



January 16, 2021

Clear the Air remains firmly against any further use of Methyl Bromide at the Port of Tauranga without full recapture. The applicant should be held to the 2010 decision made by the EPA then and accepted in good faith by the community and industry.

We are extremely concerned that the TAS model is under-predicting the methyl bromide concentrations by at least 20-50% for each ship hold and for log piles, putting our community in danger. We don't believe there are adequate buffer zones at the Port of Tauranga. The current buffer zones required are the minimum to protect the residents and workers in Mount Maunganui however it is our understanding is that all of the modelling ignores potential "outlier" results at the 100th percentile. Given the changeable wind conditions in Tauranga, it is also our understanding is that those buffer zones also need to be extended to factor in potential unfavourable winds.

Do we need to remind you that our children play hockey 300m from where this fumigation takes place? Blake Park Cricket oval is also very close and Totara St also has a lot of cyclists using it. They are unaware when fumigation is happening. Workers at the Port can at least wear protective equipment, but there are plenty of people who don't realise when their health is being put at risk.

Do we also need to remind you that the residents of Whareroa Marae are also within hundreds of meters of this fumigation? Would you let this happen so close to your families?

It is our view (and the view of international experts we heard during the EPA hearings of 2020) that the modelling makes it clear that the Tauranga Port is a wholly unsuitable location for methyl bromide fumigation of log stacks or ship holds. The EPA must not allow this practice to continue without requiring recapture of 100% to the level of 5ppm as was the direction in the 2010 Reassessment.

Why should we subsidise (with our health) a company that has not adhered to the rules. Forestry and the Port of Tauranga are both multi-billion dollar industries. They can do better!

We trust you to make the right decision for our Community - Residents, Workers, Children, Athletes and Iwi.

Emma Jones

Clear the Air – Mount Maunganui