

Wednesday 08.01.2020

Attention Mark Griffith;
United Energy
43/45 Centreway,
Mount Waverley VIC 3149

Hi Mark,

As we have been discussing for the past 18 months some safety concerns and some opportunities for safety improvements at the 3 x UE depots, Brett Schumann and I have taken the opportunity to document as below

We have broken our concerns into the current 3 x UE sites

Mornington, Keysborough and Burwood

Concerns and Opportunities at Mornington Depot:

The Mornington depot has large areas of surface area that are gravel-based (rather than best practice concrete slab-based), and areas of bitumen that are in poor state of repair. These two issues are far from ideal for the operations of mobile plant including forklifts, mobile cranes and we have experienced on multiple occasion that the forklift has also become bogged. Another issue at Mornington depot is the single site entry/exit arrangement and additionally to this the one entry exit point is on the crest of a hill that makes it very tricky to navigate large operational vehicles in and out of the site and creates restrictions on the vehicle flow within the depot. The storage of Older Transformers (PCB oil filled) is a challenge at the Mornington site and controls and containment facilities used seem to be at the very low end of best practices. The Mornington depot has no facilities to house Glove and Barrier Elevating Work platforms under cover, it is our belief that all Glove and Barrier vehicles should be housed under cover to ensure that all EWP booms are dry and protected from the sun, the new Australian standards for wet testing of EWP booms has highlighted that vehicles left out in the weather are hard to maintain and constantly do not meet the testing requirements. The last point for the Mornington site would be that many people have a long history at this site and are aware of that if any major changes E.G the disturbance of soil onsite would raise a concern about asbestos as the site was an old PMG / Telecom training facilities that has many asbestos style training pits buried / covered over.

Concerns and opportunities at Keysborough Depot

The Keysborough site as many of the same concerns as Mornington and is a very old, not well maintained site so I will focus on the big concerns. The site is very tight in lay out, restricting traffic flow and the current hard stand areas cannot cope with the heavy vehicles being driven across its surface and are deteriorating, again raising concern about the ability for the use of mobile plant (forklifts and Mobile cranes). The site toilets and shower facilities are in desperate need of replacement or serious upgrading and the site is known to have asbestos issues E.G cladding floor tiles. The work shop and stores arrangements are from the 1960's and have very low ceiling heights that makes access very difficult. The depot has no facilities to house Glove and Barrier Elevating Work platforms under cover; as noted with Mornington it is our belief that all Glove and Barrier vehicles should be housed under cover to ensure that all EWP booms are dry and protected from the sun, the new Australian standards for wet testing of EWP booms has highlighted that vehicles left

out in the weather are hard to maintain and constantly do not meet the testing requirements as a result of this.

Concerns and Opportunities at the Burwood Depot

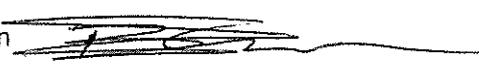
The Burwood site has the same hard stand or surface issues as the Mornington and Keysborough site, the depot raises the same concerns with asbestos and whilst it has some capacity to house Glove and Barrier EWP's under cover it currently can only accommodate approximately half of these vehicles. One of the major concerns for this site is the Storage of oil filled equipment (Electrical Transformers) and the general traffic flow at the site.

All 3 UE sites have no appropriate truck cleaning facilities, this affects the ability of the field work force to appropriate maintain the EWP booms of all EWP's and this is highlighted more with the Glove and Barrier EWP's.

We would welcome any opportunity to discuss these issues and would further welcome any investment that moves towards increasing the safety standards and useability of these Depots

Kind Regards

Clint Tickell 

Brett Schumann 

ETU Representative

Health and Safety Representative