

F Gas review – the view from GB

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27th September 2023



Current situation - GB

- No apparent appetite for GB to diverge in any major way from EU position.
 - Mandatory training on flammable refrigerants might be an option in GB.
- UK consultation should be issued by year end.
- Planned implementation remains January 2025.
- FETA is working on a lobbying campaign with UK MPs, committees, etc.
- Vital to communicate to our members, and their customers.

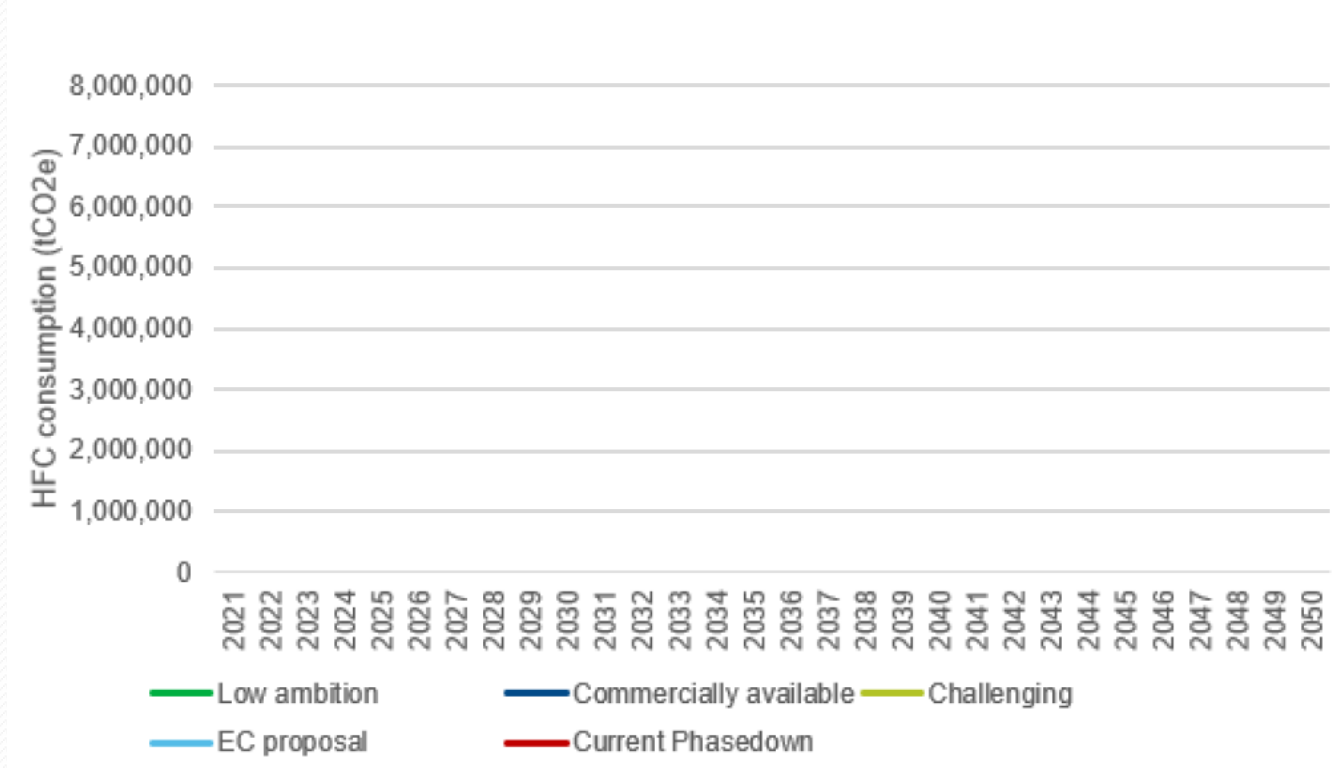
Likely GB process

- Consultation Dec 23 – Feb 24
- Legislation to be finalized by DEFRA – April -June 2024
- Legislation laid before Parliament – June 2024
- Implementation of Primary legislation for F-Gas Regulation - January 2025
- January 2025 onwards - Roll out of Secondary legislation
- General election should not impact on this.

WHERE ARE WE TODAY? – GB F-

GAS REGULATION PHASEDOWN REVIEW

Figure 5: HFC consumption against the current HFC phasedown (set out in the F gas Regulation)



So what does this mean for retailers?

- Review your refrigerant bank NOW.
- Reduce leakage and ensure reclamation of refrigerant at end of life.
- R404A is – or should be – dead. Only option will be reclaimed product.
- R407A/F – don't use these as GWP means they will become scarce and expensive.
- R448A/R449A – avoid if possible. The quota will also impact on their price and availability in the future.
- Look for the lowest GWP refrigerant that is energy efficient and can be safely used in the relevant application.

What are the options

- Low GWP A2L fluorocarbon options are available. These will generally have low flammability, but this can be managed.
- Non fluorinated refrigerants
 - CO₂ – widely used in retail sector, and equipment now available for smaller systems.
 - Hydrocarbons – product of choice for integral systems. Safety must be carefully managed, and charge size limits may apply under safety standards.
 - Ammonia – more applicable in food storage and processing applications.

PFAS in GB

- HSE and EA are responsible for managing this process.
- GB has made it clear that it will deal with PFAS by their risk and impact, rather than a blanket ban.
- Likely that HFOs and HFCs will be of lesser concern.
- Much disinformation about impact of HFO/HFC via their decomposition product TFA.
- BUT remember that other PFAS are used in refrigeration systems, particularly fluoropolymers in seals, gaskets, insulation, etc

Ecodesign in GB

- No information from HMG on any GB Ecodesign regulation so far.
- There has been a major issue regarding UK CA and CE marking.
- Currently GB companies will be able to use CE mark on most products indefinitely.



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