

From: Battye, Andrew <Andrew.Battye@safework.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 26 July 2016 4:26 PM
To: Pamela Morales
Subject: SSD 7016 - Borg Panels Timber Panel Processing Facility Expansion - Oberon

Security Classification: Sensitive

Hi Pamela,

Further to the correspondence received from your office regarding the Borg Facility at Oberon then we provide comment as follows:-

1. On the same site is located Woodchem which has been determined by SafeWork NSW as a major hazard facility. The Woodchem facility was recently granted an MHF licence for a period of 2 years with 5 conditions attached. The licence is due for renewal 21 March 2018.
2. SafeWork NSW has concerns regarding the water management and discharges contained within the SEARS doc, Appendix A: Requirements 7,8 & 9, where it appears fixed infrastructure currently directs all Borg surface waters through to the Woodchem dam and swale installations which we believe to be undersized.
3. The proposed Fire Safety Study that will be prepared in consultation with FRNSW will need to ensure that the risk is adequately assessed and scoped to include the Woodchem interests. Particular attention needs to be given to the potential of a wood dust explosion and plant initiated fires. SafeWork NSW has established that through its own site visits that fire safety infrastructure is well established however there is a failure to acknowledge neighbouring impacts between the two facilities. We are still not satisfied there is clear demarcation between the two facilities. The question is raised whether the facility be it Borg or Woodchem could adequately address a methanol storage tank fire.
4. It is anticipated that an increase in the Borg Panels Timber Processing facility will ultimately lead to an expansion of the Woodchem plant. SafeWork NSW has general concerns regarding Woodchems capabilities in this regard – recognising this is only a potential consequence of the expansion of the Borg facility).

We have nothing further to add at this stage but would be very interested should there be any modifications to the DA's for Woodchem as a result of this proposed development, in particular a significant increase in the storage of methanol on site.

Regards

Andrew

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