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PFCS IN SURFACE AND DRINKING WATER

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ABSTRACT

The growing environmental concern of Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) derivatives and related substances is due to the fact that these potential harmful compounds now are global environmental pollutants distributed in air, water, soils and biota, including in polar bears living in remote arctic areas. In addition, in many countries PFOS, PFOA and other related substances have been observed in human blood samples of the general population. The reasons for this widespread occurrence seem to be that perfluorinated substances are increasingly used and are environmentally persistent and bioaccumulative. Due to this PFOS, PFOA are potentially toxic to humans and animals. A range of polyfluorinated substances are used in numerous industrial products and consumer products because of their special chemical properties, for instance the ability to repel both water and oils.

A study of contamination of PFCs in surface water and drinking water in several countries from the available literature has been done in this review paper.

KEYWORDS- PFOS, PFOA, biota, toxic effects

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