

DIRECTION & MINUTE OF THE DECISION-MAKING COMMITTEE

Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 (“HSNO Act”)

Application APP203660: modified reassessment of methyl bromide

Direction & Minute WGT006 of the Decision-making Committee (DMC) – 28 January 2020

Scope of expert conferencing

1. On 24 January 2020 the DMC was informed that the applicant had issued a memorandum requesting additions to the agenda for expert conferencing due to occur on 30 January 2020.
2. The three additional points the applicant requested to be added to the agenda relate to validation of the modelling, and are:
 - a. What reliance can/should be placed on the measured data available to date, for the purposes of assessing models;
 - b. What methodology is appropriate for any future measurements intended to facilitate model validation;, and
 - c. Any additional guidance on how validation of modelling should take place with reference to measured data.
3. The DMC considered the request, and in relation to the additional points requested by the applicant notes the following:
 - a. The measured data from monitoring being undertaken by WorkSafe NZ has not yet been made available to the EPA, nor have the parameters for these measurements, so it would be difficult to assess point (a) at the point of conferencing.
 - b. Monitoring currently being undertaken is likely to be completed shortly after expert conferencing, such that no change to the methodology will be realised for this set of monitoring. Furthermore, the DMC notes that the monitoring is being undertaken by agencies other than the EPA.
4. Notwithstanding the above points, the DMC considers that validation of modelling is an important part of considering the risks regarding methyl bromide use. Therefore, the DMC consider that a discussion on the validation of modelling should be incorporated to the agenda for expert conferencing.

Directions

5. The DMC directs the following:
 - a. The scope of expert conferencing, as set out at paragraph 9 of WGT002, is amended to include validation of modelling. (A full agenda incorporating the agenda outlined in WGT002 and points added by this Direction and Minute is included as an appendix.)
 - b. The process for expert conferencing as outlined in direction 11b of WGT003 remains unchanged.
6. The DMC will continue to issue Directions and Minutes as necessary to advise parties to the process of further communications or procedural matters.

For the Decision-making Committee:



Tipene Wilson

Chairperson

Date 27 January 2020

Appendix: full amended agenda for expert conferencing for 30 January 2020.

1. The scope of the expert conferencing shall be limited to the air dispersion modelling. The expert conferencing shall seek to resolve the technical issues identified in the TAS review in the following areas:
 - a. Modelling approach
 - i. Model choice
 - ii. Modelled scenarios,
 - b. Meteorological data utilised
 - c. Modelling sources and emissions
 - i. Sources modelled
 - ii. Emissions modelled
 - iii. Fumigation phase
 - iv. Ventilation phase
 - d. Scaling factor(s)
 - e. Project area and modelled receptors
 - f. Predicted impacts reporting
 - g. Validation of the modelling