Health Infrastructure

Work Health and Safety Forum – 22 November 2017



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Welcome and Introduction



WHS risks for both internal and external stakeholders must be considered at all stages of the project lifecycle

- Purpose of today and session overview
- "Work Health and Safety (WHS) Moment"









Risk Case Study: Asbestos in Recycled Aggregates



- Recycled concrete/brick is able to be supplied in accordance with NSW EPA's `Recovered Aggregate Order & Exemption'
- Commonly used as backfill material in service trenches, internal construction haul roads
- WARNING: Commonly contains asbestos, which means it does not meet the NSW EPA's requirement to contain `no asbestos'

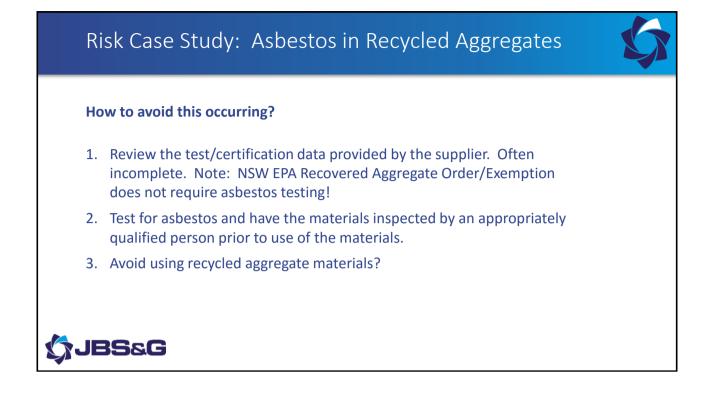


Risk Case Study: Asbestos in Recycled Aggregates

The Problem

- Recycled aggregate is brought onto a Health construction site and used to backfill around services
- Aggregate later found to contain asbestos
- All aggregate containing asbestos must be removed from site. Services disrupted / re-work required / cost and time implications / potential health risks





Risk Case Study: Asbestos in Recycled Aggregates

Common mistakes when rectifying/remediating asbestos impacted aggregates

- Soil criteria for asbestos in contaminated sites guidelines not applicable to incorrectly classified wastes brought onto a site.
- Validation process often only `visual clearance' which doesn't address the presence of asbestos fibres. Soil sampling required to complement the removal/validation/clearance process.





Open Session – Panel Discussion

Potential themes for discussion

- What is leading industry practice when importing materials onto sites?
- Engaging with SafeWork NSW
- Engaging with regulators
- Roles and responsibilities between the Principal and Contractors
- Examples of the types of contamination risks you have faced on sites this year
- Examples of how potential contamination risks have been managed
- What has worked well?
- What could be improved?





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Session 2 – WHS and External Stakeholder Engagement

WHS and External Stakeholder Communications



What are the risks?



"We estimate that community opposition has contributed to the suspension, abandonment or mothballing of at least \$20 billion in infrastructure projects across Australia's East Coast alone within the past decade (University of Melbourne 2017)"

- Harm and impacts to stakeholders
- Inability to get approval
- Lengthy and costly approvals processe
- Lack of compliance and associated liabilities
- Make good costs
- to secure investment
- Budgetary and project delivery impacts

What are the opportunities?

- Structured incorporation of stakeholder risks related to WHS from project commencement
- Moving towards broader value creation and social return on investment approaches
- Leveraging project wins for broader corporate reputation benefits
- Strategic coordination across proponents and delivery partners / across protect lifecycle
- Shifting thinking and innovation to build projects that better serve our stakeholders (e.g. placemaking, shared value creation)
- Sustainability Reporting





Stakeholder interests and expectations?

Regulator

- Consultation requirements for approvals
- Strengthened social impact assessment for SSD processes
- Compliance and reporting requirements
- Increased regulator scrutiny and expectations
- Delays in approvals and milestones

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Community

- Have a say
- Transparency
- Kept informed
- Genuine engagement
- Beyond regulatory expectations
- Beyond stakeholder consultation
- Project life cycle approach
- Sustainability
- 'Human Centered Design'
- Placemaking

Other Stakeholders

- Investors
- Media
- Public
- Government

Case Study – Development on Contaminated Site





Considerations for Projects

- Perception matters
- Getting it right from the start
- Building trust
- Increased public awareness and advocacy
- Stakeholders help with design of remediation
- Transparent communications
- Robust processes and systems
- Regulator expectations
- Foundation for "project success"
- Project delays
- Reputation management
- Impacts of not having SLTO

Case Study - Unexpected Finds

- Contingency Plans in Place
- Boiler Statements
- Structured Protocols (internal and external)
- Alignment with Contractors
- Site Inductions
- Transparent communications
- Structured reporting
- Importance of Assurance
- Clear Roles and Responsibilities
- Structured Risk Management and Stakeholder Engagement by appropriately qualified staff





Case Study – Securing Approvals Efficiently & Effectively



- Consultation must be seen as adequate (stakeholders and regulators)
- Even if impacts are perceived rather than real how they have been addressed must be clearly outlined
- Assessment methodology must demonstrate stakeholder component
- Understanding stakeholder materiality
- Clear evidence of engagement
- Stakeholders taken on journey



- Corporate reputation matters
- Value of SLTO
- Genuine partnerships developed
- About the project not just approvals
- Strategic involvement in design
- Moving to shared value creation
- Measuring impact

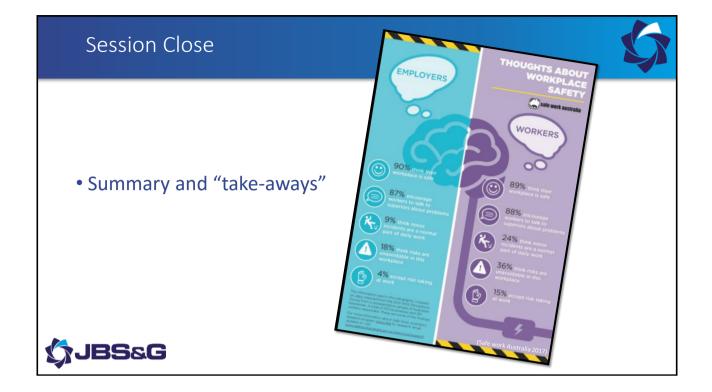
Open Session – Panel Discussion

Potential themes for discussion

- Is there leading practice that should be followed for communicating WHS risks to external stakeholders?
- Compliance with regulator expectations
- What are the types of WHS risks you have faced on sites this year that have created risks for external stakeholders or have created project risks as a result of stakeholder concerns?
- How have potential risks been managed?
- Do you have any examples of where risks have been managed well?
- Do you have examples where there could have been improvements in how risks were managed and what are these potential improvements?







References



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