

Motion Greater Wellington Regional Council 29th June 2010

GW in its recent submission to ERMA (26th Feb 2010):

- recognized our obligations under the Montreal Protocol, and the requirement to phase out the production and consumption of methyl bromide by 1 January 2005
- supported further investigation into methyl bromide recapture to prevent further discharges to the environment
- acknowledged the use of recapture technology by Nelson City Council for fumigations of up to 300 kg of methyl bromide

Expert advice at ERMA hearings outlined:

- Full recapture technology as described by Nordico for fumigation of logs at double the cost
- An alternative heat method of treatment used at Auckland Port.
- A further cheaper method of recapture (ERMA hearing at Picton) outlined by Peter Joyce of Value Recovery, which reuses charcoal up to 200 times through a chemical engineering system patented in the United States, instead of requiring disposal after each use as in the charcoal (activated carbon) of the Nordico system.

Recommends that the Council:

1: Notes the submission

2: Request Centre Port treat with heat or other alternatives to methyl bromide, anything that MAF-BNZ permits to be treated with such, and require recapture of all toxic fumigants.

3. Request that logs transported from Greater Wellington Forest utilize full recapture technology when fumigating by methyl bromide, or that Greater Wellington logs be on-shipped to a port with recapture facilities.

4. Determine that Rule 3 of the *Regional Air Quality Management Plan for the Wellington Region* be subject to a Plan Change reflecting the availability of alternatives to methyl bromide use or release, including alternatives such as heat, CO₂, vacuum, and sanitising liquids, and requiring use of such alternatives when permitted by MAF-BNZ, and where no alternative exists, require the use of fumigant recapture technology.

Proposer: Cr Paul Bruce
17th June 2010

