



MINISTRY OF
MANPOWER



National
Environment
Agency

Safeguard · Nurture · Cherish

21 Nov 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

CIRCULAR ON SAFE WORK PRACTICES DURING THERMAL FOGGING TREATMENT

We refer to the circular of 15 Jul 2013 advising fogging operators against using diesel as a carrier for thermal fogging of refuse chutes, and to replace it with a safer substitute.

2 The main concern with using diesel as a carrier for thermal fogging of refuse chutes is the danger of flash fire and explosion. Fogging operators should therefore, as far as reasonably practicable, eliminate or minimise the risk by substituting the carrier with a non-flammable solvent.

3 We are mindful that operators would need time to source for safer carrier substitutes. In the meantime, if operators need to use diesel for thermal fogging of refuse chutes, they must take necessary safety measures. These include implementation of safe work procedures, such as ensuring adequate ventilation of chutes before fogging, operating the fogging machines in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, maintaining the fogging machines regularly and using appropriate personal protective equipment.

4 Employers are reminded of their duties under the Workplace Safety and Health Act to take reasonably practicable measures to ensure the safety and health of their employees at work. In this respect, fogging operators are responsible for ensuring a safe outcome if they need to use diesel for thermal fogging of refuse chutes.

Yours faithfully

Tan Kia Tang
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