

5th April 2013

Mr Chris Wilson
Executive Director
Major Projects
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure
G P O Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

chris.wilson@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Wilson

ICL CEMENT TERMINAL PROJECT, MAYFIELD NORTH (08_0198)
REVISED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

I refer to the Environmental Assessment exhibited on the NSW Planning & Infrastructure web site in relation to the ICL Cement Terminal Project located within the BHP Closure Area at Mayfield North. The ICL Project proposes to import, store and distribute cement and slag at the terminal with a throughput capacity of approx. 600,000 tonnes of bulk dry cement and 200,000 tonnes of ground slag per annum.

In relation to health protection concerns, consideration must be given to protecting the health of the community from potential environmental health hazards which may result from the proposal. Impacts relating to noise and vibration, air quality, transport and access, soil and water, contamination, hazards and risk, greenhouse gas and waste and their cumulative effects need to be adequately assessed, monitored and regularly reviewed.

Noise

Noise from the terminal construction, operations and associated activities, such as road transport, have the potential to impact on the surrounding community. Whilst there is sufficient modelling to indicate the noise impact is within the EPA and Concept Plan criteria, monitoring should be undertaken to ensure the night time and cumulative impact do not exceed the requirements.

An environmental management plan should include measures to reduce noise and how noise will be managed should complaints in relation to noise be made during either the terminal construction or operational phases.

Air Quality

Air quality throughout the Newcastle area is of concern to its broader population. It is noted that the operation of the terminal will have negligible effect on air quality due to the closed loop process in the terminal operation, However, during the construction stage the effectiveness of "routine construction management techniques" to control dust levels will need to be monitored and adequate response measures in place to ensure that an exceedance does not occur.

Other health protection concerns

- Water cooling systems and/or warm water systems must meet the *Australian Standard 3666* and the *NSW Code of Practice for the Control of Legionnaires Disease 2004, 2nd edition*. Regulated systems must be registered with the Local Council and installed and maintained to prevent the growth of *Legionella*.
- The Emergency Management Plan for the site should incorporate procedures that outline a strategic Early Warning System (EWS) for any incident/emergency emanating from the development that may affect adjoining properties and the local population.
- The Emergency Management Plan should take an All Hazards approach and carefully analyse and model the impact of all possible hazards on the site including sabotage and natural disasters. Details of risk reduction, mitigation and management approaches should be defined.

Soil and water, contamination, visual impact and waste management have all been addressed in the assessment and Hunter New England Population Health has no further comments on these issues.

If you require any further information, please contact Mr Chris Williams, Environmental Health Officer by telephoning 4924 6481 or 0409 153 175.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in purple ink, consisting of a stylized 'C' followed by a horizontal line.

Dr Craig Dalton
Acting Service Director - Health Protection
Hunter New England Population Health