

# **Decision Report**

# **Application for Licence**

#### Part V Division 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Licence Number L9331/2022/1

Applicant Cleanaway Daniels Services Pty Ltd

**ACN** 093 315 014

File number DER2022/000202

Premises Cleanaway Daniels Welshpool

92-94 Radium Street, Welshpool

Legal description -

Lot 23 on Deposited Plan 71201

Certificate of Title Volume 1848 Folio 58

Date of report 20 October 2022

**Decision** Licence granted

Abbie Crawford

A/MANAGER, WASTE INDUSTRIES

REGULATORY SERVICES

an officer delegated under section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)

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## 1. Decision summary

This decision report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from emissions and discharges during the operation of the premises. As a result of this assessment, licence L9331/2022/1 has been granted.

# 2. Scope of assessment

### 2.1 Regulatory framework

In completing the assessment documented in this decision report, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department; DWER) has considered and given due regard to its regulatory framework and relevant policy documents which are available at <a href="https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents">https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents</a>.

## 2.2 Application summary and overview of premises

Due to operational issues at medical waste treatment facilities in the eastern states and nationwide pressure to deal with an increased influx of medical waste, on 29 April 2022, the applicant submitted an application for a licence to the department under section 57 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

The application is to seek a licence relating to the temporary storage of clinical waste at the premises. Specifically, the applicant wishes to store waste related to the COVID-19 pandemic and overflow medical from the Cleanaway Daniels Bibra Lake facility (L8461/2010/2) at the premises. The premises is located at 92-94 Radium Street, Welshpool.

COVID-19 related waste will come into the premises in 240L yellow clinical waste bins. The waste will be consolidated within the warehouse into Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBCs) or boxes and while the bins will be washed within a dedicated wash bay before being taken offsite for reuse.

Other medical waste will be transferred to the premises in sea containers and will remain within one of four sea containers located outside. There will be no refrigeration of waste on the premises so no waste with the protentional for putrefaction is to be stored on site.

All waste will either be taken to the Cleanaway Daniels Bibra Lake facility for treatment or to the eastern states for incineration. The temporary storage of waste at the Radium Street facility will continue until pressure on the medical waste industry eases or construction works to turn the Radium Street facility into a treatment facility begin (W6608/2021/1).

The premises relates to the category and assessed design capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in licence L9331/2022/1. The infrastructure and equipment relating to the premises category and any associated activities which the department has considered in line with *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) are outlined in licence L9331.

#### 3. Risk assessment

The department assesses the risks of emissions from prescribed premises and identifies the potential source, pathway and impact to receptors in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020).

To establish a risk event there must be an emission, a receptor which may be exposed to that emission through an identified actual or likely pathway, and a potential adverse effect to the receptor from exposure to that emission.

## 3.1 Source-pathways and receptors

#### 3.1.1 Emissions and controls

The key emissions and associated actual or likely pathway during premises operation which have been considered in this decision report are detailed in Table 1 below. Table 1 also details the control measures the applicant has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

**Table 1: Proposed applicant controls** 

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls							
Operation	Operation									
Odour	Unloading, decanting and storage of COVID- 19 related waste  Storage of clinical waste	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	<ul> <li>All unloading of COVID-19 waste to occur inside the building;</li> <li>No COVID-19 waste to be stored outside the warehouse;</li> <li>Medical waste stored outside the warehouse to be stored inside wrapped and covered IBCs or boxes within sea containers; and</li> <li>No anatomical waste to be stored on site.</li> </ul>							
Pathogens	Unloading, decanting and storage of COVID- 19 related waste  Storage of clinical waste	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity  Overland runoff / migration into stormwater potentially causing impacts to surface water quality and human health	<ul> <li>All unloading of COVID-19 waste to occur inside the building;</li> <li>No COVID-19 waste to be stored outside the warehouse;</li> <li>Medical waste stored outside the warehouse to be stored inside wrapped and covered IBCs or boxes within sea containers; and</li> <li>No anatomical waste to be stored on site.</li> </ul>							

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Contaminated washwater	Washing of contaminated storage bins	Overland runoff / migration into stormwater potentially causing impacts to surface water quality and human health	<ul> <li>Onsite stormwater management is primarily a closed system with the ability to isolate the rear of the premises;</li> <li>Bins to be washed within a rollover bunded area;</li> <li>Bin wash station to be fitted with a floor drain containing a hose and pipe system to transfer wastewater into an IBC for appropriate disposal;</li> <li>Daily inspection and maintenance of bin wash station; and</li> <li>All waste to be stored within leak proof containers and protected from the weather.</li> </ul>

#### 3.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessment* (DWER 2020), the Delegated Officer has excluded the applicant's employees, visitors, and contractors from its assessment. Protection of these parties often involves different exposure risks and prevention strategies, and is provided for under other state legislation.

Table 2 and

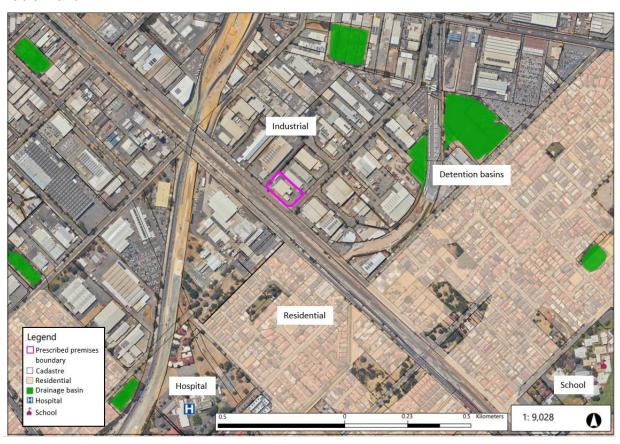


Figure 1 below provides a summary of potential human and environmental receptors that may

be impacted as a result of activities upon or emission and discharges from the prescribed premises (Guideline: Environmental Siting (DWER 2020)).

Table 2: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Human receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Residential premises	Approximately 110 m south and 320 south-east of premises boundary
Industrial premises	Immediately adjacent surrounding the premises
Hospital – Bentley Health Service	Approximately 460 m south-west of premises boundary
School – St Norbert College, Saint Joseph's School and Goodstart Early Learning Queens Park	Approximately 860 m south-east of the premises boundary
Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities  – Banksia dominated woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain	Approximately 380 m north and 1.1km north-east of premises boundary
Underlying groundwater (non-potable purposes)	Approximately 5-10 m below ground level
Compensation basin	Approximately 380 m north and 320 m north-east of premises boundary

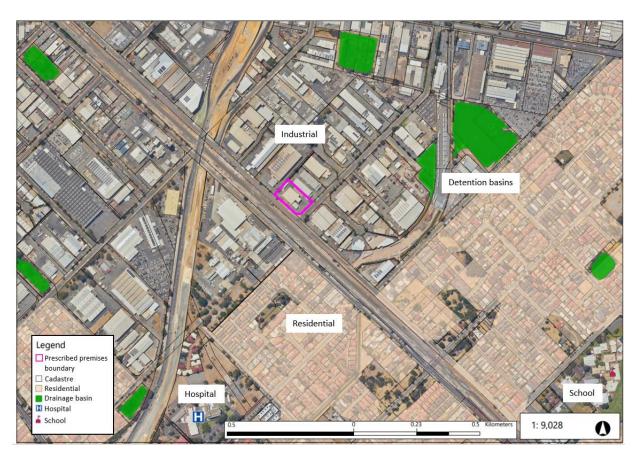


Figure 1: Distance to sensitive receptors

## 3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) for each identified emission source and takes into account potential source-pathway and receptor linkages as identified in Section 3.1. Where linkages are in-complete they have not been considered further in the risk assessment.

Where the applicant has proposed mitigation measures/controls (as detailed in Section 3.1), these have been considered when determining the final risk rating. Where the delegated officer considers the applicant's proposed controls to be critical to maintaining an acceptable level of risk, these will be incorporated into the licence as regulatory controls.

Additional regulatory controls may be imposed where the applicant's controls are not deemed sufficient. Where this is the case the need for additional controls will be documented and justified in Table 3.

Licence L9331/2022/1 that accompanies this decision report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the premises.

The conditions in the issued licence, as outlined in Table 3 have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

Table 3: Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the premises during operation

Risk events	Risk events							Justification for		
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions <sup>2</sup> licence	additional regulatory controls		
Operation	Operation									
Unloading, decanting and storage of COVID-19 related waste	Odour	Air / windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Industrial premises immediately adjacent surrounding the premises  Residential premises 110 m south and 320 m southeast	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 1, 2, 3 & 16	N/A		
Storage of clinical waste	Leachate / Pathogens	Air / windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Industrial premises immediately adjacent surrounding the premises  Residential premises 110 m south and 320 m southeast	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Major L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 & 16	N/A		

Risk events				Risk rating <sup>1</sup>	Applicant		Justification for	
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions <sup>2</sup> licence	additional regulatory controls
Washing of contaminated storage bins	Pathogens  Contaminated wash water	Overland runoff / migration into stormwater potentially causing impacts to surface water quality and human health	Industrial premises immediately adjacent surrounding the premises  Residential premises 110 m south and 320 m southeast  Compensation basin 380m north and 320m northeast	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Major L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 & 16	N/A

Note 1: Consequence ratings, likelihood ratings and risk descriptions are detailed in the Guideline: Risk Assessments (DWER 2020).

Note 2: Proposed applicant controls are depicted by standard text. **Bold and underline text** depicts additional regulatory controls imposed by department.

# 4. Consultation

Table 4 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

**Table 4: Consultation** 

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Application advertised on the department's website on 3 June 2022	None received	N/A
Local Government Authority advised of proposal on 7 June 2022	The City of Canning replied on 20 June 2022 with the following comments:  The applicant holds the relevant development approvals for the proposed activities;  The applicant will need to hold an appropriate trade waste permit from the relevant reticulated sewage provider for the bin wash station must be appropriately sized and constructed in such a manner to contain overspray and prevent contamination of stormwater drains; and  If emptying waste into larger vessels, ensure it is carried out in an area to prevent windblown waste, and adequate stormwater drains with filter/capture mechanisms.	Noted. The applicant intends to capture waste wash water in IBCs for appropriate disposal. The applicant may wish to apply for a trade waste permit in the future.  The bin wash station is located within the warehouse and has been constructed with rollover bunds and two spray walls to prevent overspray and runoff. All wastewater is to be captured via a floor drain within the bin wash station and pumped into an IBC for appropriate disposal.  All consolidating of waste will be done inside the warehouse minimising the potential for windblown waste. Condition 9 has been added to ensure that no windblown waste escapes the premises.
Department of Health advised of proposal 21 June 2022	The Department of Health replied on 23 June 2022 stating that all clinical wastes to be handled, transported and disposed in accordance with the Code of Practice for Clinical and Related Waste Management subject to the following:  1) 'COVID-19 waste' which are not clinical waste is not part of this advice;  2) All clinical wastes to be in sealed containers and either transported to the Daniels Bibra Lake facility or dispatched for incineration as soon as practicable in accordance with Code of Practice;	Noted. Licence L9331/2022/1 has been written in conjunction with these conditions.

	3) Storage and handling of all clinical waste to be managed to avoid damage to containers, odours and/or seepage; and  4) Auditable tracking documentation of all clinical waste to be retained	
	and copies supplied to generators of clinical wastes upon request.	
Applicant was provided with draft documents on 7 July 2022	The applicant provided an email response on 9 August 2022 commenting on the draft package. The applicant requested to change the assessed design capacity and storage requirements for the storage of clinical, pharmaceutical and cytotoxic waste on the premises.	The department sought advice from the Department of Health on 10 August 2022 regarding the proposed changes and held a meeting with the applicant on 16 August 2022. The department found most of the requested changes to present an unacceptable risk and requested additional information from the applicant.
		The applicant responded on 3 October 2022 and was provided with a second draft package on 11 October 2022.

### 5. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this decision report, the delegated officer has determined that a licence will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

#### References

- 1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
- 2. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2020, *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
- 3. DWER 2020, Guideline: Risk Assessments, Perth, Western Australia.
- 4. Department of Health 2021, Code of Practice for Clinical and Related Waste Management, Perth, Western Australia.

# **Appendix 1: Application validation summary**

SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY (as updated from validation checklist)								
Application type								
Works approval								
		Relevant works approval number:			None			
		Has the works approva with?	al been complied	Yes	s□ No			
Licence		Has time limited operations works approval demonacceptable operations?	strated	Yes	s□ No	□ N/A □		
		Environmental Complia Critical Containment In Report submitted?		Yes	s□ No			
		Date report received:						
Renewal		Current licence number:						
Amendment to works approval		Current works approval number:						
Amendment to licence		Current licence number:						
Amendment to licence		Relevant works approval number:			N/A			
Registration		Current works approval number:			None			
Date application received		29 April 2022						
Applicant and premises details								
Applicant name/s (full legal name/s	)	Cleanaway Daniels Se	rvices Pty Ltd					
Premises name		Cleanaway Daniels We	elshpool					
Premises location		Lot 23 on Diagram 71201 Volume 1848 Folio 58 92-94 Radium Street Welshpool						
Local Government Authority		City of Canning						
Application documents								
HPCM file reference number:	DER2018/001042-7~42 DER2022/000202							
Key application documents (additio application form):	Supporting Information							
Scope of application/assessment								
Summary of proposed activities or changes to existing operations.	Operation of a temporary facility for the storage of medical waste related to COVID-19 pandemic including a bin wash facility and emergency storage of other medical wastes.							

#### **SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY (as updated from validation checklist)**

Category number/s (activities that cause the premises to become prescribed premises)

Table 1: Prescribed premises categories

Prescribed premises category and description	Proposedproduction or design capacity	Proposed changes to the production or design capacity (amendments only)
Category 62: Solid waste depot	Proposed – 5,840 tpa of COVID- 19 related wastes 48 tpa of other medical wastes	N/A

#### Legislative context and other approvals

Has the applicant referred, or do they intend to refer, their proposal to the EPA under Part IV of the EP Act as a significant proposal?	Yes □ No ⊠	Referral decision No: N/A  Managed under Part V   Assessed under Part IV
Does the applicant hold any existing Part IV Ministerial Statements relevant to the application?	Yes □ No ⊠	Ministerial statement No: N/A EPA Report No: N/A
Has the proposal been referred and/or assessed under the EPBC Act?	Yes □ No ⊠	Reference No:
Has the applicant demonstrated occupancy (proof of occupier status)?	Yes ⊠ No □	Certificate of title ⊠  General lease □ Expiry:  Mining lease / tenement □ Expiry:  Other evidence □ Expiry:
Has the applicant obtained all relevant planning approvals?	Yes □ No □ N	Approval:  Expiry date:  If N/A explain why?  Email dated 20 June 2022 from the City of Canning confirms that the applicant has the relevant planning approvals.
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing EP Act clearing permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes □ No ⊠	CPS No: N/A No clearing is proposed.

SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY (as	SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY (as updated from validation checklist)						
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing CAWS Act clearing licence in relation to this proposal?	Yes □ No ⊠	Application reference No: N/A Licence/permit No: N/A No clearing is proposed.					
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing RIWI Act licence or permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes □ No □	Application reference No: N/A Licence/permit No: N/A Licence / permit not required.					
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the EP Act)?	Yes □ No ⊠	Name: N/A Type: N/A Has Regulatory Services (Water) been consulted? Yes □ No □ N/A ☒ Regional office: N/A					
Is the Premises situated in a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA)?	Yes □ No ⊠	Name: N/A  Priority: N/A  Are the proposed activities/ landuse compatible with the PDWSA (refer to WQPN 25)?  Yes □ No □ N/A ⊠					
Is the Premises subject to any other Acts or subsidiary regulations (e.g. Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004, Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004, State Agreement Act xxxx)	Yes □ No ⊠	N/A					
Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area?	Yes □ No ⊠	N/A					
Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements?	Yes □ No ⊠	N/A					

Is the Premises a known or suspected contaminated site under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003?  Classification: N/A  Date of classification: N/A	SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY (as updated from validation checklist)			
Yes  No	contaminated site under the	Yes □ No □		