



# **PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN**

**Final**  
**1 February 2007**

Sydney Ports Corporation

Level 8, 207 Kent Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
PO Box 25, Millers Point NSW 2000

Telephone 9296 4657  
Facsimile 9296 4742

[www.sydneyports.com.au](http://www.sydneyports.com.au)

# PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN

## INTRODUCTION

This Pesticide Use Notification Plan (the Plan) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Pesticides Regulation 1995* (the Regulation). The Plan sets out how Sydney Ports Corporation (Sydney Ports) will notify members of the community of pesticide applications it makes or allows to be made to public places that it owns or controls.

The Plan is intended to inform the community in avoiding or minimising contact and exposure to pesticides in use on Sydney Ports' public places under its control. It is information presented to the community to take action in avoiding contact with the pesticides, as they wish.

In essence, the Plan describes which Sydney Ports public places have pesticides in use, the users or visitors to these public places, how and when these pesticides are used, the application methods, and the level of notification which will be used by Sydney Ports. In addition, the Plan will outline how and where the community can access the Plan, notification arrangements, future review of the Plan and contact details for further information.

Sydney Ports is a State-owned Corporation, established in 1995 under the *Ports Corporatisation and Waterways Management Act 1995* to bring greater commercial and customer focus to the management of international shipping and port operations in Sydney. Sydney Ports owns and manages the principal commercial ports of Sydney Harbour and Botany Bay. Activities such as cargo handling and stevedoring are generally undertaken by tenants operating on Sydney Ports land. Sydney Ports also operates two cruise ship terminals located in Sydney Harbour. Further information about Sydney Ports and the areas it manages is available from [www.sydneyports.com.au](http://www.sydneyports.com.au).

## PESTICIDES USE - GENERAL

Sydney Ports and its maintenance contractors use pesticides on Sydney Ports controlled facilities and public places to manage weeds, termites, insects and pests. This is performed to protect public property and the community who use the Sydney Ports public places.

## PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN

Sydney Ports proposes to use or allow the use of pesticides in the following categories of outdoor public places under its ownership or control:

Public land owned or controlled by the Sydney Ports, including:

- places of interest
- road or other easements legally accessible to the public
- public places external to Sydney Ports buildings

Refer to Table 1 for specific locations covered by this Plan.

## **LIMITATIONS OF THIS PLAN**

The Sydney Ports Plan will **not** include information on how notice will be provided to the community of pesticide use in the **interiors** of the Sydney Ports' buildings.

The use of pesticides in Sydney Ports' buildings is usually conducted at times when the public does not have access within these buildings. The Plan shall only include Sydney Ports controlled areas to the **external** public places surrounding these buildings.

The buildings interiors **not** included in the Notification Plan are:-

1. Overseas Passenger Terminal, Circular Quay
2. Wharf 8 Darling Harbour

It should also be noted that the majority of Sydney Ports properties under its control have no potential for legal public access and are not considered to be public places. Access to such properties are signposted and/or are fenced off indicating that entry is either for Sydney Ports business, restricting the general public from accessing the site.

This includes access roads or paths to or within Sydney Ports controlled properties as these areas are restricted to the general public, and therefore not considered to be public places.

The Sydney Ports Plan does not cover public places outside the boundary of its properties, in particular adjacent public areas which are beyond the property boundary.

## **PESTICIDES APPLICATIONS**

Sydney Ports has identified the following modes of pesticide application used on its public place properties:

1. Weed spraying – Spot Spraying
2. Weed spraying – Mass Spraying
3. Rodent baits
4. Termite control
5. Insecticides

Descriptions of the methods of application are provided below.

### **1. Spot Weed Spraying**

This process involves light intermittent spraying of weeds using small controlled amount of commonly available household pesticide products such as "Roundup". This "spot spraying" is usually undertaken on smaller areas where weeds are found in small clusters.

### **2. Mass Weed Spraying**

The difference to Spot Weeding to Mass Weeding is that this process requires larger more dense areas of weed to be sprayed using a backpack system.

Typical application is for Bitou Bush control. Chemical weed sprays such as “Roundup – Bi Active” are used for such applications.

### **3. Rodent Baits**

Depending on the premises and the type of rodents, Sydney Ports’ contractors use three types of baits in encapsulated traps. The traps are predominantly used external to buildings, usually in gardens. Depending on the application, the three product baits used are:

- a. Talon
- b. Diatrac
- c. Bronakil

### **4. Termite Control**

Termites are treated with either baits or enclosed treatments, using industrially available products. These treatments may require application by specialist licensed contractors. Typical treatments are applied to timber wharfs and piers where termite activity has been detected. The termite treatments largely depend on the level of activity and its direct application. The concentrations of these chemical based treatments, again, largely depend on specific application. The commonly products or processes used include:

- a. Baits used in encapsulated traps - Nemises
- b. Termite Treatments – Biflex and or Termador

### **5. Spiders & Cockroaches**

As per the application and concentration of chemical treatments used, this would largely depend on the type of pest and the environment.

Sydney Ports’ contractors use the following commercial insecticide products:

- a. Cislin
- b. Biflex
- c. Biflex Aqua
- d. Ultra

The level of community use, categories of regular user groups and types of pesticide use in each of these categories of public places is summarised in the following table, Table 1.

**Table 1: Summarised Community and Pesticide Use in Sydney Ports Public Places**

<b>Public places</b>	<b>Regular user groups</b>	<b>Level of use of public place</b>	<b>Type of pesticide use</b>
<b>Overseas Passenger Terminal (external areas)</b>	Passengers, restaurant patrons, venue goers, visitors	Very high on ship days and holidays/weekends. Medium otherwise.	Herbicides, Insecticides, Rodenticides (Traps).
<b>Darling Harbour 8 Passenger Terminal (external areas)</b>	Passengers, venue goers, visitors	Very high on ship days or venue days. Otherwise no access allowed to the public.	Herbicides, Insecticides, Rodenticides (Traps).
<b>Molineux Point Prince Of Wales Drive, Port Botany</b>	Walkers, sightseers, hikers, cyclists, general recreational activities.	Low use. Can become medium use of weekends and holidays	Herbicides
<b>World War II Monument, Glebe Island</b>	Historical interest groups, walkers, general recreational activities	Low use	Herbicides
<b>White Bay, Roberts Road</b>	Local residents, walkers, general recreational activities	Medium use although higher use in warm weather	Herbicides

Other areas which may be become part of Sydney Ports' property portfolio in the future, which fit into the above categories, would be treated with similar methods, with similar notification requirements as set out in this Plan.

### **NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS**

This section of the Plan describes how and when Sydney Ports will provide notice of pesticide use in public places, arrangements for emergency pesticide applications, and circumstances where notice will not be given.

These notification requirements are based on Sydney Ports' assessment of a number of factors relating to the applications, which are outlined below:

- **Spot Weed Spraying** is a controlled intermittent process which is executed in normally calm prevailing weather conditions. The need for signposting and notification in Sydney Ports public places for this activity will not be undertaken due to the controlled spraying conditions and low quantities used. Sydney Ports considers the risk of contact or exposure of herbicides used on its public spaces for spot weeding is likely to be limited, as small quantities of common household herbicides are used.
- **Mass Weed Spraying** is a controlled process to address greater areas of weed, and due to the larger areas treated, and the higher risk for the public to come in contact with the herbicide, notification in the form of a temporary sign shall be undertaken.
- **Rodent Baits** are controlled bait traps with low risk of contact with the public. These traps contain and encapsulate the bait and Sydney Ports considers these traps to be of low risk to the community, as the public would have limited contact or exposure to the rodenticide chemicals used in these traps. General signposting shall be displayed permanently that rodenticides exist on Sydney Ports property.
- **Termite Control** is conducted by licensed contractors and operators. The treatments are usually performed after normal business hours and most treatments use encapsulated traps or controlled treatments using 'core hole & plug' processes where dust is injected into a borehole within the timber and immediately plugged up. Due to the limited accessibility of such traps and treatments to the public, no notification will be provided.
- **Spider & Cockroach** treatments include chemical application, usually inside Sydney Ports controlled buildings, which is outside the scope of the Sydney Ports Plan. However, intermittent 'as required' external treatments to the Overseas Passenger Terminal and Wharf 8 buildings may be required to treat cockroaches, red back spiders etc. Notification of the treatments shall be temporarily installed to provide information to the public.
- **Emergency Pesticide Applications** Where disease or pest outbreak requires immediate action to prevent damage, or in cases where emergency pesticide applications are required to deal with biting or dangerous pests such as wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites to rodents (that pose an immediate health hazard), or with plague animals, notice will be provided by temporary signage.

## **HOW AND WHEN NOTICE OF PESTICIDE USE WILL BE PROVIDED**

For public Sydney Ports controlled gardens, open spaces, road verges and reserves, temporary notice of **mass weed spraying** and **chemical treatment for spiders and cockroaches** shall be displayed by temporary signposting of the site one week before the scheduled date(s). The sign posting shall be either installed by Sydney Ports' staff and or by the Sydney Ports Pest Management Contractor. The signs shall remain during in place during the mass weed spraying treatments and removed a week after its completion.

Permanent signposting will be shall be displayed that **rodenticides** exist on the Sydney Ports property.

For **emergency pesticide applications**, signposting notice will be provided during the period of the pesticide application, and for a period of one week after its completion. Due to the nature of the emergency application it would not be possible to provide prior notice.

### **PUBLIC PLACES WHERE NO NOTICE WILL BE PROVIDED**

Internal areas of any Sydney Ports controlled buildings, in particular the OPT and Wharf 8 venues, are not included in the scope of the Sydney Ports Plan.

As discussed above, no notice will be provided for spot weed spraying and use of termite traps or treatments.

### **WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED ON NOTICES**

In accordance with clause 11L(2)(g) of the *Pesticides Regulation*, notice of pesticides uses will include the following information:

- the full product name of the pesticide to be used,
- the purpose of the use, clearly setting out what pest or pests are being treated,
- the proposed date/s or date range of the pesticide use,
- the places where the pesticide is to be used,
- contact telephone number of the Sydney Ports officer who people can contact to discuss the notice, and
- any warnings regarding re-entry to or use of the place, if specified on the pesticide product label or the APVMA<sup>1</sup> permit.

### **HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN**

Sydney Ports Corporation will advise the community of this Plan and its contents by:

- making a copy of the Plan available for viewing, free of charge, at its main office, at Level 8, 207 Kent Street, Sydney,
- placing a copy of the Plan on the its website,
- placing a notice in appropriate local newspapers, and
- placing a notice in the NSW Government Gazette.

### **FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN**

The Plan will be reviewed every 5 years or when circumstances require a review or addendum of the Plan. The review will include:

- a report on progress of implementing the Plan,

---

<sup>1</sup> The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), the national government body responsible for assessing and registering (or otherwise approving) all pesticide products in Australia and for their regulation up to and including the point of retail sale.

- public consultation on the notification methods outlined in the Plan, and
- recommendations for alterations (if applicable) to the Plan.

A revised Plan will be prepared based on any changes to operations, requirements, and community feedback during the 5 year period. The revised Plan will be available to the community for consultation prior to finalisation.

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

Anyone wishing to contact Sydney Ports Corporation to discuss this Plan or to obtain details of pesticide applications in public places should contact:

Sydney Ports Maintenance Manager

Address: Level 8, 207 Kent Street, Sydney

Postal Address: PO Box 25, Millers Point NSW 2000

Telephone: 9296 4999

Facsimile: 9296 4742

Website: [www.sydneyports.com.au](http://www.sydneyports.com.au)

Email: [enquiries@sydneyports.com.au](mailto:enquiries@sydneyports.com.au)