

Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management

Asbestos Policy for boatsheds and bathing boxes January 2005

The objective of this policy is to protect persons against the risk of asbestos-related disease resulting from the exposure to airborne asbestos fibres. The Dromana Foreshore Reserve contains 201 boatsheds and 42 bathing boxes of which, 100 possess corrugated fibro cement roofing believed to contain asbestos.

Asbestos is a silicate mineral made up of tiny fibres². Asbestos fibres can cause asbestosis, lung cancer, and mesothelioma. Asbestos sheeting is considered **not** a significant health risk unless the material is broken, deteriorating, or disturbed in such a way that dust capturing asbestos is produced². There is no safe level of asbestos fibres.

Risk assessment and notification

The DFCoM will carry out an annual audit to determine the boatsheds and bathing boxes that contain asbestos and report to the licensee the condition of the asbestos-containing material. The DFCoM will keep records of the results of the audit and any risk assessment conducted. The DFCoM will provide all licensees of boatsheds which have asbestos roofs details of the requirements under law to act on broken or damaged asbestos as part of the regular annual boatshed inspection.

If asbestos roofing is damaged and likely to be a danger to health, the licensee will be notified that it should be replaced as soon as is practical but no longer than within 30 days of the notification.

If the licensee has a boatshed or bathing box which contains asbestos identified in the audit, it will be the duty of the licensee to notify the DFCoM **immediately** of any damage to asbestos sheeting. To protect persons against asbestos exposure, no repairs by licensee will be permitted; only replacement of the entire roof by a licensed asbestos removalist will be permitted.

Asbestos Removal

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

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.16/2003³

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 DFCoM arranging its removal immediately, and removalist costs will be charged to the licensee of the storm-damaged boatshed or bathing box.

²Department of Human Services. Better Health Channel Fact Sheet, Department of Human Services, Victoria (accessed www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au in 18/09/04)

³Victorian 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 26/9/04 http://www.dms.dpc.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubLawToday.nsf?OpenDatabase)