

Business Procedure

Synthetic Mineral Fibres (SMF) Document Number – OHS-PROC-221

This document applies to the following sites:

All Sites	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Brisbane Office	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mackay Gas Turbine <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mica Creek PS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meandu Mine	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stanwell PS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tarong Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wivenhoe Small Hydro PS	<input type="checkbox"/>		

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1.0 Purpose

This Business Procedure describes Stanwell's minimum mandatory requirements for managing risks associated with synthetic mineral fibres (SMF).

2.0 Scope

This Business Procedure applies throughout Stanwell, all its sites and all activities under Stanwell's control. It applies to all Stanwell employees and contractors, including visitors to Stanwell workplaces.

3.0 Actions

The following shall occur:

- where possible, eliminate the need to remove or disturb SMF;
- materials and products selected do not contain SMF, where reasonably practicable;
- appropriate instruction, training and supervision is provided to workers who handle SMF; and
- handling of SMF is planned, risk assessed, and suitable risk control measures are implemented.

3.1 Safe System of Work Requirements

3.1.1 Risk Assessment

A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) shall be developed for work involving the use of SMF.

3.2 Work Environment Requirements

3.2.1 Barricading and Signage

Where work is being undertaken involving SMF, the work area shall be:

- controlled via barriers;
- clearly signed at all access points; and
- set up to minimise the spread of fibres.

All non-essential personnel shall be kept clear of any work area(s) where SMF is being handled.

Barricading and signage must be used in accordance with *Business Procedure: Barricading and Signage OHS-PROC-134*.

3.2.2 Air Monitoring

Controls shall be implemented in line with the National Code of Practice for the Safe Use of Synthetic Mineral Fibres 1990.

Where reasonable concern over work practices are not in line with these requirements then air sampling shall occur to establish exposure levels within the various tasks.

Air monitoring records shall be maintained.

3.2.3 Health Monitoring

Health monitoring shall be undertaken if a worker is carrying out ongoing work using, handling, generating or storing SMF and there is a significant risk to the workers health because of exposure to SMF.

Health monitoring shall also be provided if:

- valid techniques are available to detect the effect on the worker's health; and
- a valid way of determining exposure is available and it is uncertain on reasonable grounds whether exposure has resulted in the biological exposure standard being exceeded.

Health monitoring records must be maintained in accordance with Business Procedure: *Health Surveillance and Medical Examinations OHS-PROC-405*

3.3 Plant and Equipment Requirements

As far as reasonably practicable, the following shall occur:

- products and materials purchased do not contain SMF; and
- products and materials containing SMF are in the shape that requires minimum trimming / cutting and handling on site.

3.3.1 PPE Requirements

All personnel conducting SMF related work shall be issued with suitable extra personal protective equipment (PPE), including as a minimum respirators, cartridges, coveralls and gloves.

All PPE used for SMF related work shall be correctly handled:

- where possible, used PPE must be sealed, decontaminated, labelled and correctly disposed of; and
- as far as reasonably practicable, disposable clothing is to be worn. Where non-disposable clothing is worn, it shall not be taken home to be laundered, it shall be laundered at a laundry equipped to launder SMF; and all other reusable PPE must be decontaminated and stored in a sealed and labelled container.

3.4 Safe Work Practices

The following shall occur:

- SMF waste is placed in plastic bags or other containers which prevent fibre and / or dust emission and disposed of in accordance with site requirements and local waste disposal authority requirements;
- unbonded SMF is wetted down during removal activities, where hazards do not exist;
- SMF products and materials are to be stored in such a way that minimises workers exposure, for example, in low traffic areas and contained in sealed packaging or cover / wrapped in plastic sheeting;
- controls are implemented to make sure that the lowest possible level of airborne fibres and dust is achieved when working with SMF;
- work areas are to be cleaned regularly to remove any build-up of SMF, visible waste is to be removed promptly to avoid being trampled and spread; and
- cleaning SMF contaminated areas is to be undertaken using an industrial vacuum cleaner. The industrial vacuum cleaner must be fitted with a high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter. Where the use of an industrial vacuum cleaner is not practicable, wet mopping and wiping may be undertaken. Disposal cloths / mop heads are to be used for this purpose and are to be

disposed of in the same manner as SMF waste. Barricading is to be established for cleaning tasks at a suitable distance.

3.5 Training and Competence Requirements

It shall be ensured that all personnel involved in activities that involve exposure to SMF are trained and competent as per Stanwell's requirements.

4.0 Review, Consultation and Communication

Review:

This document is required to be reviewed, as a minimum, every 5 years.

Consultation:

Personnel consulted during the review of this document include the Corporate Health and Safety team as well as any other personnel who have an interest in the process.

Communication/Requirements after Update:

This Business Procedure will be communicated to sites by an e-mail from the Manager Health and Safety and on GenNet.

5.0 References

Source	Reference
Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queensland Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011, s49- 50 National Code of Practice for the Safe Use of Synthetic Mineral Fibres 1990 Queensland Environmental Protection Act 1994
Australian Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil
Business Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barricading and Signage OHS-PROC-134 Hazard Management OHS-PROC-33 Health Surveillance and Medical Examinations OHS-PROC-405 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) OHS-PROC-30
Stay Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synthetic Mineral Fibres (SMF) OHS-PROC-221A
Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil

6.0 Definitions

Term	Meaning
Synthetic Mineral Fibre (SMF)	A general term used to collectively describe a number of amorphous (non-crystalline) fibrous materials including glass wool, mineral wool and ceramic fibre. SMFs are also referred to as Man Made Mineral Fibres (MMMFs).

7.0 Revision History

Rev. No.	Rev. Date	Revision Description	Author	Endorse/Check	Approved By
0	22.05.2015	Document created to incorporate all legacy documents	J. Paull	M. Joy / T. Hooper	I. Gilbar
1	15.08.2020	Scheduled 5 year review	J. Fullard	J. Paull	K. Ussher

8.0 Appendices

Appendix A: Synthetic Mineral Fibres (SMF) Document Flowchart

