Asbestos Management Plan

HSEQ Operational Procedure

What this procedure describes

The practices and responsibilities for managing asbestos and Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) by TasNetworks workers.

Why it is required

- To assist employees, contractors and subcontractors to manage and eliminate, as far as practical, the risks associated with asbestos.
- It incorporates the legal requirements provided in the *Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012,* WorkSafe Tasmania's Codes of Practice 'How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace and How to Safely Remove Asbestos'.
- The plan supports the TasNetworks goal of Zero Harm.

Who it applies to and when

This procedure applies to all TasNetworks workers, but in particular, the following people:

- Employees, contractors and subcontractors who perform asbestos work,
- The Facilities team,
- Asset area managers,
- Leaders and regional leaders,
- Contract managers, and
- Health, Safety, Environment and Technical Competency team members.

Authorisation

Issue date	17/6/2016
Authorised by	GM Works and Service Delivery
Review Cycle	3 years

Revision History

NOTE: Revisions to this procedure are to be provided to the Communications Team for uploading to the Contractor Resources web page

Date	Revision Details
17/06/2016	Original issue
20/06/2018	General review – metadata changes status to approved
07/01/19	Changed references from RMSS to SAP

Contents

1. Asbestos and where it is located

As a group, asbestos minerals are non-combustible, do not conduct heat or electricity and are resistant to many chemicals.

Although there are several mineral forms that have been used commercially, the most common asbestos mineral types likely to be encountered at sites owned by TasNetworks are:

- chrysotile (white asbestos [roofing example to the right]), these are found in eave soffits, walls and meter panels
- amosite (brown asbestos [example below]), and
- crocidolite (blue asbestos).

These forms of asbestos can be found in the building materials used before 31 December 2003.

Asbestos can also be found in: the internal heat shielded wiring of old (pre 1965) street light heads; the seals of the choke box covers; substations; street light glass diffusers; iron clad fuses; the back panels of meter boxes; switchboards; conduits; arc chutes; brake linings; fuse panels and some plant. It can also be naturally occurring in some areas of Tasmania, for example, serpentine rock.

Asbestos was used extensively in buildings (residential, industrial and commercial) for heat retention and fire protection (for example, lagging). Bonded asbestos can be found in moulded cement Telstra pits, some pipes used in construction and casing for water. For this reason asbestos is widespread and background levels of asbestos fibres can found in many locations. Because of the high cost of removal and disposal, some people also chose to illegally dump asbestos waste.

2. Identifying and labelling

For TasNetworks facilities (including depots, offices, substations and zone substations), inspections will be conducted by a competent person and asbestos registers will be maintained. The asbestos registers set out the type and locations of all ACM in structures, facilities, plant and equipment purchased or constructed before 31st December 2003.

Asbestos registers enable:

- A record of the presence of ACM prior to maintenance, construction or demolition works commencing.
- The undertaking of regular ACM condition inspections, as determined by a risk assessment but no greater than 5 years.
- Work programs for the maintenance, repair or replacement of components and equipment containing ACM.
- Prioritisation and removal of damaged ACM.

Asbestos registers are stored in our document management system and are also accessible by contacting the following people:

- The Facilities Team Leader for depots and offices.
- The Asset Engineering Leader for substations and zone substations.

Controlled copies of asbestos registers are available at every depot, office and substation. These are available to all persons who could potentially come into contact with ACM. Following ACM re-inspection, removal or maintenance activities, the asbestos register will be updated.

Asbestos waste is wrapped and labelled in accordance with Safe Work Australia's *Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals* before it is removed, and is disposed of as soon as practicable. Any material that is suspected of containing ACM that is not identified in the asbestos register is to be assumed to contain asbestos until testing proves otherwise.

3. Assessing

Risk assessments will be undertaken by a competent person on all identified ACM and will take into consideration the following outlined below:

- Type of ACM.
- Nature (friability or crumbliness) of the ACM.
- ACM condition.
- Frequency of access to area containing ACM.
- ACM disturbance potential.

If asbestos or ACM (with the exception of naturally occurring asbestos) is in good condition and left undisturbed, it is unlikely that airborne asbestos will be released into the air and the risk to health is extremely low. It is usually safer to leave it and review its condition over time. However, if the asbestos or ACM has deteriorated, has been disturbed, or if asbestos-contaminated dust is present, the likelihood that airborne asbestos will be released is increased. This is a decision that is made by a competent person.

When deciding if there is a risk to health from asbestos, consider whether the asbestos or ACM is:

- in poor condition
- likely to be further damaged or to deteriorate
- likely to be disturbed due to work practices carried out in the workplace (for example, routine and maintenance activities and their frequency), and
- in an area where workers are exposed to the material.

Where appropriate, risk assessments may be validated by airborne respirable asbestos fibre monitoring.

Monitoring and site inspection programs aim to reduce the risk of asbestos by identifying ACM and modifying or removing where necessary.

4. Control measures

The *Work Health & Safety Act 2012* and *Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012* require hazards to be eliminated or minimised as far as reasonably practicable. TasNetworks will apply the hierarchy of control to minimise worker risk from exposure to airborne respirable asbestos fibres.

Any work activity involving ACM must be done in a manner to ensure that exposure to airborne respirable asbestos fibres is minimised. The following hierarchy of controls will be considered when managing risk:

4.1 Elimination of asbestos

For example, prior to any demolition works being undertaken all known ACM is to be removed, (unless demolition is required to access the ACM).

4.2 Isolation of asbestos work area

During all work on ACM, the work area must be isolated from unauthorised persons and uncontaminated work sites. This can be achieved by using barricades, enclosures and access restriction signage, and communication with personnel.

4.3 Engineering controls

Engineering controls can be used to minimise risk of asbestos fibre release; these include using negative air pressure enclosures, painting or other surface treatments, resurfacing, water misters, and asbestos vacuum cleaner (compliant to AS3544-1988 *Industrial vacuum cleaners for particulates hazardous to health*).

4.4 Administration controls

Including procedures for working safely, such as the work practices provided in the Reference Documents section of this procedure.

4.5 Personal protective equipment controls

All workers handling or removing ACM must be issued with appropriate personal protective equipment, such as respirators, disposable coveralls, etc. Any necessary personal protective equipment is provided in the work practices listed in the Reference Documents section of this procedure. Further information is available in the TasNetworks' Personal Protective Equipment Procedure.

Workers are required to be clean shaven so that the mask will fit closely. As a last resort, employees who do not wish to shave can use Vaseline to ensure a proper face seal between the mask and the face. Vaseline needs to be purchased through their team leader.

5. Working with asbestos

All tasks involving the disturbance of ACM must be conducted in compliance with this Management Plan, Work Practices, Safe Work Method Statements (SWMS), risk assessments and control measures that have been provided for the work being undertaken.

5.1 Specialist work

Specialists are engaged to perform the following tasks, as *competent persons*:

- licensed asbestos assessors and occupational hygienists (for example, from companies such as IPM) take samples of suspected materials, regularly review and revise asbestos registers and perform any required air monitoring, and
- licensed asbestos removalists remove friable asbestos (Class A licence required) and more than 10^2m of non-friable asbestos (Class A or B licence required). Removal may be required during construction, demolition and office or depot refurbishment projects with the potential to disturb ACM. WorkSafe Tasmania provides a list of licensed asbestos removalists across the state.

5.2 Work performed by TasNetworks workers

The most common asbestos-related work performed by TasNetworks' workers is replacing ACM meter panels and removing choke boxes and older style street lights. A list of all asbestos-related work practices is provided in the "Reference documents" section of this plan.

Meter reading is not considered ACM-related work as workers are not required to handle ACM while performing work. The results of air monitoring while reading meters was less than the detection limits of the test equipment (less than 0.01 fibres per mL) and well below the National Exposure Standard of 0.1 fibres/mL of air.

> In July 2009, Injury Prevention and Management (IPM) was engaged by TasNetworks to conduct an assessment of potential for employee exposure to respirable asbestos fibre during reading of domestic electrical meters. Air monitoring was conducted while 79 electrical meters were read.
>
> The report determined that meter readers were exposed to respirable asbestos fibre "at very low levels that are consistent with typical background levels of respirable fibre". The asbestos identification analysis report was issued in accordance with NATA's accreditation requirements (NATA accreditation number: 1526). This report can be accessed through the "Reference documents" section of this plan.

6. Specific strategies

6.1 What to do if asbestos is found or damaged

If you think you have found asbestos waste or if you have damaged materials that may contain asbestos, stop work and keep others away from the area by isolating the area. Keep in mind asbestos can be found in moulded cement Telstra pits, some pipes used in construction and casing for water. If you are not sure if the material contains asbestos, treat the material as if it does contain asbestos. If the type of asbestos is uncertain, contact the HSE Team immediately to arrange for the material to be tested by a competent person.

Minimise the spread of contamination to other areas. Contaminated clothes will either need to be laundered in a specialist laundry or disposed of as asbestos waste. The incident must be reported through TasNetwork's incident reporting system, SAP.

6.2 Asbestos removal work

The services of a licensed asbestos removalist will be engaged where friable asbestos or more than 10 m^2 of non-friable asbestos or ACM (and asbestos containing dust) needs to be removed.

Competent and trained workers who do not have an asbestos removal licence may remove less than 10 m^2 of non-friable asbestos or ACM (and asbestos containing dust) by following a safe work procedure, SWMS or Work Practice. Before performing this work, workers must have completed adequate training (such as an asbestos awareness course or the non-friable removal unit of competency).

Regardless of the size of the removal work, all ACM removal work shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2012,* its Regulations and the code of practice: *How to Safely Remove Asbestos*. This shall include appropriate work methods, tools, equipment, personal protective equipment, barriers, decontamination facilities and disposal.

When licensed asbestos removal work is being carried out at a workplace, an asbestos removal supervisor must oversee the work. This will require either a Class A (must be present at all times) or Class B licence (must be readily available) depending on the material being removed.

Any maintenance or removal work must be recorded in the asbestos register.

6.3 Removing choke boxes and street lights

Choke boxes and street lights can only be removed by a worker if they remain sealed and undamaged. A licensed asbestos removalist is required where the asset is unsealed or where asbestos is disturbed or could be disturbed.

Further information is available in the Work Practice: Asbestos and Polychlorinated Biphenyls Management - Street Light Fittings (R0000318566).

Important!

Where ACM cannot be kept totally sealed or disturbance is unavoidable, a 'Class A' licensed asbestos removalist would need to remove any choke box or street light.

6.4 Asbestos containing meter boards

Meter boards that are branded 'Ausbestos', 'Zelemite' and 'Lebah' contain asbestos. Drilling of these panels, including using self drilling screws (for instance tech screws) is not permitted. One exception applies to people removing ACM meter panels **where a low powered drill can be used to remove them.**

Further information is available in the Work Practice: Asbestos Management - Replacing Meter Panels (R0000298730).

6.5 Clean up and disposal of wastes

Where ACM must be removed from site, no contamination must be left, including dust, PPE etc.

ACM will be transported and disposed of in a manner that satisfies the requirements detailed in the *Environmental Management Pollution and Control (Waste Management) Regulations 2010*. TasNetworks has an exemption under these Regulations to transport small amounts of asbestos and ACM from a work site to a depot (for example, transporting ACM containing meter panels to depots).

All ACM shall be disposed of in an EPA approved controlled waste facility. A list of approved controlled waste transporters and agents is available on the Environment Protection Authority's website www.epa.tas.gov.au

6.6 Training and competency

Workers who may be involved in asbestos removal work or carrying out asbestos related work outside the scope of licenced asbestos removal work, will be trained in the identification, safe handling and suitable control measures for asbestos and ACM. The company will not carry out, direct or allow a worker to carry out work involving asbestos unless that worker is trained.

This training will include:

- the health risks of asbestos
- the types, uses and occurrence of ACM in the workplace
- the National Exposure Standard and Control Levels for Asbestos
- roles and responsibilities
- instructions to minimise exposure to asbestos fibres including prohibited tools and work methods (water pressure spray and compressed air)
- the correct use of maintenance and control measures, protective worker equipment and instructions to minimise risk, and
- the purpose of monitoring and visual inspections where required.

All workers are required to undergo this training prior to commencing work. All training must be coordinated through TasNetworks' training centre. For information about training programs and prerequisites contact the Training Centre, phone 6271 6111 or training@tasnetworks.com.au.

6.7 Air monitoring

Air monitoring is required when removing friable asbestos or more than 10m^2 of non-friable asbestos, when removal work is being preformed at a public location or there is uncertainty about exposure levels. An independent licensed asbestos assessor will validate with risk assessments and background monitoring to ensure that exposure to airborne respirable asbestos fibres is maintained below the NOHSC Control Level of 0.01 fibres/mL.

All monitoring reports, including air clearance monitoring certificates will be included in the asbestos register.

All monitoring is in accordance with the Guidance Note on the Membrane Filter Method for Estimating Airborne Asbestos Fibres [NOHSC: 3003(2005)].

6.8 Health monitoring

The need for health monitoring for employees will be determined, in accordance with the WHS Regulations, on the basis of:

- the potential for exposure
- the frequency of potential exposure, and
- the duration of the work being undertaken.

The activities covered by the TasNetworks work practices have been considered by specialist asbestos consultants IPM Safety, and employees who perform this work do not require health monitoring.

Where health monitoring is required, it will be conducted by a registered medical practitioner with relevant competencies. The company will provide relevant information to the medical practitioner and cover all associated costs.

If a worker, for instance a specialist contractor that the company engages, is carrying out licensed asbestos removal work, their health monitoring must be conducted prior to the worker commencing work. Health monitoring should also be provided to the worker at regular intervals after commencing the asbestos-related work but at least once every two years.

The People Direct Team Leader will store health monitoring results in the company's document management system and also provide them to the worker. The results are to be kept confidential for a minimum of 40 years. Where the company commissioned the health monitoring, the Health Safety and Environment Leader will provide copies of the report to all other businesses who have a duty to provide health monitoring for the worker (for example, where an employee is contracted to work for another company such as Zinfra) as soon as practicable after obtaining the report.

The Health Safety and Environment Leader will provide WorkSafe Tasmania with a copy of the health monitoring report if the results indicate that the worker may have contracted a disease, injury or illness as a result of carrying out the work or if there are recommendations to undertake remedial measures.

7. Responsibilities

7.1 TasNetworks

Businesses have duties to manage the risk associated with asbestos under the Work Health and Safety laws. These duties include:

- identifying the presence of asbestos
- controlling the risk of exposure to asbestos
- providing training and equipment to workers performing asbestos-related work
- ensuring asbestos related-work is carried out in prescribed ways
- developing an asbestos management plan
- managing exposure to naturally occurring asbestos
- ensuring asbestos is removed from the workplace in prescribed ways, and
- providing health monitoring to workers performing asbestos-related work.

Asbestos waste must be handled and disposed of according to Tasmania's *Environmental Management Pollution and Control (Waste Management) Regulations 2010*.

7.2 Officers

'Officers' under the WHS Act include directors and secretaries from the board. Officers must exercise *due diligence* to ensure that the company manages risks associated with asbestos. This involves ensuring the company has and uses appropriate resources and processes to control exposure to asbestos.

7.3 Health, Safety and Environment Leader

The Health, Safety and Environment Leader will:

- Monitor changes to work health, safety and environment legislation regarding asbestos and review and revise asbestos-related documentation, including this plan.
- Implement a program to audit the ACM removal process, and audit compliance with this plan.
- Make an assessment as to whether health monitoring is required if there has been an incident where workers may have been exposed to asbestos.
- Where the company commissioned the health monitoring, the Health Safety and Environment Leader will provide copies of the report to all other businesses who have a duty to provide health monitoring for the worker (for example, where an employee is contracted to work for another company such as Zinfra) as soon as practicable after obtaining the report.
- Provide WorkSafe Tasmania with a copy of the health monitoring report if the results indicate that the worker may have contracted a disease, injury or illness as a result of carrying out the work or if there are recommendations to undertake remedial measures.
- Ensure any workers inadvertently exposed to asbestos are logged on the Hazardous Exposures Register and this register is kept up to date.
- Ensure this Asbestos Management Plan is reviewed according to its review cycle, at least once every five years or when:
    - there is a review of the asbestos register or a control measure
    - asbestos is removed from or disturbed, sealed or enclosed at the workplace
    - standards change meaning this plan is no longer adequate, and
    - a health and safety representative requests a review on reasonable grounds.

7.4 People reviewing asbestos registers

Where a person reviewing an asbestos register has made a revision to the register, they must inform the Facilities Team Leader (depots and offices) or the Asset Engineering Leader (substations and zone substations) as soon as possible.

7.5 *Competent Persons* (Asbestos Specialists)

Competent persons must hold a licence of the appropriate class and follow the requirements specified in the WHS Act, its Regulations and the codes of practice: *How to Safely Remove Asbestos* and *How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace*. Control measures must also comply with the site specific Asbestos Management Plan.

The requirements aforementioned include:

- revising the asbestos registers previously used by TasNetworks to cover any asbestos-related work or previously unidentified asbestos;
- where practicable, label the location or presence of asbestos or ACM;
- informing the Facilities Team Leader (depots and offices) or the Asset Engineering Leader (substations and zone substations) where an asbestos register has been revised;
- preparing an asbestos removal control plan for any licensed asbestos removal work;
- consulting, cooperating and coordinating with TasNetworks to ensure the risks associated with asbestos are managed to prevent injury and illness to workers and other people; and
- notifying Workplace Standards Tasmania at least five days prior to work commencing.

7.6 Facilities Team Leader

The Facilities Team Leader will:

- Ensure that current site asbestos registers for offices and depots are stored in TasNetworks' document management system.
- Ensure asbestos registers are reviewed at least every 5 years and according to its review cycle by a competent person.
- Ensure that current site asbestos registers for offices and depots are available at each site in the site inspection log book in 'contractor log books' cupboards. These are to be made available upon request to any person who may be potentially exposed to airborne respirable asbestos fibres or disturb ACM.
- Notify the HSE team when an asbestos register has been superseded for inclusion in this plan.
- Organise for ACM to be removed where possible, for instance, during renovations.

7.7 Asset Engineering Leader

The Engineering and Design Group Leader will,

- Ensure that site asbestos registers are maintained for substations and zone substations.
- Ensure that these asbestos registers are reviewed at least every 5 years and according to its review cycle by a competent person.
- Upon request, assist to locate TasNetworks' assets that contain asbestos or ACM.
- Where possible, ensure assets containing asbestos are recorded in asset management systems and available to those scoping and conducting work.

7.8 Companies engaged to dispose asbestos/ ACM waste

Companies engaged to dispose of asbestos waste will:

- Keep records of transporting and disposing of controlled waste for inspection, including volumes and registered landfill details.

- Adhere to this procedure and the *Environmental Management Pollution and Control (Waste Management) Regulations 2010*.

7.9 Leaders

Leaders will:

- Consult workers and their health and safety representatives when identifying, assessing, controlling and reviewing the risk of asbestos in accordance with the TasNetworks' Consultation and Communications Procedure.
- Regularly check:
    - workers are trained and competent to work with asbestos
    - work procedures are being followed and tools and equipment are fit for work, and
    - control measures being used by their team are suitable and at the highest level of control possible.
- Use the TasNetworks' HSE Change Management Procedure and contact a Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Advisor before introducing any ACM materials, plant or structures into the workplace.
- Intervene to stop behaviours or actions that may result in an incident occurring.
- Provide Vaseline to employees who perform asbestos work and have facial hair.
- Consult a HSE Advisor:
    - if you are unsure of how to control a risk associated with asbestos or require further guidance,
    - to share information about any asbestos-related issues or observations,
    - if any control measures need to be improved or revised, including this plan, and
    - for information about disposal requirements.

7.10 Contract Managers

Contract Managers will:

- Where relevant, ensure this plan, asbestos registers and other asbestos-related documents are provided to contractors and subcontractors. Contractors may need access to this information before starting work.
- Consult with the contractor and relevant third parties (e.g. asbestos removal contractor) where necessary to ensure risks of exposure to asbestos is minimised.
- Where asbestos removal work is identified as being required, ensure general demolition or refurbishment work does not commence until after the asbestos has been removed and the site has been issued with a clearance certificate where required.
- Where ACM has been removed, inform the relevant asbestos register owner so that the register can be amended.

7.11 Health, Safety, Environment and Technical Competency Team Members

Health, Safety, Environment and Technical Competency (HSE&TC) team members will:

- Support team leaders and workers with advice, training and resources to manage the risks associated with asbestos.
- Facilitate the review and, if required, the revision of asbestos-related documentation.
- Facilitate health monitoring for workers who are or were at risk of exposure to asbestos when carrying out their work.
- Develop safe work procedures for work that is likely to involve the disturbance of asbestos.
- Develop asbestos removal control plans for work that does not require a licensed asbestos removalist, where the team decides a plan would be useful.
- Provide information to workers on any known asbestos-related issues that may arise and share information about asbestos management (such as asbestos removal control plans).
- Ensure appropriate PPE is specified and assist to make it readily available to workers conducting asbestos-related work.

7.12 People Direct Team Leader

The People Direct Team Leader will:

- Establish and maintain a system to record the results of health monitoring provided to workers.

7.13 TasNetworks Workers

All TasNetworks workers will:

- Comply with the TasNetworks policies and procedures and use TasNetworks training, work practices, tools and all reasonable instructions to manage the risks associated with asbestos (for example, this management plan, safe work procedures, work practices and PPE).
- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety and must not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons. For example, comply with access restrictions including signage and barriers of all ACM work areas.
- Dispose of asbestos waste according to this procedure.
- Apply the HSE Change Management Procedure before purchase where assets or equipment that contain ACM are required,.
- Cease work on suspected ACM until any asbestos or ACM is controlled in accordance with this plan.
- **Be clean shaven to ensure their mask fits closely. Employees who do not wish to shave can use Vaseline to ensure a proper face seal between the mask and the face. Vaseline needs to be purchased through your team leader.**
- Report found or damaged material suspected of containing asbestos to team leaders and in the incident reporting system, SAP.

- Report concerns about exposure to asbestos to their team leader and in SAP.
- Report to leaders or team leaders:
    - any damaged ACM immediately, and
    - any uncontrolled potential exposure to airborne respirable asbestos fibres.
- Where licensed asbestos removal or air monitoring may be required, contact the HSE Team.
- Intervene to stop behaviours or actions that may result in an incident occurring.
- The duty of a worker also applies to contractors, subcontractors, officers, managers, team leaders and supervisors.

How everyone contributes to managing health, safety and environmental matters in general is provided in the TasNetworks Responsibilities Procedure.

8. Reference Documents

The following documents were reviewed as part of developing this procedure:

Legislation

- *Environmental Management Pollution and Control Act 1994* (Controlled Waste Regulations)
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Tasmania*
- *Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012, Tasmania*

Codes of Practice, Industry Codes, etc

- *AS 3544-1988 Industrial vacuum cleaners for particulates hazardous to health*
- Safe Work Australia's Guidance Note on the Membrane Filter Method for Estimating Airborne Asbestos Fibres [NOHSC: 3003(2005)]
- WorkSafe Tasmania's How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace, Code of Practice
- WorkSafe Tasmania's How to Manage Work Health and Safety Risks, Code of Practice
- WorkSafe Tasmania's How to Safely Remove Asbestos, Code of Practice
- WorkSafe Tasmania's Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act and Regulations
- Code of Practice: How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace
- Code of Practice: How to Safely Remove Asbestos

TasNetworks Documents

- Airborne Asbestos Fibre Monitoring Report - Choke Boxes and Meter Boards (CO#10731779)
- Airborne Asbestos Fibre Monitoring Report – Street Turret (CO#10731779)
- Asbestos Risk Assessment Report - Meter Reading - July 2009 (CO#10636791)
- Asbestos Risk Assessment Report – Removal of Choke Boxes and Meter Panels (CO#10643534)
- Environmental Handbook 2010
- Work Practice: Asbestos Management – Street Light Fittings and Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

- Work Practice: Asbestos Management - Replacing Meter Panels
- Work Practice: Asbestos Management - Removing Arc Shields
- Work Practice: Asbestos Management – Replacing Asbestos Boards in Turrets, Wide-based Streetlights and Substations
- Work Practice: Asbestos Management - Conducting Tests On Federal Meter Boards
- Work Practice: Asbestos Management - Naturally Occurring Asbestos
- Work Practice: Asbestos Management - Handling & Disposing of Fuses

Forms

- None

Other Documents/Resources

- Asbestos Removal and Assessor Licencing Information, Version 1.0 GB366, Tasmania

9. Records Arising from this Procedure

Record	Storage Location
Asbestos Registers - Depots	The Zone
Asbestos Registers - Substations	WASP
Asbestos Registers – Zone Substations	(CO#10661241)

10. Glossary

Asbestos contaminated dust (ACD) – Asbestos contaminated dust or debris including any dust or debris that has settled within a workplace and is, or is assumed to be, contaminated with asbestos.

Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) – Any material, object, product or debris that contains asbestos.

Asbestos – the asbestiform varieties of mineral silicates belonging to the serpentine or amphibole groups of rock-forming minerals, including actinolite asbestos, grunerite (or amosite) asbestos (brown), anthophyllite asbestos, chrysotile asbestos (white), crocidolite asbestos (blue) and tremolite asbestos.

Asbestos work area – Is the immediate area in which work on ACM is taking place. The boundaries of the Asbestos Work Area must be determined by a risk assessment conducted by a competent person.

Air clearance monitoring – Is air monitoring to measure the level of airborne asbestos fibres in an area following work on ACM. An area is 'cleared' for reoccupation when the level of airborne asbestos fibres is measured as being below 0.01 fibres/mL.

Competent persons (asbestos specialists) – a person who has acquired (through training, qualification or experience) the knowledge and skills of relevant asbestos removal industry practice and holds a certification in relation to the specified VET course for asbestos assessor work or a tertiary qualification in occupational health and safety, occupational hygiene, science, building, construction or environmental health. Competent persons include:

- licensed asbestos assessors;
- occupational hygienists; and
- licensed asbestos removalists.

Contractor – the principal contractor for the project as established by the contract with Transend and therefore having management or control of the workplace.

Exposure standard – for asbestos is a respirable fibre level of 0.1 fibres/ml of air measured in a person's breathing zone and expressed as a time weighted average fibre concentration calculated over an eight-hour working day and measured over a minimum period of four hours in accordance with the membrane filter method or a method determined by the regulator.

Exempt work – ACM removal work where the amount of non-friable ACM being removed covers an area less than 10 square metres; or the taking of samples for the purpose of analysis or other testing.

Friable asbestos – material that is in a powder form or that can be crumbled, pulverised or reduced to a powder by hand pressure when dry, and contains asbestos.

Licensed asbestos assessor – a person who holds an asbestos assessor licence. (Required for air monitoring, clearance inspections and clearance certificates for class A removal work).

Licensed asbestos removalist – A competent person conducting a business or undertaking who is licenced under the *Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012* to carry out class A or Class B asbestos removal work.

NATA- accredited laboratory – a testing laboratory accredited by the National Association of Testing Authorities Australia.

Non-friable asbestos – material containing asbestos that is not friable asbestos, including material containing asbestos fibres reinforced with a bonding compound such as cement or vinyl.

Reasonably practicable – a term used to help people understand the extent of how to meet their duties under the WHS laws. It involves considering how reasonable the costs involved with controlling the risk are after assessing the extent of the risk and the ways of controlling it. Next, work through each of the levels of the hierarchy of control to manage risk, so far as is reasonably practicable, before considering the next. Sometimes a combination of controls will be needed to control a risk.

Respirable asbestos fibre – an asbestos fibre that is airborne and respirable, that is with a size and shape that allows it to reach the alveoli in the lungs.

Safe work method statement (SWMS) – a documented assessment of risk in the form of a tabulated instruction for a specific item of work outlining the required method of undertaking the work whilst emphasising ways to reduce any risk(s) of harm to people, quality, infrastructure, environment or production.

Worker – a person carrying out work for TasNetworks in any capacity including employees, contractors and subcontractors, students and volunteers.