

Items taken on notice during the Senate Select Committee on PFAS WorkSafe Victoria's response

1. Commitment to make available the 2022 WorkSafe inspection report from a visit to Avalon airport in response to drinking water contamination.

Please find enclosed.

2. Commitment to provide the improvement notices issued during site visits where the reason for the visit mentions PFAS.

Please find enclosed inspection reports and improvement notices, noting the improvement notice may not be related to PFAS, but PFAS was discussed during the site visit and reflected in the inspection report.

3. Why do you not have any education advice on PFAS on your website for employers and employees?

PFAS is not currently classified as a dangerous good under the *Dangerous Goods Act 1985*. In the absence of the requisite classification, WorkSafe regulates hazardous substances under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* (OHS Act) and the OHS regulations.

The OHS regulations classify a hazardous substance in accordance with the globally harmonised system of classification and labelling of chemicals. PFAS, as a group of chemicals, also is not currently classified under this system as a hazardous substance, though some specific PFAS containing chemicals are.

To support employers to maintain a safe and healthy workplace, WorkSafe publishes and regularly updates information and guidance on range of occupational health and safety topics on its website, including its hazardous substances compliance code (code). The code provides practical guidance to employers on how to comply with their legal obligations under the OHS Act, when working with hazardous substances.

WorkSafe's guidance on hazardous substances includes guidance on certain supplied PFAS chemicals which are classified as hazardous substances.

WorkSafe will continue to monitor if specific PFAS guidance is required, based on Commonwealth or state health advice.

Please note the following information is provided for the purposes of informing the Senate Select Committee on PFAS (per and polyfluoroalkyl substances). WorkSafe request that it not be published without WorkSafe's prior approval.