



MEDIA RELEASE – 20 MAY 2019

EBAC asbestos disposal

Energy Brix Australia Corporation (EBAC) will not proceed with a proposal to dispose of its asbestos at the ENGIE Hazelwood asbestos containment facility.

EBAC General Manager Remediation, Barry Dungey, said both EBAC and ENGIE Hazelwood had worked diligently over the last seven months to reach an agreement that worked for both parties but a significantly reduced quantity of asbestos for disposal, along with different handling mechanisms between the two sites, made the proposal uneconomical.

Mr Dungey said new information available had identified the total quantity of asbestos on the EBAC site was likely to be much lower than first thought.

“Current estimates are we will now have only quantities of 3-4,000m³ compared with original allowance of up to 15,000m³,” Mr Dungey said.

“Based on the significantly reduced asbestos quantities we now expect, on average, it means one truckload per week will be sent to Melbourne for the life of the project - between 60-80 truckloads over the next 16 months.

“It is a continuation of what has been occurring over the past three months and won’t result in any a noticeable impact on the road network.”

Mr Dungey said the EBAC Demolition Project must make commercial business decisions, based on project risks as well as economics.

“The EBAC remediation fund has limited funds and the liquidators must work within this budget,” he added. “It is not possible to justify a potential increase in asbestos disposal costs of greater than \$1 million, compared with current agreed costs for safe disposal in Melbourne.

“Our aim is to remove as much asbestos from the site as possible, in the safest and most economical manner possible, within the limits of the funding available.”

Mr Dungey thanked all parties involved in the negotiations, in particular ENGIE Hazelwood.

“It was not the lack of effort that made it unsuccessful; it is only once all parties get into the detail of their various projects can you understand that demolition conditions on all sites differ and what works on one site may not work on another, due to plant design and process differences.”

Mr Dungey said EBAC was very pleased that the project continued to run to schedule and importantly, safely.

“We continue to meet and exceed all statutory safety and environmental requirements at the site,” he said.

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