



TRANSDEV SYDNEY

Public Notification for Pesticides Application



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1. Definitions

APVMA (Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority) is the national government body responsible for assessing and registering all pesticides products in Australia and for their regulation up to and including the point of retail sale.

Broadscale Pesticide Application is 'on-track' selective or non-selective application of herbicide via boom spray. The spraying of pesticide with hand-held equipment is not considered broadscale.

Harm to an animal or plant includes poison, injure, contaminate, infect, distress, maim, impair or kill the animal or plant.

Pesticides are any substance or mixture of substances used to destroy, suppress or alter the life cycle of any pest. These include herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides.

Pesticides Use includes the:

- (a) Application, spray or spread of the pesticide by any means (for example by hand or by the use of a machine or any type of equipment including aerial spraying equipment), or
- (b) Storage of the pesticide, or
- (c) Prepare the pesticide for use.

Sensitive Places includes:

- (a) School or preschool
- (b) Kindergarten
- (c) Childcare centre
- (d) Hospital
- (e) Community Health Care centre
- (f) Nursing Home
- (g) Place declared to be a sensitive place by the Environmental Protection Authority by notice in the NSW Government Gazette

2. Introduction

This Pesticide Use Notification Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 1995 (the Regulation). The Plan sets out how Transdev Sydney will notify members of the community of planned pesticide applications public and sensitive places that it manages.

This Notification Plan aims to meet the community's general right to know about pesticides application. The Plan allows members of the community to take action to avoid or minimise contact with pesticides, if they wish.

Pesticides are used on the light rail corridor for the management of vegetation and pest control for infrastructure maintenance, to provide a clear zone for the operation of the light rail vehicles and to address public health issue. Transdev Sydney endeavours that pesticides are applied to public and sensitive places in a safe, responsible manner, minimising harm to the community or the environment.

Transdev Sydney is committed to ensure that pesticide use is justified, minimised and the lowest toxicity of pesticides necessary to achieve the desired outcome.

3. Scope

This Plan describes:

- The public and sensitive places where notification will be provided prior to pesticides application.
- The types of users and visitors to these public and sensitive places and their estimate level of use.
- How and when Transdev Sydney will provide the community with information about its pesticides applications in public and sensitive places i.e notification methods and channels.
- How community members can access this Plan to obtain further information about Transdev Sydney's notification arrangements.
- How future reviews of this Plan will be conducted.
- Contact details for anyone wishing to discuss the Plan.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

Position	Responsible for:
Environment and Quality Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of public notification signage prior to the application of pesticides in public areas • Preparation of notification to sensitive places prior to the application of pesticide on the rail corridor • Ensure that notification has been prepared prior to organising pesticide application in public areas
HSEQ Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and approval of the Pesticides Usage Plan • Oversee the process of pesticide notification and application.
General Manager Customers and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and approval of public notification signage • Review and approval of notification to sensitive receivers

5. Public and Sensitive Places Covered by this Plan

Transdev Sydney proposes to use, or allow the use of pesticides, in the following categories of outdoor public or sensitive. Where possible, spraying at these locations will occur at night. This includes the following:

Public Places
Light Rail Stops
Sensitive Places
School or pre-school
Kindergarten
Childcare Centres
Hospitals
Community Health Centres
Nursing Homes
Bushcare sites

Transdev Sydney’s estimate of the level of community use, and types of pesticide use in these categories of public and sensitive places is summarised in the following table.

Table 1 Transdev Sydney's estimate for public exposure at public places and sensitive places

Public Places					
Location	Community User Groups	Level of Community Use	Types of Pesticide Use	Extent that Public Activities Likely to Involve Direct Contact	Potential of Public Exposure
Light Rail Stops	Rail passengers including adults, children and the elderly.	High	Spot herbicides spraying	Herbicide typically applied to control vegetation at stations gardens. Members of the public may be waiting at the platform at close distance to where the spray is applied.	Medium
Sensitive Places					
Location	Regular User Groups	Level of Community Use	Types of Pesticide Use	Extent that Public Activities Likely to Involve Direct Contact	Potential of Public Exposure
Schools or pre-schools which share a common boundary of the light rail corridor	School students and parents.	High	Spray herbicides	Herbicide will only be applied in the light rail corridor. Direct contact with the public is unlikely.	Low

Sensitive Places					
Location	Regular User Groups	Level of Community Use	Types of Pesticide Use	Extent that Public Activities Likely to Involve Direct Contact	Potential of Public Exposure
Kindergartens which share a common boundary with the light rail corridor	Kindergarten students and parents.	High	Spray herbicides	Herbicide will only be applied in the light rail corridor. Direct contact with the public is unlikely.	Low
Childcare centres which shares a common boundary with the light rail corridor.	Children and parents.	High	Spray herbicides	Herbicide will only be applied in the light rail corridor. Direct contact with the public is unlikely.	Low
Hospitals which shares a common boundary with the light rail corridor.	Patients and other visitors.	Medium	Spray herbicides	Herbicide will only be applied in the light rail corridor. Direct contact with the public is unlikely.	Low
Community health centres which share a common boundary with the light rail corridor.	Patients and other visitors.	Medium	Spray herbicides	Herbicide will only be applied in the light rail corridor. Direct contact with the public is unlikely.	Low
Nursing home which shares a common boundary with the light rail corridor.	Residents and visitors.	Medium	Spray herbicides	Herbicide will only be applied in the light rail corridor. Direct contact with the public is unlikely.	Low

6. Notification Arrangements

This section of the Plan describes how and when Transdev Sydney will provide notice of pesticides use in public places, including special measures for sensitive sites that share a boundary with the rail corridor.

These notification requirements are based on an assessment by Transdev Sydney of:

- Level and type of usage of public places where pesticides may be used;
- The extent to which members of the public that are most likely to be sensitive to pesticides (e.g children) are likely to regular use the areas
- The extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides
- The type of pesticides used.

Notification of pesticides use will be provided using two approaches:

- Signage at stations in advance of pesticide application
- Letter notification in advance of pesticide application

See Appendix for a **Notification Summary Table**.

6.1 Public Places

Signage will be provided at the Light Rail stations to the general community **at least 48 hours** prior to the application of pesticides and remain in place for **at least 48 hours afterwards** for the following pesticide uses:

- Spot herbicides or insecticide spraying
- Broad scale herbicides spraying
- Rodenticides application, (where part of an ongoing program, first use of pesticide only)

6.2 Sensitive Places

Transdev Sydney will notify to occupiers of sensitive places prior to the broadscale application of pesticide. Notice will be provided by phone, door-knock, letter or letterbox drop, depending on what is the most practicable method. In accordance with the Regulation, a neighbouring sensitive place will be notified at **least 5 working days in advance** of the proposed outdoor pesticide treatment.

7. Instances where Notice will not be provided

Areas within the operational light rail corridors (which are excluded from public access and where it is illegal for the public to be) is not covered by this Plan, unless they share a boundary with a sensitive place (as identified in Table 1). No notifications will be prepared when pesticide use is applied in these areas.

Additionally, where Transdev Sydney uses small quantities of some pesticides that are widely available in retail outlets and approved for domestic purposes public notification will not be provided. This will apply to minor control of indoor and outdoor insect pests using baits or aerosol spray cans and spot weed control using a wand or hand-held spray bottle.

8. Information to be provided

Pesticide notifications will include the following information:

- The full product name of the pesticide to be used (as listed on the label), and
- The purpose of the application, and
- The proposed date/s or date range of the pesticide use, and
- The places where the pesticide is to be used, and
- Contact telephone number of the Light Rail Control Room
- Any warnings regarding re-entry to or use of the place, if specified on the pesticide product label or the APVMA permit.
- Signs will be of a standardised design that will be easily understood and recognisable to the public.

9. How the Community will be informed of this Plan

Transdev Sydney will advise the public of this plan and its contents by:

- Placing a copy of the plan on the Transdev Sydney website (<http://www.transdevsydney.com.au/>)
- Placing a notice in the Inner West Courier

10. Future Reviews of the Plan

The notification plan will be reviewed every five (5) years or when circumstances require a review of the plan. The review will include:

- A report on progress of implementing the plan
- Public consultation on the notification methods outlined in the plan; and
- Recommendations for alterations (if applicable) to the plan

11. Contact Details

Anyone wishing to discuss this notification plan should contact the Transdev Sydney Environmental Specialist on 02 2 8584 5241.

12. References

Pesticides Act 2009

Pesticides Regulations 2009

Sydney Trains Pesticide Usage Notification Plan Guide 15th July 2013

Appendix – Notification Summary Table

Location	Site Signage	Letter Notification Sent to Property Owner in Advance of Planned Spray	Timeframe
Light Rail Stops	✓		48 hours prior to pesticides application and 48 hours after
Schools or pre-schools which share a common boundary of the light rail corridor		✓	5 working days in advance of pesticides application
Kindergartens which share a common boundary with the light rail corridor		✓	5 working days in advance of pesticides application
Childcare centres which shares a common boundary with the light rail corridor.		✓	5 working days in advance of pesticides application
Hospitals which shares a common		✓	5 working days in advance of pesticides application

Location	Site Signage	Letter Notification Sent to Property Owner in Advance of Planned Spray	Timeframe
boundary with the light rail corridor.			
Community health centres which share a common boundary with the light rail corridor.		✓	5 working days in advance of pesticides application
Nursing home which shares a common boundary with the light rail corridor.		✓	5 working days in advance of pesticides application



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