

## **Environmental Protection Authority**

#### **Environmental Protection Act 1986**

#### Section 45C

# NOTICE OF DECISION TO CONSENT TO AMEND AN APPROVED PROPOSAL WITHOUT INQUIRY

#### PERSON TO WHOM THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN

Worsley Alumina Pty Ltd

#### PROPOSAL TO WHICH THIS NOTICE RELATES

Worsley Alumina – Production to maximum capacity of 4.4Mtpa Alumina and associated mining

#### MINISTERIAL STATEMENT and ANY APPROVED CHANGES

MS 719, issued 13/04/2006

#### **DECISION**

Pursuant to s. 45C (1) (a) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), the Chair acting as delegate for the Minister for Environment gives approval to the following amendments of the approved proposal:

 Conversion of the existing coal fired boilers to a natural gas fired facility (boilers) within the existing power and steam raising facilities at the Worsley Alumina Refinery for the operation of the ongoing implementation of the current proposal.

The amended proposal content document and figures are attached.

#### **SUMMARY OF REASONS**

- The amendment remains within the authorised extent of the indicative footprint and development envelope of the Approved Proposal (Attachment 1; Figure 1) and does not increase the Refinery Lease Area. The amendment relates to ongoing implementation of the current proposal and is not associated with the revised proposal under assessment.
- Existing statement 719 conditions to control impacts to Greenhouse Gas emissions and Air Quality (conditions 6 and 14) are expected to continue to ensure consistency with the EPA's objectives for these factors.

- The proposed amendment is expected to result in an overall environmental improvement for the Refinery including, a net reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases by 0.71 Mtpa CO2-e, particulates (PM10) by 81 tpa, nitrogen oxides (NOx) by 721 tpa, and sulfur dioxide (SO2) by 5,354 tpa.
- The proposed amendment is also expected to result in a minor increase in emissions from VOCs by 23 tpa and CO by 80 tpa. The minor increase of emissions from VOCs and CO does not exceed the currently approved MS719 threshold limits of up to a total of 300 tpa VOC emissions and 1350 tpa CO emissions.
- The proposed amendment is also likely to result in improved air quality within the local airshed; and reduced potential for environmental and human health impacts. The Air Quality and GHG Management Plan (AQGHGP) has been amended to accommodate the proposed amendment.
- If implemented in accordance with the existing conditions, the impacts are not likely to be significant and are likely to be consistent with the EPA factor objectives for Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions.
- There are no new environmental factors likely to be significantly affected as a result of the amendments.
- The amendment would not, if the proposal were already approved, be a significant amendment. In considering this, the effects of the amendment on its own, the effect of the amendment in the context of the existing referred proposal, cumulative and holistic impacts have been considered.
- The amended proposal will be substantially the same character as the existing referred proposal.
- There are no new environmental factors likely to be significantly affected as a result of the amendments.
- The amendment would not, if the proposal were already approved, be a significant amendment. In considering this, the effects of the amendment on its own, the effect of the amendment in the context of the existing referred proposal, cumulative and holistic impacts have been considered.
- The amended proposal will be substantially the same character as the existing referred proposal.

#### **EFFECT OF THIS NOTICE:**

1. The proposal as amended in accordance with this notice is taken to be able to be implemented under s. 45 of the EP Act.

### **RIGHTS OF APPEAL:**

There are no rights of appeal under the EP Act in respect of this decision.

**Prof Matthew Tonts** 

**Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority** 

CHAIR

16 May 2023

# Attachment 1- Amended proposal content document and figure/s showing the new approved proposal

<u>Attachment 1 – Worsley Alumina Proposal Content Document</u>