



Statement of Honeywell International Inc.

Before the:

**Senate Standing Committee on Health
Senate Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation
Assembly Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation
Assembly Standing Committee on Health**

**Public Hearing: Water Quality and Contamination
September 7, 2016**

Honeywell, a global manufacturing and technology company, is committed to responsibly addressing environmental remediation issues arising out of past operations, mostly of businesses closed or sold years ago. Using world-class science, design, and engineering to protect human health and the environment, we act with responsible remediation, practical solutions, and sophisticated technological capabilities. We have worked with communities to implement new uses for our legacy sites. Our work has been recognized by governments and leading non-profit organizations.

Honeywell is committed to continuing to work with the Hoosick Falls community, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the New York State Department of Health (DOH), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics to:

1. provide effective treatment systems that remove perfluorooctanoic (PFOA) from the water supply;
2. conduct appropriate environmental investigations; and
3. address environmental conditions in and around Hoosick Falls related to the former operations of AlliedSignal Laminate Systems Inc.

As the Committee is aware, numerous private lawsuits have been filed against Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics and Honeywell International Inc. In light of the complications resulting from being the subject of numerous lawsuits, Honeywell respectfully requests that this Joint Committee accept this written statement.

In 1986, AlliedSignal Laminate Systems bought an existing coatings business in Hoosick Falls that used perfluorinated compounds. AlliedSignal Laminate operated for approximately 10 years until it sold the coatings business in 1996. During that time, the company purchased materials containing PFOA and used them as ingredients or raw materials in various production processes. AlliedSignal Laminate was affiliated with AlliedSignal, which is now known as Honeywell.

After selling the business in 1996, standard environmental site investigations were conducted, including soil and groundwater sampling. At that time, PFOA was not a regulated substance, and testing for it was not required. For several of the former facilities, the DEC issued “No Further Action” letters based on the results of these investigations.

In late 2015, Honeywell learned of the discovery of PFOA in the Village of Hoosick Falls’ public water supply. At that time, we learned that Saint-Gobain was supplying bottled water to residents and working to install upgrades to the drinking water treatment system. Government officials were sampling for PFOA and communicating with residents. To better understand the situation, we met with Saint-Gobain and opened a dialogue with the DOH, the DEC, and the Healthy Hoosick Water group.

Honeywell voluntarily reached out to the DOH offering our assistance, cooperation and support. We continued to meet with agency officials to offer support for the State’s program to test private wells in the area surrounding the Village and to install treatment where necessary. Honeywell has continued to work with Saint-Gobain to fund PFOA treatment for the Village’s water treatment system.

In June 2016, Honeywell voluntarily entered into two Consent Orders with the DEC related to PFOA issues in Hoosick Falls.

- Under one Consent Order, Honeywell is conducting environmental investigations on and around two properties located on John Street and River Road where PFOA may have been used during former manufacturing activities.
 - We have been in the field collecting soil and groundwater samples in and around these properties in recent weeks.

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- Prior to beginning work, we outlined the program for the Mayor and the Supervisor. We also walked door-to-door to properties where we need to conduct sampling to explain the program and get access agreements.
- We expect to get the complete initial rounds of sampling data back this fall. We will share our results with the DEC and the community.
- Under a second Consent Order, Honeywell is cooperating with, and sharing funding for, Saint-Gobain's environmental investigations of the McCaffrey and Liberty Street plants. Like the investigations at River Road and John Street, these investigations are going on right now.
- Both companies also are sharing costs for the bottled water program and for upgrading the existing water treatment system to full capacity.
- Under the Consent Orders, Honeywell and Saint-Gobain also will reimburse the State for:
 - water sampling of private wells, the Hoosick River, and the Bus Garage on River Road;
 - soil sampling conducted by the State, and;
 - various administrative and other costs.
- Together with Saint-Gobain, we are conducting an evaluation of long-term water supply options for area residents in cooperation with the State agencies. When it is complete, we will share the results with the DEC and the community.

We understand that the DOH has concluded that the Village's water treatment system has been effective. In addition, for those residents who obtain water from private wells rather than the Village water supply, individual treatment filters (POETs) are effective for removing PFOA from a water supply.

Honeywell is committed to continuing to work with State, Local, and Federal officials as well as Saint-Gobain and the community to make sure that the Village water treatment system continues to treat the water effectively for PFOA and to



ensure that these systems are available and maintained for residents where appropriate.

Honeywell is committed to conducting a thorough investigation into environmental conditions at former AlliedSignal Laminate manufacturing facilities in Hoosick Falls and to cleaning them up as appropriate. Since we learned of PFOA in the Hoosick Falls' water supply our team of experts, who have extensive experience in the field of environmental investigation and remediation, has been focused daily on this work.

We would like to thank the New York State Senate and Assembly for their focus on drinking water in New York State; the Federal, State, and Local officials for their dedication and work; and the community for its advocacy and commitment in responding to water quality issues.

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