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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2026/2520

of 13 November 2026

authorising an exemption pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2024/573 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the use of fluorinated greenhouse gases in certain commercial laundry equipment with heat pumps

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2024/573 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 February 2024 on fluorinated greenhouse gases, amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 ([1]), and in particular Article 11(5) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) As from 1 January 2027, points 8(b) and 8(d) of Annex IV to Regulation (EU) 2024/573 prohibit the placing on the market of stationary self-contained heat pumps with the rated capacities specified therein that contain fluorinated greenhouse gases with a global warming potential of 150 or more, except where required to meet safety requirements at the site of operation.

(2) Pursuant to Article 11(5) of Regulation (EU) 2024/573, on 25 June 2026, the Swedish competent authority submitted a request to the Commission to authorise an exemption allowing the placing on the market of certain commercial tumble dryers containing stationary heat pumps that fall within the scope of points 8(b) and 8(d) of Annex IV to that Regulation. The request was supported also by the Czech Republic.

(3) Pursuant to Article 11(5) of Regulation (EU) 2024/573, on 8 July 2026, the German competent authority submitted a request to the Commission supporting the scope of the Swedish exemption request and requesting, in addition, to authorise an exemption allowing the placing on the market of certain commercial clothes washer-dryers equipped with heat pump modules that fall within the scope of points 8(b) and 8(d) of Annex IV to that Regulation.

(4) The commercial tumble dryers covered by the Swedish exemption request are designed for extra-long durability and continuous operation throughout the day and are used in time-sensitive laundry operations, including hospitals, hotels, care institutions and coin-operated laundrettes, where operational efficiency and reliability are essential. The German exemption request concerns commercial clothes washer-dryers equipped with heat pump modules, designed for commercial applications and that have a capacity of between 15 kg and 40 kg.

(5) According to the Swedish exemption request and the German exemption request ('the exemption requests'), at the time of submission of those requests, there were no suitable alternatives for the categories of equipment covered by the exemption requests that would comply with Regulation (EU) 2024/573. Although research and development is ongoing, further time is needed to develop, test and deploy technically feasible and safe alternatives while ensuring continued compliance with the applicable safety standards.

([1]) OJ L 2024/573, 20.2.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/573/oj.

(6) The Swedish exemption request further indicates that in the case of commercial tumble dryers containing heat pumps with a maximum rated capacity of up to and including 10 kW, alternatives are available for certain light-duty applications. However, at the time of submission of the exemption requests, no suitable alternatives were available for commercial tumble dryers designed for extra-long durability requiring continuous operation throughout the day and drying cycles not exceeding one hour. In the case of commercial tumble dryers containing heat pumps with a maximum rated capacity exceeding 10 kW, and commercial clothes washer-dryers equipped with heat pump modules also of a maximum rated capacity exceeding 10 kW, the available evidence demonstrates that suitable alternatives are not yet technically mature or cannot yet be deployed safely under the applicable safety standards.

(7) The Commission has assessed the exemption requests and considers that the conditions laid down in Article 11(5), point (a), of Regulation (EU) 2024/573 are fulfilled.

(8) Under such exceptional circumstances, it is appropriate to grant a time-limited exemption for (i) commercial tumble dryers containing heat pumps with a maximum rated capacity of up to and including 10 kW until 31 December 2028; and (ii) commercial tumble dryers containing heat pumps with a maximum rated capacity exceeding 10 kW, and commercial clothes washer-dryers equipped with heat pump modules until 31 December 2030.

(9) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee on fluorinated greenhouse gases,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. By way of derogation from point 8(b) of Annex IV to Regulation (EU) 2024/573, the placing on the market of the following equipment containing fluorinated greenhouse gases with a global warming potential ('GWP') of 150 or more is authorised, provided that they are labelled pursuant to Article 12(2) of that Regulation:

(a) commercial (heat pump) tumble dryers containing stationary self-contained heat pumps with a maximum rated capacity of up to and including 10 kW, where the equipment is designed for continuous operation throughout the entire day and has a drying time not exceeding one hour, until 31 December 2028;

(b) commercial (heat pump) tumble dryers containing stationary self-contained heat pumps with a maximum rated capacity of more than 10 kW but not exceeding 12 kW, until 31 December 2030.

2. By way of derogation from point 8(b) of Annex IV to Regulation (EU) 2024/573, the placing on the market of commercial clothes washer-dryers equipped with stationary self-contained heat pumps with a maximum rated capacity of more than 10 kW but not exceeding 12 kW and having a laundry capacity of 15 kg to 40 kg , containing fluorinated greenhouse gases with a GWP of 150 or more, is authorised until 31 December 2030, provided that they are labelled pursuant to Article 12(2) of that Regulation.

3. By way of derogation from point 8(d) of Annex IV to Regulation (EU) 2024/573, the placing on the market of the following equipment that contains fluorinated greenhouse gases with a GWP of 150 or more is authorised until 31 December 2030:

(a) commercial heat pump tumble dryers containing stationary self-contained heat pumps with a maximum rated capacity of more than 12 kW but not exceeding 50 kW;

(b) commercial clothes washer-dryers equipped with stationary self-contained heat pumps with a maximum rated capacity of more than 12 kW but not exceeding 50 kW and having a laundry capacity of 15 kg to 40 kg.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2027.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 13 November 2026.

For the Commission
The President
Ursula VON DER LEYEN