

The Secretariat
Standing Committee on Environment and Planning

By email: epc.council@parliament.vic.gov.au

31 May 2019

Dear Secretariat

WorkSafe Victoria (WorkSafe) welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the Environment and Planning's Inquiry into Victoria's waste and recycling industry. Attached to this letter is WorkSafe's submission.

At the hearing on 10 May 2019, Marnie Williams and Michael Coffey took two questions on notice during their evidence on behalf of WorkSafe Victoria. We are able to provide the following answers to those questions to assist the Inquiry.

1. *What is the cost per week for the 24/7 security monitoring on the 12 sites that are currently under investigation? (page 7)*

As part of ensuring the safety of the sites, WorkSafe entered into an arrangement for 24/7 security, including:

- an Emergency Response Coordinator covering all sites (a roaming resource), and
- a hazardous space sentry and security officer present at each site.

Once a location has been safely cleared of all dangerous goods, the security services at that site will cease.

Since 30 January 2019, the aggregate invoiced spend on the above services is \$1,628,826 (inclusive of GST).

2. *Please provide the Committee with a list of areas that are currently under investigation and areas you believe to be 'hot spots' (page 15).*

WorkSafe would like to clarify two 'investigative' streams that the Inquiry may be aiming this question towards.

First, there are criminal investigations occurring into the 12 identified illegal warehouses identified across Campbellfield, Epping and Craigieburn. WorkSafe is unable to comment further on matters under current criminal investigation.

Second, WorkSafe, through its business as usual inspection practices, and information sharing with other government agencies, may identify other illegal warehouses in Victoria. Any additional sites identified will be assessed and triaged in accordance with WorkSafe's usual investigation processes.

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WorkSafe notes that there are a number of facilities around Melbourne that are storing dangerous goods within the dangerous goods legislative regime. WorkSafe continues to monitor these sites in accordance with its dangerous goods inspection regime.

If you have any questions regarding the answers to the questions on notice please contact Emma Stephens, Manager, Legislative Services on [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely



Dmitry Rozkin
Director
Legislation, Policy and Information Services
WorkSafe Victoria