

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 WGT011 of the Decision-making Committee (DMC) – 31 March 2020

Expert conferencing 19 March 2020

1. On 19 March 2020 a second round of expert conferencing was undertaken by four nominated experts at the direction of the DMC.
2. The joint statement summarised the outcomes of conferencing, and where each participant agreed or didn't agree on each of these outcomes. This witness statement is attached to this minute as an appendix and is available on the EPA website.
3. Although the experts were able to agree or reach a conclusion on the majority of parameters and discussion points regarding further air dispersion modelling, the joint witness statement notes that there was some further information that still needs to be collated and shared with all of the experts.
4. The DMC acknowledges the content of the joint statement and thanks the experts for their contributions thus far.
5. The DMC acknowledges that some additional information is required for meteorological data, current recovery operations, and correlation of mass rates, dose rates, and volumes for the additional modelling to take place, and that the experts have identified who could best provide that information.

Follow-up to WGT010

6. The DMC acknowledges the EPA for providing its advice on options available to the DMC in response to the jurisdictional question raised in the 9th Memorandum of Counsel, and notes that this is now available on the EPA's website.
7. Following receipt of the 10th Memorandum of Counsel on 27 March 2020, the DMC considers this matter resolved for the time being.

Impacts of COVID-19

8. The DMC appreciates that the current COVID-19 pandemic may be affecting the way people work (both domestically and internationally), and the ability to respond to current and previous directions. The DMC therefore asks for those parties to provide an update on the timescales within which work they have been asked to complete can be delivered.

Directions

9. The DMC directs the following.
- 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 for 2017 to 2019 and for Atmospheric Science Global to convert this into a CALMET data set.
 - Pursuant to s58 of the Act, the DMC asks Genera to confirm how many (as a number and percentage) log stacks fumigated with methyl bromide had recapture technology deployed on them in 2019-2020, and to provide an indication of their capacity to deploy log stack recapture technology at each of the ports in New Zealand in which they operate.
 - Pursuant to s58 of the Act, the DMC asks Genera and Golder to work together to provide table(s) based on Genera’s data detailing the relationship between application rate (g/m^3), recovery (%), dose (kg) and mass emission rate (kg/time) and log pile volume (m^3). These table(s) should be similar in layout to Table 3-4 of the Todoroski Air Sciences Report dated November 4th 2019 produced for the New Zealand EPA.
 - Each party subject to a direction in points (a) to (c) above (inclusive), are to confirm by **Friday 10 April 2020** whether they can deliver the information requested and the date that that information can be provided by.
 - The applicant is requested to confirm, by **Friday 10 April 2020**, an updated delivery date for the additional air dispersion modelling and associated report given the Joint Witness Statement of the second round of expert conferencing and the impacts of COVID-19.
10. 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 31 March 2020