



Our reference: EF13/3921: DOC15/11474-01
Contact: Andrew Helms (02) 6332 7604

Ms Pamela Morales
Planning Officer
Industry Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

19 January 2015

Dear Ms Morales

Environment Impact Statement – Borg Panels, Oberon – DA 27/95 (Mod 7)

I refer to an e-mail from the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) received by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on 14 January 2014 requesting comments on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared for the Borg Panels Oberon facility.

The EPA has reviewed the proposal and has no objection to the proposal proceeding as described in the EIS. If the DPE determines the project application by granting consent, the EPA recommends that the conditions provided within Attachment 1 be incorporated into the consent.

It is noted that the facility is currently licensed by the EPA under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*. In the event that the project is approved by the DPE the proponent will need to make a separate application to the EPA to vary environment protection licence 3035 such that the licence incorporates the relevant conditions of the planning approval including the proposed addition of a new parcel of land to the premises.

Should you have any enquiries regarding this matter please contact Mr Andrew Helms at the EPA's Central West Regional Office (Bathurst) by telephoning (02) 6332 7604.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darryl Clift'.

DARRYL CLIFT
Head Central West Unit
Environment Protection Authority

Attachment 1: EPA comments and recommended conditions of project approval

Attachment 1:

Comments and recommended conditions of Project Approval

Noise:

The EPA has reviewed Section 5.3.11 of the EIS and Attachment B (Noise Impact Assessment for the de-barker/shredder plant) and notes that the general noise environment at the premises will be improved following the construction of the de-barker building, bark shed and following the relocation of the cyclone bunker as these facilities will be undertaken within enclosed structures rather than out in the open as is currently the case. The EPA also notes that noise modelling indicates that the enclosed de-barking facility will not be audible at sensitive receivers.

EPA recommended conditions of Project Approval:

The EPA considers that the existing noise limits on environment protection licence (licence) 3035 are appropriate and therefore that the activities if approved must comply with the existing noise limits under licence 3035.

Air Quality:

The EPA notes that the proposed modifications to the operations at the Borg Panels facility are likely to provide an overall improvement in air quality with the enclosure of several potentially dust generating operations and the concrete paving of a truck parking area in the south-west corner of the facility.

The proposed temporary hardstand area on the vacant block of land to the east of the Borg Panels facility has the potential to generate dust from increased traffic movements during the construction period if not managed appropriately. The EPA is also aware that this vacant block currently has a large stockpile of sawdust generated from within the Borg Panels premises. The stockpile is not enclosed on any sides and therefore exposed to prevailing winds and has the potential to impact upon neighbouring businesses and the Oberon local environment in general.

EPA recommended conditions of Project Approval:

The EPA is satisfied that the current conditions on the environment protection licence for the premises are appropriate for the regulation of any dust issues that may arise from activities associated with the proposal. The EPA recommends however the addition of the following condition to assist in the prevention of dust from existing stockpiles of sawdust on the vacant block.

- The stockpiling of sawdust on the vacant block (identified as Lot 2902 DP1056754) must be in stockpiles not more than three (3) metres in height and enclosed on 3 sides so as to prevent the mobilisation of sawdust by wind, unless the stockpiles are fully covered by a tarpaulin.

Surface Water Management:

The EIS states that there will be no changes to the existing stormwater management system and that all new works will drain to this system. The EIS also states that 'appropriate erosion and sediment control regimes will be implemented' for the temporary hardstand area although no discussion of these controls is provided.

EPA recommended conditions of Project Approval:

The EPA recommends that DPE includes the following condition in order to ensure that dirty water discharges from the temporary hardstand area are minimised:

- All sediment control structures on the vacant block (identified as Lot 2902 DP1056754) must be constructed in accordance with *Managing urban stormwater: soils and construction*, vol. 1 (Landcom 2004).