

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 WGT031 of the Decision-making Committee (DMC) – 8 March 2021

Background

1. The hearing for the modified reassessment of methyl bromide was held between 11 and 17 August 2020, in which the DMC heard from the applicant, EPA, submitters, and the associated witnesses nominated by those parties.
2. On 17 August 2020, the DMC adjourned the hearing to consider all of the evidence before it, including the information provided at the hearing.
3. Following the adjournment, the DMC requested Todoroski Air Sciences (TAS) to undertake additional air dispersion modelling to inform their deliberations (in Directions and Minutes WGT023 and WGT024).
4. The DMC directed parties to the reassessment to provide feedback on this modelling in WGT027, with the deadline extended upon request to 29 January 2021, in WGT028 and WGT029.

New modelling

5. The feedback received from the applicant, as attachments to the 25th Memorandum of Counsel, included new air dispersion modelling by Sullivan Environmental Consultants (SEC) and Golder Associates (New Zealand) Limited (“Golder”).
6. The DMC request that the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) provide a summary of the new modelling reports from TAS, SEC and Golder, with an indication of how these reports could affect any potential buffer zones related to methyl bromide.

Updated monitoring

7. The DMC are aware that WorkSafe New Zealand (“WorkSafe”) have continued the monitoring programme they presented at the hearing, and that a resulting modelling and monitoring report on behalf of WorkSafe is due shortly.

Directions

8. The DMC directs the following:
 - a. The EPA is to provide a summary of the latest air dispersion modelling by TAS, SEC and Golder, indicating how these reports could affect any potential buffer zones related to methyl bromide.
9. 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

8 March 2021

Date