

To EPA:

In response to the request for a waiver to the recapture deadline pursuant to Section 59 of the HSNO Act, and invitation for comments from submitters. It is first noted that the 10 working days for response during Covid 19 has not been sufficient time to address matters as TMFAG would like, and it seeks a hearing on the matter.

Tauranga Moana Fumigant Action Group, (TMFAG), comments are as follows:

TMFAG are an incorporated society made up of people from Tauranga and wider Bay of Plenty Community, Unions, Iwi, and workers that live work and reside in and around the Port of Tauranga and the wider Bay of Plenty region. Our driving principle is derived from our statement "Kia hiwa nga tuku", vigilant on all sides.

TMFAG are vehemently opposed to the continuation of fumigation in its current form for logs to India post October 28, 2020 because of the following:

- 1) Communities, port users, Iwi, and workers have been patient for 10 years with the knowledge that recapture, if available, would be utilised by October 28, 2020. Failing that, suitable alternative solutions would be found before the deadline.
- 2) The continuation of fumigation without recapture to 5 ppm, post October 28, 2020 would remove the trust and confidence that our Unions, Iwi, Communities, People, and workers currently have to all related parties regarding Methyl Bromide.
- 3) Our collective patience and tolerance would be further undermined given the following. Nordiko, the company that currently has re-capture technology, appears to be sidelined and stone walled by certain forestry industries and STIMBR. Nordiko has the recapture technology in New Zealand ready to utilise now, yet the industry seems focused on continuing with venting Methyl Bromide to the atmosphere for the logs to India and seem to be refusing to engage with Nordiko. We collectively say it is time that STIMBR and certain forestry industries stop holding EPA, Government, Iwi, Communities, People, and workers to ransom under the false pretence that there is nothing else to do, and no other alternative available.
- 4) Nordiko have been ready and waiting for over 5 years now, to prove that their recapture technology works here in New Zealand.

It is no coincidence that STIMBR has waited to the last minute asking for extensions on one hand and stopping a public recapture test to occur on the other.

In addition, TMFAG are now aware of a possible dedicated fumigation building proposal (Rangiuru Park) to not only recapture, but to reuse Methyl Bromide. TMFAG seek to present evidence on this environmentally sustainable alternative. It is noted that STIMBR and Ports of Tauranga have not sought to support this alternative proposal, with no sound justification provided.

TMFAG collectively see possible solutions to the debacle concerning the continued use of Methyl Bromide for logs post October 28, 2020. T in line with the Environment Court findings and also maintain New Zealand's commitment to the Montreal Protocol for Methyl Bromide.

There are no sound reasons provided by Industry for these unacceptable delays, in particular when an extensive transitional period and consenting variations granted to providers has already been provided ample time for MB and Logging Industry to meet the Montreal Protocol limits.

Signed for and on behalf of TMFAG