

# Adelaide Brighton Cement (ABC) Licence Renewal – November 2022

Issued November 2022



Each EPA licence is issued for a set term – usually of five years – and at the end of the term the licensee must apply for its licence to be renewed. The ABC Birkenhead licence expired on 31 October 2022 and was subsequently renewed on 1 November 2022 for a five-year term until 31 October 2027.

As part of the licence renewal process, the EPA reviewed and where necessary, updated licence conditions. The EPA's review of [ABC Birkenhead licence](#) had regard to the environmental risks of the activities being undertaken by ABC, the objects of the *Environment Protection Act 1993*, general environmental duty, and submissions received during the September 2022 licence renewal community consultation.

The review ensured that the licence conditions imposed are risk-based, outcomes focused and address community feedback. The EPA identified a number of licence conditions that remain suitable for the renewed licence, and also imposed new conditions for continual improvement in air particulate and noise emissions.

## Key conditions on the new licence

### **Total suspended particulates (TSP) community assessment (condition U-1562)**

ABC must develop and submit to the EPA a TSP community assessment plan by 30 June 2023. This requirement reflects concern from the community that coarser (TSP) dust particles from the Birkenhead facility are impacting adjacent community. ABC must develop a methodology and framework detailing how it will assess the nature and composition of TSP material at adjacent community locations and determine how it will compare and correlate this with materials used at, and emissions from, the Birkenhead facility. ABC is required to detail its intended timeframes and duration of its TSP community assessment in its plan.

### **Reduction in stack notification limits for Kiln Stack 4A and Precalciner Stack 4B (condition U-1559 and condition U-1565)**

Based on the EPA's review and assessment of data from the previous five-year licence period, stack particulate emission notification limits have been reduced. The new licence includes a requirement for ABC to notify the EPA if levels exceed 80 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (previously 100 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) for Kiln Stack 4A, and 50 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for Precalciner Stack 4B (previously 60 mg/m<sup>3</sup>), both based on a one-hour average. The reduction in stack notification limits is consistent with requirements for continuous improvement of stack emissions.

### **Environment improvement program (EIP) (condition U-1554)**

To drive and support continuous improvement in ABC's environmental performance, the EPA continues to impose the requirement for an EIP. To inform the EIP, ABC must first complete an air pollution emissions inventory (condition U-1566), an air particulate mitigation options assessment (condition U-1560) and a noise mitigation options assessment (condition U-1559). Once the EPA has thoroughly reviewed the options assessments, the agreed improvement actions will be incorporated into a new EIP.

### **Management plans**

The renewed licence includes a continuing requirement for implementation of management plans, including an air particulate management plan, stack particulate management plan, ground level particulate monitoring and reporting plan, and noise management plan. The management plans approved by the EPA under the previous licence must continue to be implemented until new management plans are developed and submitted to the EPA for approval.

### **Monitoring requirements**

To monitor the effectiveness of dust management ABC is required to continue its current on-site monitoring and reporting of particles as total suspended particles (TSP), particles less than 10 micrometres in diameter (PM<sub>10</sub>) and particles less than 2.5 micrometres in diameter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). Monitoring off site also continues as does the requirement for the provision of real-time public access to PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> data. The provision of real-time data is an approach consistent with other EPA licensed facility requirements and has been well-received by local community members during the previous licence period.

### **Public access to information**

The requirement for ABC to make public its approved management plans, quarterly reports and annual reports continues.

### **Refuse derived fuel (RDF) management**

Conditions regarding alternative fuel and/or raw material management have been retained on the licence, as have the corresponding Schedules.