

Testimony of Daryl Roberts
Chief Operations and Engineering Officer, DuPont de Nemours, Inc.
Hearing before the House Oversight and Reform Committee
Subcommittee on Environment
September 10, 2019

Thank you Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee. My name is Daryl Roberts, and I am the Chief Operations and Engineering Officer for DuPont. I attended Howard University on an ROTC scholarship and earned a degree in chemical engineering. I served as a commissioned Army reserve officer for 8 years, during which time I started my career at Eastman Kodak and earned a Masters in Occupational Health and Safety from the University of Rochester and an MBA from the Rochester Institute of Technology. I then worked in health and safety roles in senior leadership at Arkema, a diversified chemicals company. Just over a year ago, I joined DuPont because I was—and I still am—excited about the opportunity to work for a mission-driven company that is focused on making the planet a better place for my daughters’ generation and beyond.

The new DuPont appreciates this opportunity to address the Subcommittee’s questions about PFAS. We’re pleased to be here today to endorse specific legislative proposals and Congressional efforts to protect public health and the environment.

Let me first explain why I refer to my company as the “new DuPont.” As shown in the appendix to my testimony, E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company—which historically was known as “DuPont”—has evolved and transformed throughout the course of its history, often adding or removing business lines. For example, in 2004, the fibers business became a separate company called Invista, and in 2013, the coatings business became a separate company called Axalta. In 2015, the performance chemicals business became a separate company called Chemours. Chemours took the fluoroproducts technologies, operations, sites, customers, technical expertise and executive leadership. Most recently, historical DuPont merged with The Dow Chemical Company and then split into three separate, independent companies: Dow, Corteva, and the new DuPont, which I represent.

The new DuPont is a specialty products company dedicated to solving some of the world’s most important and pressing challenges, including those identified in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. For example:

- One in nine people in the world today are undernourished, and we waste about one third of all food—so we have developed technologies to increase the shelf life of food products and probiotics to make food more nourishing;
- About a quarter of all greenhouse gas emissions come from the transportation sector—so we have developed technologies to improve motors and batteries in

electric vehicles and to replace heavy metal automotive parts with lightweight, high-performance transportation resins; and

- We can all agree that our first responders, who put their lives on the line every day to keep our communities safe, deserve the very best protective equipment—so we continue to make best-in-class performance fibers like Nomex® for flame-resistant materials for firefighters and Kevlar® for body armor for police.

We do all of this and more by employing more than 14,000 American workers across 28 states.

The focus of today's hearing is PFAS. The new DuPont does not manufacture PFAS. Like many other companies today, we use some PFAS materials. However, our use is extremely limited. Nevertheless, we recognize these are important issues, and that's why we support legislative proposals addressing PFAS. These are:

- Requiring EPA to set a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act within two years;
- Requiring Toxic Release Inventory reporting on certain PFAS, including PFOA and PFOS;
- Requiring EPA to set pretreatment and effluent standards for PFAS under the Clean Water Act by 2022; and
- Requiring EPA to list PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances under CERCLA within one year.

We encourage Congress to take swift action to enact these proposals, which are under consideration as part of the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act.

While Congress considers this legislation, we're moving forward with our own commitments. I want to highlight some of those today. As this Subcommittee importantly recognized during its hearing in March, the vast majority of PFAS contamination in the United States is caused by the discharge of firefighting foams containing PFOS. We do not manufacture or sell firefighting foams. However, like countless other companies, we purchase firefighting foams for protection at our facilities. We are committed to ending all use of PFAS firefighting foams at our facilities by the end of 2021.

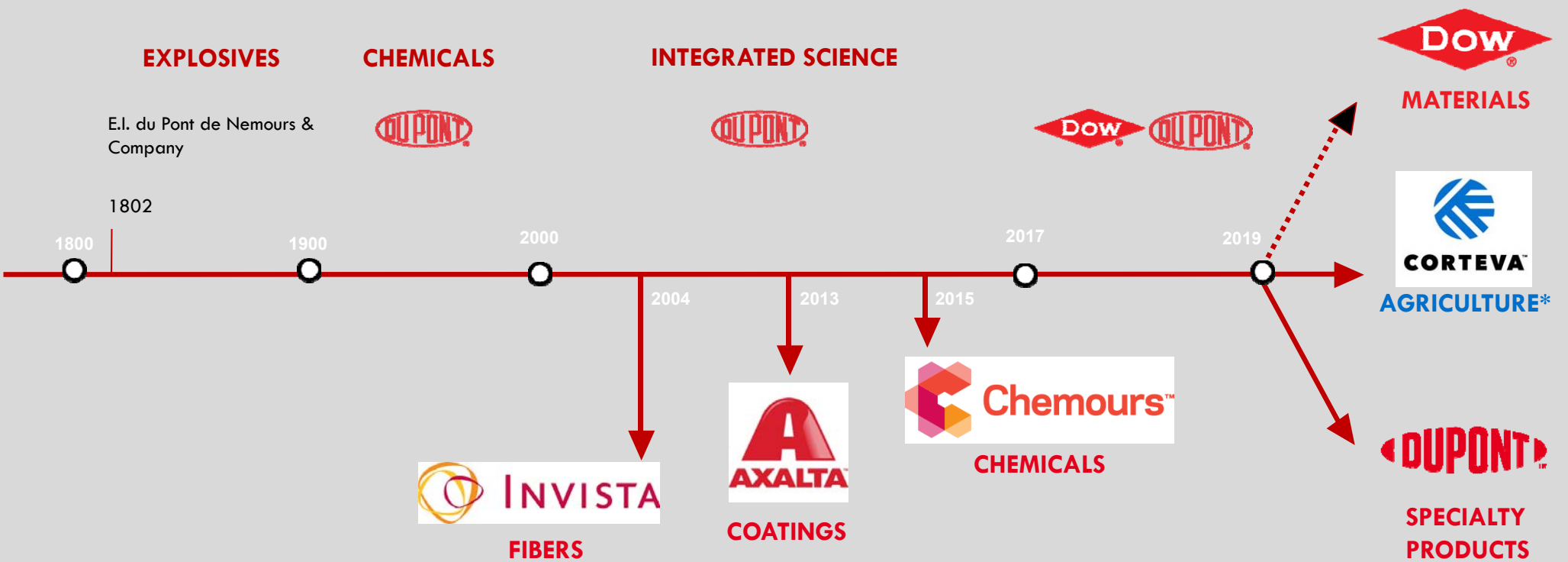
We have also reaffirmed our commitment to not make, buy, or use long-chain PFAS materials. Consistent with that, we will eliminate, by the end of this year, our limited use of long-chain PFAS in recently integrated operations, which is the only instance where we use it today.

Beginning next year, we will provide free access to our product stewardship software. We will also grant royalty-free licenses to others that want to pursue PFAS remediation using our PFAS water treatment resin technologies. And finally, we will fund grants to universities and other research institutes for new, innovative PFAS remediation technologies.

And we are continuing to fulfill our remediation responsibilities at three sites owned by new DuPont where a PFAS footprint has been found.

We look forward to today's hearing about how we can work together to further our shared goals of sustainability, innovation, and responsible product stewardship.

DUPONT'S HISTORY



*Corteva retains the E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company legal entity