

MEDIA RELEASE

Works Approval Application submitted

18 November 2019

The company behind the proposed car battery recycling facility in Hazelwood North submitted its application for Works Approval on Friday.

Chunxing Corporation Pty Ltd seeks to establish a Used Lead Acid Battery (ULAB) recycling facility that will process car batteries into refined lead and related products.

The Works Approval Application (WAA) was submitted to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria, which requires Chunxing to examine its potential impacts on various segments of the environment. These impacts are then assessed against EPA standards for the protection of human health and the environment. The WAA must also identify and commit to adopting best practice in the control of emissions and impacts.

Chunxing Corporation CEO and Director, Dr Lakshman Jayaweera, said the proposed Hazelwood North facility would use the most advanced battery recycling technology in the world. This technology controls lead emissions to well-below EPA standards and further air modelling shows the emissions would in fact be indistinguishable from everyday background levels.

Construction of the car battery recycling facility can only proceed if the EPA approves the WAA. This decision can take between four to six months. The EPA's will manage its own consultation process, separate to the community meetings already held by Chunxing Corporation.

Managing Director of Ascend Waste and Environment, Geoff Latimer, was engaged by Chunxing Corporation to model the environmental impacts of the proposed project and complete the WAA.

"The company's WAA covers the facility's process and technology, including alternatives to the one chosen, and assesses all of these in light of best practice," Mr Latimer explained.

"Environmental best practice is explored through detailed modelling and assessments of impacts relating to air, water, land, greenhouse gases, noise and waste generation, as well as considerations of resource use, plant upset conditions and broader environmental management."

EPA will make all aspects of the WAA process public on its website and via local newspapers, while the actual WAA can be found on the Chunxing website, along with other documents about the proposed project, at www.chunxing.com.au.

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