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Asbestos policy for boatsheds and bathing boxes

The objective of this policy is to protect persons against the risk of asbestos-related disease resulting from exposure to airborne asbestos fibres. The Whitecliffs to Camerons Bight Foreshore Reserve contains 139 boatsheds of which, approximately 32 possess fibro cement sheeting believed to contain asbestos.

Asbestos is a silicate mineral made up of tiny fibres¹. Asbestos fibres can cause asbestosis, lung cancer, and mesothelioma. Asbestos sheeting is **not** considered a significant health risk unless the material is broken, deteriorating, or disturbed in such a way that dust containing asbestos is produced². There is no safe level of exposure to asbestos fibres.

Risk assessment and notification

The Committee will carry out an annual audit to determine the boatsheds that are likely to contain asbestos and report to the Permit Holder the condition of the asbestos-containing material. The Committee will keep records of the results of the audit and any risk assessment conducted. The Committee will provide all Permit Holders of boatsheds which are likely to contain asbestos building materials. A copy of the Asbestos Policy.

If asbestos building materials are damaged and likely to be a danger to health the Permit Holder will be notified that it should be totally removed by an authorised asbestos removalist. Complete replacement will be required as soon as is practical but no longer than 60 days after the notification.

If the Permit Holder has a boatshed which contains asbestos identified in the audit, it will be the duty of the Permit Holder to notify the Committee **immediately** of any damage to asbestos sheeting. To protect persons against asbestos exposure, no repairs by the Permit Holder will be permitted; only full replacement of the sheeting by a licensed asbestos removalist will be permitted.

Asbestos removal

Written permission must be sought from the Committee to remove asbestos from boatsheds.

The work of removing asbestos must be carried out by a licensed asbestos removalist as approved under Part 4—Occupational Health and Safety (Asbestos) Regulations 2003 S.R. No. 16/2003².

No storage of asbestos-containing waste is permitted on the foreshore.

Risks to the general public from storm damaged asbestos-containing waste on the reserve will be minimised by the Committee arranging its removal immediately and removalist costs will be charged to the Permit Holder of the storm-damaged boatshed or bathing box.

Approved and adopted Meeting 83 Monday 20th October, 2008

Amended and approved Meeting 110 Monday 18th April, 2011

¹ Department of Human Services (). Better Health Channel Fact Sheet, Department of Human Services, Victoria (accessed www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au on 18/09/04)

http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/bhcv2/bhcarticles.nsf/pages/Asbestos_and_your_health?open

² Victorian Legislation and Parliamentary Documents, Occupational Health and Safety (Asbestos) Regulations 2003 S.R. No. 16/2003 Version incorporating amendments as at 2 February 2004 (accessed 26/09/04)

http://www.dms.dpc.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubLawToday.nsf?OpenDatabase