

Mr Tipene Wilson,
Chairperson,
Decision Making Committee,
Environmental Protection Authority.

By email: Reassessments@epa.govt.nz

cc. [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Wilson,

Application APP203660: Modified Reassessment of Methyl Bromide

I refer to the Direction and Minute WGT011 of the DMC (31 March 2020) and the Joint Statement of Experts in the Field of Air Dispersion Modelling (19 March 2020).

Issue 1 of the Joint Statement of Experts states that a 2018-2019 CALMET data set is necessary “for robust model validation”. It further states the experts agree that “the Bay of Plenty Regional Council is well placed to undertake this work” given similar work Council has previously carried out.

The subsequent ‘Direction and Minute’ issued by the DMC addresses this and directs that:

“9.a. Pursuant to section 58 of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act (“the Act”), the DMC requests that the Bay of Plenty Regional Council supplies meteorological data and for Atmospheric Science Global to convert this into a CALMET data set.”

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council is very supportive of the reassessment process that the EPA is undertaking and is able to provide the Council meteorological data by 17 April 2020. Any additional third party meteorological data required for the development of this CALMET data set, such as from MetService and NIWA, we suggest is best sourced directly from these companies by the nominated experts due to potential contractual and ownership arrangements.

It is not clear from the issued ‘Direction and Minute’ who will meet Atmospheric Science Global’s costs of preparing the meteorological data and converting these into a CALMET data set. Preliminary indications are that the cost for this may exceed \$30,000. This cost is not insignificant to our organisation and clarification of where the responsibility lies to meet these costs is sought.

Don’t hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this.

Yours sincerely,



Sam Weiss
Senior Regulatory Project Officer