate or find clean drinking water for the plaintiffs than fight these suits. I think we are more vulnerable than the MTBE defendants because many states have adopted a drinking water guideline for MTBE and it is not biopersistent. My gut tells me the biopersistence issue will kill us because of an overwhelming public

We are going to spend millions to defend these lawsuits and have the additional threat of punitive damages hanging over our head. Getting out in front and acting responsibly can undercut and reduce the potential for punitives. Bernie and I have been unsuccessful in even engaging the clients in any meaningful discussion of the subject. Our story is not a good one, we continued to increase our emissions into the river in spite of internal commitments to reduce or eliminate the release of this chemical into the community and the environment because of our concern about the biopersistence of this chemical.

- 41. Old DuPont also began to assemble a litigation defense team, which included hiring an outside consulting company called the Weinberg Group. In a 2003 letter to Old DuPont, the Weinberg Group recommended that Old DuPont "implement a strategy at the outset which discourages government agencies, the plaintiff's bar, and misguided environmental groups from pursuing this matter any further" The strategy would include "facilitating the publication of papers and articles dispelling the alleged nexus between PFOA and teratogenicity as well as other claimed harm" and "establish[ing] not only that PFOA is safe over a range of serum concentration levels, but that it offers real health benefits"
- 42. In 2004, EPA filed an administrative enforcement action against Old DuPont based on its failure to disclose toxicity and exposure information for PFOA in violation of the federal Toxic Substances Control Act ("TSCA") and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"). Old DuPont eventually settled the lawsuit by agreeing to pay over \$16 million in civil

administrative penalties and conduct supplemental environmental projects. EPA called the

settlement the "largest civil administrative penalty EPA has ever obtained under any federal

environmental statute."

43. Old DuPont's own Epidemiology Review Board ("ERB") repeatedly raised

concerns about Old DuPont's statements to the public that there were no adverse health effects

associated with human exposure to PFOA. For example, in February 2006, the ERB "strongly

advise[d] against any public statements asserting that PFOA does not pose any risk to health" and

questioned "the evidential basis of [Old DuPont's] public expression asserting, with what appears

to be great confidence, that PFOA does not pose a risk to health."

44. In February 2006, the New York Times noted that DuPont ran full page

advertisements in its newspaper and other newspapers continuing to state that Teflon® is safe.

Below is the advertisement, which claims that Teflon® has been "safely used for 40 years" and

continues to omit that PFOA exposure was known to Old DuPont to cause harm to humans.

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45. Despite its knowledge regarding PFOA's toxicity, Old DuPont continued to claim that PFOA posed no health risks. On information and belief, Old DuPont continued to market and sell Teflon® containing PFOA until 2007. Old DuPont knew these statements were not true but did not correct them.

46. Old DuPont advertised consumer brands using PFAS chemicals as safe for home use in a variety of contexts. On information and belief, all of the advertisements throughout this section promoted products containing PFAS chemicals. The advertisements, which include television advertisements, range in time from the 1960s to the early 2000s.

3M's Deception Related to PFAS Products

- 47. 3M has known for decades that the PFAS contained in its products, such as PFOS, are toxic and adversely affect the environment and human health. Despite this knowledge, 3M has advertised brands, such as Scotchgard, as consumer-friendly and safe for families.
- 48. 3M advertised Scotchgard Protector in the mid-1950s as a coating that could be used to protect fabrics from water and other fluids. From 1970 to 2002, paper and carpet treatments were the most common use of PFOS substances.
- 49. On information and belief, 3M's Scotchban paper protector was used for non-food packaging as early as the 1950s, and was later used in food paper packaging around 1970. Paper mills would apply Scotchban solution to make paper cups, cake mixes, pet food, and more as the grease and water resistant chemicals would not impact the appearance or other properties of the paper.
- 50. By 1956, 3M's PFAS were found to bind to proteins in human blood, resulting in bioaccumulation of those compounds in the human body. 3M knew as early as 1960 that its PFAS waste could leach into groundwater and otherwise enter the environment. An internal 3M State of Texas v. 3M Company, et al. Page 21 of 45

memorandum from 1960 described 3M's understanding that such wastes "[would] eventually

reach the water table and pollute domestic wells." As early as 1963, 3M knew that its PFAS were

highly stable in the environment and did not degrade after disposal. Despite this knowledge, 3M

continued to market its products to customers, misrepresented them as safe for household and

family use, and failed to disclose information regarding potential health and environmental issues

to consumers to make educated purchasing decisions.

51. For instance, this advertisement from 1961 promotes the benefits of Scotchgard

products to families and children in the household without disclosing the known pollutant effects.

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52. The advertisement below, on information and belief from 1965, advertises the benefits of Scotchgard on a furniture company's products – especially when it comes to young children. Ironically, the advertisement states "live dangerously," but it implies that your furniture

will be safer with Scotchgard and that your children may safely use it. 3M's logo and Scotchgard trademark are both present in this ad.



53. This advertisement, on information and belief from 1967, shows a large family and friends with children and babies, and says the mother sprays "everything she wants to protect" with Scotchgard. This clearly conveys the product is safe for family and household use.



54. By the 1970s, 3M had become concerned about the risks posed to the general population by exposure to 3M's fluorochemicals. In fact, around this time, 3M abandoned a study of its fluorochemicals after the company's release of said chemicals during the study caused State of Texas v. 3M Company, et al.

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severe pollution of nearby surface waters. In 1975, 3M found there was a "universal presence" of

PFAS (PFOA and PFOS) in blood serum samples taken from individuals across the United

States. Since PFAS are not naturally occurring, this finding reasonably alerted 3M to the high

likelihood that its products were a source of this PFAS—a scenario 3M discussed internally, but

did not share outside the company. This finding also alerted 3M to the likelihood that PFAS are

mobile, persistent and bioaccumulative because these characteristics would explain the presence

of PFAS in human blood. Yet, 3M continued to conceal these facts from the public who could

have used this information to make educated purchasing decisions.

55. As early as 1976, 3M began monitoring the blood of its employees for PFAS

because the company was concerned about their effect on human health. In 1978, 3M conducted

PFOS and PFOA studies in monkeys and rats. All monkeys died within the first few days or

weeks after being given food contaminated with PFOS. The studies also showed that PFOS and

PFOA affected the liver and gastrointestinal tract of the species tested. In the late 1970s, 3M

studied the fate and transport characteristics of PFOS in the environment, including in surface

water and biota. A 1979 report drew a direct line between effluent from 3M's Decatur, Alabama

plant and fluorochemicals bioaccumulating in fish tissue taken from the Tennessee River adjacent

to the 3M plant. 3M did not reveal the harms to these animals to consumers, facts which could

have impacted their purchasing decision, and instead continued to assure consumers that the

products were safe.

56. In 1981, on information and belief, this advertisement from 3M shows a mother

and child from the 1960s and the 1980s, and says that Scotchgard "makes living a little easier."

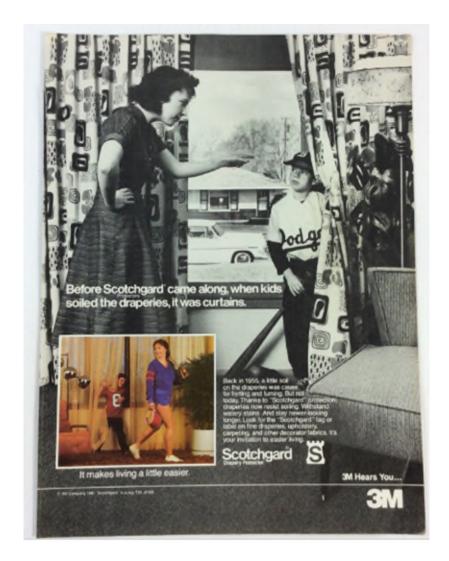
In actuality, 3M already had studied its employees' blood and performed other studies due to

concerns regarding health effects.

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- 57. In 1983, 3M's scientists opined that concerns about PFAS "give rise to legitimate questions about the persistence, accumulation potential, and ecotoxicity of fluorochemicals in the environment." In 1984, 3M's internal analyses proved that fluorochemicals were likely bioaccumulating in 3M's employees.
- 58. In the 1980s, despite concerns regarding PFAS's negative impact on animal health, on information and belief, 3M continued to advertise Scotchgard on television without disclosing serious potential health risks, and instead touted benefits to the household. On information and belief, advertisements such as the one below showed common household stains

and how Scotchgard can protect a household, saying it "keeps ordinary spills from becoming extraordinary stains."





59. According to a 3M environmental specialist, Rich Purdy, who resigned from his position due to the company's inaction over PFOS's environmental impacts, PFOS is "the most insidious pollutant since PCB" because it is "does not degrade," and is "more toxic." The specialist claimed that 3M omitted "the most significant information" from its report to the EPA and continues to sell PFOS despite knowledge that PFOS is "biomagnifying in the food chain and harming sea mammals." Purdy further discussed concerns that 3M had asked scientists not to put their thoughts in writing due to the "legal discovery process." Ultimately, he concluded "it is unethical to be concerned with markets, legal defensibility, and image over environmental safety." 3M had resisted calls from its own ecotoxicologists going back to 1979 to perform an

ecological risk assessment on PFOS and similar chemicals. At the time of the specialist's

resignation in 1999, 3M continued its resistance.

60. Despite its understanding of the hazards associated with the PFAS in its products,

3M suppressed scientific research on the hazards associated with them and mounted a campaign

to control the scientific dialogue on the fate, exposure, analytics, effects to human health, and

ecological risks of PFAS. At least one scientist funded by 3M saw his goal as "keep[ing] 'bad'

papers [regarding PFAS] out of the literature" because "in litigation situations," those articles

"can be a large obstacle to refute." Thus, 3M deceived others and hid the negative effects of

PFAS. For example, Dr. Rich Purdy wrote a letter detailing, without limitation: (1) 3M's tactics

to prevent research into the adverse effects of its PFOS, (2) 3M's submission of misinformation

about its PFOS to the EPA, (3) 3M's failure to disclose substantial risks associated with its PFOS

to the EPA, (4) 3M's failure to inform the public of the widespread dispersal of its PFOS in the

environment and population, (5) 3M's production of chemicals it knew posed an ecological risk

and a danger to the food chain, and (6) 3M's attempts to keep its workers from discussing the

problems with the company's fluorochemical projects to prevent their discussions from being

used in the legal process.

61. By the late 1990s, 3M's own toxicologist had calculated a "safe" level for PFOS

in human blood to be 1.05 parts per billion at a time when 3M was well aware that the average

level of PFOS being found in the blood of the general population of the United States was

approximately 30 times higher than this "safe" blood level. Yet, 3M did not disclose that

information to regulatory authorities or the public to make consumer purchasing decisions

relating to 3M's PFAS products.

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62. Despite its knowledge of the risks associated with exposures to its PFAS products, when 3M announced that it would phase out its PFOS, PFOA, and related products in 2000, it falsely asserted "our products are safe," instead of disclosing what it knew about the substantial threat posed by PFOS and PFOA. 3M also claimed to the press that it "was a complete surprise that [PFOS] was in the blood bank supplies" when they had been on notice of this issue for years.

TOP OF THE NEWS

EPA says it pressured 3M over Scotchgard chemical

DAVID BARBOZA NEW YORK TIMES

The Environmental Protection Agency said
Thursday that it had pressed 3M Ca. to come up
with a solution after the company's own tests
had shown that a chemical compound used in

had shown that a chemical compound used in Scotchgard products could pose a risk to human health and the environment.

The EPA account differs from that of 3M, which said earlier this week that it had decided to stop making the chemical used in Scotchgard and mary other products by the end of the year because the tests showed that the chemical compounds failed to decompose in the environment.

Officials of 3M say they have no evidence that the chemicals pose a long-term threat to human health.

The company said it negotiated with the EPA but its decision was voluntary and there was never a discussion of a recall of the products.

On Tuesday, Charles Reich, 3M's executive vice president for specialty material markets, said, "Our decision to phase out production is based on our prin-ciples of responsible environ-mental management."

The EPA confirmed that the agency had not issued an ulti-matum to 3M.

While the EPA said it did not see an immediate safety risk for consumers using products now consumers using products now on the market, agency officials said they grew concerned about potential long-term health risks to humans after a 5M study showed that the chemical, perfluorooctany suifonate, lingered for years in human blood and animal tissue and that high doese were honer to till like. doses were known to kill labora

"The results raised a number of concerns," said Stephen John-son, who works in the office of prevention, pesticides and toxic substances at the EPA.

"What it suggests to us is that there are potentially long-term consequences. But we don't have evidence it is unsafe now."

Officials of 3M, however, say they are absolutely confident that their products are safe, and that there are no long-term con-

"This isn't a health issue now, and it won't be a health issue," said Larry Zobel, the medical director at 3M, which is based in Maplewood,

"To the question of whether this bullds up in humans, it would have to be a long time, like hundreds of thousands of years to be a threat,"

he said.

The EPA said its decision to press IM rested on four concerns: the compound is persistent in the environment; it appears in wildlife and human tissue around the world; it appears in human blood samples taken from around the world; and based on the study of laboratory rats, it has the potential to harm humans.

The EPA said it was first

The EPA said it was first alerted to the study of laboratory rats shortly after it was conduct-ed in 1998.

In that study, male and female rats were given doses of the chemical and then mated. When a pregnant rat continued to get regular doses of about 3.2 mil-ligrams per kilogram of body weight, most of the offspring died within four days.

"With all that information, we finally talked to 3M and said that raises a number of concerns what are you going to do?" said Johnson at the EPA.

There is still a difference of

Officials of 3M said the doses given to the rats were extremely high, but EPA officials said that few other chemicals would have as severe an effect.

as severe an effect.

"This is fairly toxic stuff in 2" rats," one EPA official said A "There's clear eridence it presents a problem in rats."

But 3M said it had not yet determined the cause of death in the rats nor how humans of animals ingested the chemicals so that it appeared in tissue or blood samples. blood samp

"That's a very interesting question," Zobel said. "We can't say how it gets into anybody's

As a result of that uncertainty, and the persistence of the com-pound in the environment, IM said it would do away with the chemistry by the end of the year.



3M Co. said Tuesday that it would pull some Scotchgard products off the market irepredient. EPA officials salthey grew concerned about potential long-term health ris to humans after a 3M study ntial long-term health risks showed that the chemical, per-fluorocctanyl sulfonate, lingered for years in human blood and animal tissue

- 63. 3M continued to mislead the public and stated that its decision was simply made to "reallocat[e] resources," and still marketed its products as safe for consumer and family use.
- 64. Aftermarket consumer use to treat home items for stain and water resistance is especially concerning because chemicals are even more likely to transfer from the products

during application or use to indoor air and dust. Even treated fabrics, like a carpet or upholstered

chair coated with Scotchgard, could create exposure. Advertisements demonstrate that 3M's

marketing did not disclose the harms of its products, and in fact misrepresented them as safe for

use by families. Advertisements show families gathered together using Scotchgard products, or

common household uses of the products, making claims such as "You can relax." On information

and belief, similar advertisements continued throughout the lifespan of the Scotchgard PFOS

product.

65. On September 10, 2019, 3M's Senior Vice President for Corporate Affairs, Denise

Rutherford, testified in a Congressional Hearing before the Committee on Oversight and Reform

of the United States House of Representatives Subcommittee on the Environment. Rutherford

stated that "[m]any of [3M's] products are essential to making people's lives better." More

troublingly, Rutherford falsely asserted that "the weight of scientific evidence has not established

that PFOS, PFOA, or other PFAS cause adverse human health effects. Public health agencies and

independent science review panels, while acknowledging certain possible associations, agree

with that basic fact."

66. 3M continued engaging in deceptive practices in 2022, coinciding with its

announcement that it would phase out all of its PFAS products by 2025. 3M represented that

"PFAS can be safely made and used," and that its "products are safe for their intended uses." Not

only did 3M make statements it knew to be false, but it omitted material information relating to

the health hazards of their products.

67. As of the filing of this Complaint, 3M has not stopped its deceptive

advertisements, and continues promoting that its "products, including those containing PFAS, are

safe and effective for their intended uses in everyday life."

Old DuPont's Multi-Step, Years-Long Scheme Resulting in New Companies Assuming PFAS

Liabilities

68. In or about 2013, Old DuPont began planning a series of corporate restructurings

designed to separate its valuable assets from its billions of dollars of legacy liabilities—especially

those arising from its historical use of PFOA and other PFAS.

69. For more than five decades, Old DuPont manufactured, produced, or utilized

PFOA and other PFAS at plants in New Jersey, West Virginia, and North Carolina, among

others. By 2013, Old DuPont knew it was facing an avalanche of claims related to its PFAS

business.

70. For example, a 2012 study—funded by Old DuPont pursuant to a 2005 class

action settlement—confirmed "probable links" between PFOA exposure and several serious

human diseases: medically diagnosed high cholesterol, ulcerative colitis, pregnancy induced

hypertension, thyroid disease, testicular cancer, and kidney cancer. As a result, more than 3,500

class members with one or more of those linked diseases filed personal injury claims against Old

DuPont. Under the terms of the 2005 class settlement, Old DuPont had agreed not to contest the

fact that the class members' exposure to PFOA could have caused each of the linked diseases,

significantly limiting Old DuPont's available defenses to liability.

71. Anticipating significant liability exposure, Old DuPont convened an internal

initiative known as "Project Beta" in or about 2013 for Old DuPont's management to consider

restructuring the company in order to, among other things, avoid responsibility for the

widespread harm that Old DuPont's PFAS had caused, and shield billions of dollars in assets

from these substantial liabilities.

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72. At the same time, Old DuPont and Old Dow were discussing a possible "merger of equals." But no rational merger partner, including Old Dow, would agree to a transaction that would expose it to the substantial PFAS and environmental liabilities that Old DuPont faced.

73. Accordingly, Old DuPont's management decided to pursue a multi-year corporate restructuring specifically orchestrated to isolate Old DuPont's massive legacy liabilities from its valuable tangible assets in an attempt to entice Old Dow to pursue the proposed merger.

Old DuPont engaged in a coordinated three-part restructuring plan that consisted of (i) Old DuPont's attempt to cast off its massive performance chemicals liabilities onto Chemours, its then newly-formed wholly owned subsidiary, and spinning off Chemours as a separate publicly traded company; (ii) the creation of New DuPont to facilitate a purported merger with Old Dow; and (iii) a series of internal restructurings and divestitures that resulted in the spinoff of Old DuPont to its newly formed parent, Corteva. In the end, New DuPont and Corteva assumed Old DuPont's liabilities related to, among other things, its use and manufacture of PFAS chemicals, and are directly liable for Old DuPont's conduct at issue in this case.

75. In greater detail, the restructuring scheme was implemented as follows.

i. Step 1: The Chemours Spinoff

76. The first step in Old DuPont's scheme was to create Chemours as a wholly owned subsidiary and transfer its performance chemicals business, which included Teflon® and other products associated with Old DuPont's historic use of PFOA ("Performance Chemicals Business") to Chemours. Then, on July 1, 2015, Old DuPont spun off Chemours as a separate public entity and saddled Chemours with Old DuPont's massive legacy liabilities (the "Chemours Spinoff").

77. To effectuate the Chemours Spinoff, Old DuPont and Chemours entered into a

June 26, 2015 Separation Agreement (the "Chemours Separation Agreement").

78. Pursuant to the Chemours Separation Agreement, Old DuPont agreed to transfer to

Chemours all businesses and assets related to the Performance Chemicals Business, including 37

active chemical plants.

79. Chemours, in turn, broadly assumed Old DuPont's massive liabilities relating to

Old DuPont's Performance Chemicals Business and other unrelated business lines, set forth in

detail in the nonpublic schedules and exhibits to the Chemours Separation Agreement.

80. Specifically, the Chemours Separation Agreement requires Chemours to

indemnify Old DuPont against, and assume for itself, all "Chemours Liabilities," which are

defined broadly to include, among other things, "any and all Liabilities relating . . . primarily to,

arising primarily out of or resulting primarily from, the operation or conduct of the Chemours

Business, as conducted at any time prior to, at or after the Effective Date," which includes Old

DuPont's historic liabilities relating to and arising from its marketing and operation of the

Performance Chemicals Business, such as its liabilities arising from PFAS.

81. In addition to requiring Chemours to assume billions of dollars of Old DuPont's

PFAS liabilities, the Chemours Separation Agreement includes an indemnification of Old DuPont

in connection with those liabilities, which is uncapped and does not have a survival period.

82. Notwithstanding the billions of dollars in PFAS liabilities that Chemours would

face, on July 1, 2015, Old DuPont caused Chemours to transfer to Old DuPont approximately

\$3.4 billion as a cash dividend, along with a "distribution in kind" of promissory notes with an

aggregate principal amount of \$507 million. In total, Old DuPont extracted approximately \$3.9

billion from Chemours.

83. Old DuPont required Chemours to fund these distributions through financing transactions, including senior secured term loans and senior unsecured notes totaling approximately \$3.995 billion, on May 12, 2015.

84. Old DuPont, however, transferred only \$4.1 billion in net assets to Chemours. At the end of 2015, Chemours reported a total net worth of just \$130 million. But Chemours's estimated liabilities—which at the time totaled \$6.168 billion—vastly underestimated the true value of its liabilities, including the PFAS liabilities it had assumed from Old DuPont, which Chemours knew or should have known would cost it billions of dollars.

85. In fact, Old DuPont spun off Chemours into a state of insolvency. Indeed, Old DuPont left Chemours so undercapitalized that in May 2019, Chemours sued Old DuPont, New DuPont, and Corteva in Delaware Chancery Court. *See The Chemours Company v. DowDuPont, et al.*, C.A. No. 2019-0351 (Del. Ch. Ct., filed May 13, 2019). Chemours alleged, among other things, that if (i) the full value of Old DuPont's potential PFAS liabilities was properly estimated and (ii) Chemours were required to satisfy all the potential liabilities DuPont transferred to it, then Chemours would have been insolvent at the time it was spun off from Old DuPont.

ii. Step 2: The Old Dow/Old DuPont "Merger"

86. After the Chemours Spinoff, Old DuPont took the untenable position that it was somehow no longer responsible for the widespread PFAS liabilities that it had accrued over several decades. Of course, Old DuPont could not contractually discharge all of its historical liabilities through the Chemours Spinoff, and Old DuPont remained liable for the liabilities it had caused and Chemours had assumed.

87. Old DuPont knew that it could not escape liability and would still face exposure

for PFAS liabilities, including for potentially massive penalties and punitive damages. So Old

DuPont moved to the next phase of its restructuring scheme.

88. On December 11, 2015, less than six months after the Chemours Spinoff, Old

DuPont and Old Dow announced that their respective boards had approved an agreement "under

which the companies [would] combine in an all-stock merger of equals" and that the combined

company would be named DowDuPont, Inc. (the "DowDuPont Merger"). The companies

disclosed that they intended to subsequently separate the combined companies' businesses into

three publicly traded companies through further spinoffs, each of which would occur 18 to 24

months following the closing of the merger.

89. To effectuate the transaction, Old DuPont and Old Dow entered into an

Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "DowDuPont Merger Agreement") that provided for the

formation of a new holding company renamed first as DowDuPont and then renamed again as

DuPont de Nemours, Inc. (i.e., New DuPont), of which Old DuPont and Old Dow became wholly

owned subsidiaries.

90. Although Old DuPont and Old Dow referred to the transaction as a "merger of

equals," the two companies did not actually merge at all, likely because doing so would have

infected Old Dow with all of Old DuPont's historical PFAS liabilities. Rather, Old DuPont and

Old Dow became affiliated sister companies that were each owned by the newly formed

DowDuPont. DowDuPont was aware of Old DuPont's historical PFAS liabilities.

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iii. Step 3: The Shuffling, Reorganization, and Transfer of Valuable Assets Away from Old DuPont and Separation of Corteva and New Dow

- 91. Following the DowDuPont Merger, DowDuPont underwent a significant internal reorganization and engaged in numerous business segment and product line "realignments" and "divestitures." The net effect of these transactions has been the transfer, either directly or indirectly, of a substantial portion of Old DuPont's assets out of the company, frustrating Old DuPont's creditors, including with respect to its substantial PFAS liabilities.
- 92. Old DuPont's assets were transferred either directly or indirectly to DowDuPont, which reshuffled the assets and combined them with the assets of Old Dow, and then reorganized the combined assets into three distinct divisions: (i) the "Agriculture Business," (ii) the "Specialty Products Business," and (iii) the "Materials Science Business."
- 93. DowDuPont then incorporated two companies (i) Corteva and (ii) New Dow. In accordance with the merger plan, each of these three companies received one of the three business divisions associated with Old DuPont's and Old Dow's historic assets, and was subsequently separated as an independent, publicly traded company.
- 94. The mechanics of the separations are governed by the April 1, 2019 Separation and Distribution Agreement among Corteva, New Dow, and DowDuPont (the "DowDuPont Separation Agreement") and a subsequent June 1, 2019 Letter Agreement between Corteva and DowDuPont (the "Letter Agreement").
- 95. The DowDuPont Separation Agreement allocated the assets and liabilities primarily related to the respective business divisions between the three companies: DowDuPont retained the assets and liabilities associated with the Specialty Products Business and several "non-core" business segments and product lines that once belonged to Old DuPont; Corteva State of Texas v. 3M Company, et al. Page 39 of 45

received the assets and liabilities associated with the Agriculture Business; and New Dow

received the assets and liabilities associated with the Materials Science Business.

96. DowDuPont also "contributed" Old DuPont to Corteva, and Old DuPont remains a

wholly-owned subsidiary of Corteva to this day.

97. Pursuant to the DowDuPont Separation Agreement and Letter Agreement, Corteva

and New DuPont also assumed direct financial liability for legacy liabilities arising from Old

DuPont's historic use of PFOA and other PFAS and its former Performance Chemicals Business,

i.e., the same liabilities that DuPont had caused Chemours to assume in 2015. While New

DuPont and Corteva initially tried to bury the details in nonpublic schedules, New DuPont and

Corteva's express assumption of Old DuPont's historic liabilities has been revealed through other

litigation, and includes all liability associated with PFAS. The State of Texas can therefore bring

claims against New DuPont and Corteva directly for Old DuPont's deceptive marketing of

consumer PFAS-containing brands.

98. The separation of New Dow was completed on or about April 1, 2019, when

DowDuPont distributed all of New Dow's common stock to DowDuPont stockholders as a pro

rata dividend.

99. On June 1, 2019, DowDuPont spun off Corteva as an independent public

company, when DowDuPont distributed all of Corteva's common stock to DowDuPont

stockholders as a pro rata dividend.

100. Also, on or about June 1, 2019, DowDuPont changed its registered name to

DuPont de Nemours, Inc. (i.e., New DuPont).

101. On or about January 1, 2023, Old DuPont changed its registered name to EIDP,

Inc.

102. The net result of these transactions was to strip away valuable tangible assets from Old DuPont—once available to satisfy successful claims brought by potential plaintiffs such as the State of Texas—and transfer those assets to New DuPont and Corteva for far less than the assets are worth.

103. Many details about these transactions were hidden from the public in confidential schedules and exhibits to the DowDuPont Separation Agreement and the Letter Agreement. Old DuPont, New DuPont, and Corteva buried these details in an apparent attempt to hide from creditors, like the State of Texas, where Old DuPont's valuable assets went and the inadequate consideration that Old DuPont received in return. Moreover, neither New DuPont nor Corteva has publicly conceded that they assumed Old DuPont's liabilities arising from its historic use of PFOA and other PFAS. However, certain courts have required New DuPont and Corteva to disclose the nonpublic portions of the restructuring agreements—including the DowDuPont Separation Agreement and Letter Agreement. Under the plain language of those agreements, New DuPont and Corteva contractually assumed Old DuPont's liabilities arising from its historic use of PFOA and other PFAS, and are therefore directly liable for Texas's claims against Old DuPont in this case.

assumed Old DuPont's PFAS liabilities. The North Carolina Supreme Court, for example, held that New DuPont and Corteva expressly assumed Old DuPont's PFAS liabilities pursuant to the DowDuPont Separation Agreement and Letter Agreement. *See State ex rel. Stein v. E. I. Du Pont De Nemours & Co.*, 382 N.C. 549, 563 (N.C. 2022) ("Corteva and New DuPont expressly assumed Old DuPont's PFAS liabilities, including those liabilities arising in North Carolina"). The trial court subsequently entered summary judgment against New DuPont and Corteva on the State of Texas v. 3M Company, et al.

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issue of their contractual assumption of the PFAS liabilities of Old DuPont. *See State ex rel. Stein v. E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.*, No. 20 CVS 5612, 2024 WL 472553, at *6 (N.C. Super. Feb. 7, 2024).

XI. COUNT I: VIOLATIONS OF THE DTPA

- 105. The State of Texas incorporates Paragraphs 1 through 104, as is fully set forth herein.
- 106. Defendants have engaged in false, misleading, or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of trade or commerce, in violation of DTPA § 17.46(a).
- 107. Defendants represented that their goods or services have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits, or quantities which they do not have, in violation of DTPA § 17.46(b)(5).
- 108. Defendants represented that goods or services are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, or that goods are of a particular style or model, when they were another, in violation of DTPA § 17.46(b)(7).
- 109. Defendants failed to disclose information concerning goods or services which was known at the time of the transaction, and such failure to disclose this information was intended to induce the consumer into a transaction into which the consumer would not have entered had the information been disclosed, in violation of DTPA § 17.46(b)(24).
- 110. New DuPont and Corteva agreed to assume Old DuPont's liabilities described above.¹

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¹ Note that this transaction is being challenged as a fraudulent transfer in numerous actions across the country, for example in *The State of Texas v. 3M Company, et al.*, Case No. 2:23-cv-04294.

XII. PRAYER

- 111. WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the State of Texas prays that Defendants be cited according to the law to appear and answer herein; that after due notice and hearing, a TEMPORARY INJUNCTION be issued; and that after due notice and trial, a PERMANENT INJUNCTION be issued. The State of Texas prays that the Court will issue an ORDER enjoining Defendants, their officers, agents, servants, employees, and any other persons in active concert or participation with Defendants from the following:
 - A. Misrepresenting the safety or human health risks of chemicals sold by you;
 - B. Failing to clearly and conspicuously disclose human health risks with products sold by you;
 - C. Selling or offering for sale any goods which contain PFAS chemicals known by you to create health and safety concerns to users of those goods;
 - D. Causing goods in the stream of commerce to include any PFAS chemicals which are known by you to create health and safety concerns to the users of those goods; and
 - E. Advertising or marketing any goods using the direct or implied representation that goods are safe for household or consumer use, if such goods are known by you to include chemicals that create health risks to the users of those goods.
 - 112. Plaintiff further requests that this Court award money damages.
 - 113. Plaintiff further requests that Defendants be ordered to pay to the State of Texas:
 - A. Civil penalties of up to \$10,000.00 per violation of the DTPA;
 - B. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on all awards of restitution, damages, or civil penalties, as provided by law;
 - C. All costs of Court, costs of investigation, and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to Texas Government Code § 402.006(c); and
 - D. Decree that all of Defendants' fines, penalties or forfeitures are not dischargeable in bankruptcy. *See* 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(7).

114. Plaintiff prays for all further relief, at law or inequity, to which it is justly entitled.

Dated: December 11, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

BRENT WEBSTER

FIRST ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

RALPH MOLINA

DEPUTY FIRST ASSISTANT ATTORNEY
GENERAL

JAMES LLOYD

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR CIVIL LITIGATION

/s/ Jennifer Roscetti

JONATHAN STONE

CHIEF, CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION

Jennifer Roscetti

State Bar No. 24066685

Kelley Owens

State Bar No. 24118105 Assistant Attorneys General <u>Jennifer.roscetti@oag.texas.gov</u> <u>Kelley.owens@oag.texas.gov</u>

OFFICE OF THE TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL Consumer Protection Division

P.O. Box 12548, MC-010 Austin, Texas 78711-2548

Tel: (512) 463-2185 Fax: (512) 473-8301 /s/ Katie B. Hobson

KELLIE E. BILLINGS-RAY

CHIEF, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Katie B. Hobson

State Bar No. 24082680

Brittany E. Wright

State Bar No. 24130011

Jake Marx

State Bar No. 24087989

Assistant Attorneys General

Katie.hobson@oag.texas.gov

Brittany.wright@oag.texas.gov

Jake.marx@oag.texas.gov

OFFICE OF THE TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL

Environmental Protection Division

P.O. Box 12548, MC-066

Austin, Texas 78711-2548

Tel: (512) 463-2012

Fax: (512) 320-0911

/s/ Bill Jackson

WILLIAM J. JACKSON JENNIFER C. BARKS LAUREN H. SHAH MARIA F. PIMIENTA KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP

515 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 900

Houston, Texas 77027
Tel: (713) 355-5000
Fax: (713) 355-5001
bjackson@kelleydrye.com
jbarks@kelleydrye.com
lshah@kelleydrye.com
mpimienta@kelleydrye.com

DAVID I. ZALMAN*
GLENN T. GRAHAM*
ELIZABETH N. KRASNOW*
KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP

3 World Trade Center 175 Greenwich Street New York, New York 10007

Tel: (212) 808-7800 Fax: (212) 808-7897 dzalman@kelleydrye.com ggraham@kelleydrye.com ekrasnow@kelleydrye.com Mark Lanier Alex Brown

THE LANIER LAW FIRM, P.C.

10940 W. Sam Houston Pkwy N., Suite 100

Houston, Texas 77054 Tel: (713) 659-5200 Fax: (713) 659-2204

mark.lanier@lanierlawfirm.com alex.brown@lanierlawfirm.com

ATTORNEYS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

^{*}Pro Hac Vice forthcoming