



DECISION

Date	22 November 2017
Application code	APP203453
Application type	To tranship any new organism under section 51 of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 (HSNO Act)
Applicant	Universita Politecnica delle Marche (Polytechnic University of Marche, Ancona)
Date application received	8 November 2017
Consideration date	22 November 2017
Considered by	A decision-making committee of the Environmental Protection Authority (the Committee) ¹ ; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Kevin Thompson (Chair)• Dr John Taylor
Purpose of the application	Transshipment of live marine organisms from Antarctica to Italy via Christchurch.
The new organisms approved	<i>Adamussium colbecki</i> ; <i>Neobuccinum eatoni</i> , or similar sea snail; <i>Laternula elliptica</i> ; <i>Nuttallochiton mirandus</i> ; <i>Parborlasia corrugatus</i> ; <i>Urticinopsis antarctica</i> ; <i>Hormatia lacunifera</i> ; <i>Alcyonium paessleri</i> ; <i>Gersemia Antarctica</i> ; <i>Alcyonium antarcticum</i> ; <i>Leucascus leptoraphis</i> ; <i>Dendrilla Antarctica</i> ; <i>Kirkpatrickia variolosa</i> ; <i>Perkinsiana littoralis</i> ; <i>Odontaster validus</i> ; <i>Pteraster affinis</i> ; <i>Heterocucumis steineni</i> ; <i>Promachocrinus kerguelensis</i> ; <i>Ammothea clause</i> ; <i>Trematomus bernacchii</i>

1. Summary of decision

- 1.1 Application APP203453 to tranship marine organisms from Antarctica to Rome, Italy, via Christchurch as part of the National Italian Antarctic Expedition is **approved, with controls** as set out in Appendix 1.

¹ The Committee referred to in this decision is the subcommittee that has made the decision on this application under delegated authority in accordance with section 18A of the Act.

2. Legislative criteria for application

- 2.1 The application was lodged pursuant to section 51 of the HSNO Act: Transshipment of substances and organisms.
- 2.2 As defined in section 2 of the HSNO Act “*Transshipment means the importation into New Zealand of a hazardous substance or new organism solely for the purpose of export within 20 working days to another destination outside New Zealand*”.
- 2.3 In making the decision on this application, the Committee was aware of its obligation to decline approval to tranship any organism specified in Schedule 2 of the HSNO Act (section 51(2)(a) of the HSNO Act). Further the Committee understood it may choose to decline approval to tranship any new organism if it considers that the new organism cannot be adequately contained so as to prevent the environment from being exposed to the new organism or any adverse effects of the new organism (section 51(2)(b)(i) of the HSNO Act).
- 2.4 The Committee decided to approve the transshipment with such controls fit for purpose (section 51(2)(b)(ii) of the HSNO Act).

3. Application process

- 3.1 The information available for the consideration comprised;
 - The application form;
 - Internal EPA advice memo; and
 - Comments received from the Department of Conservation (DOC).

4. Transshipment application

- 4.1 The applicant, Polytechnic University of Marche, Ancona, Italy, seeks to tranship 20 species of marine organisms collected in the Ross Sea, Antarctica, from Mario Zucchelli, the Italian Research Station, to Rome, Italy, via Christchurch as part of the National Italian Antarctic Research Programme.

Adequacy of containment

- 4.2 The Committee noted that a transshipment approval allows the importation of a new organism solely for the purpose of export within 20 working days into New Zealand. The processing, repackaging or any form of use of the new organism is not permitted by a transshipment approval.
- 4.3 The Committee noted that the organism to be transhipped (the 'approved organisms') are 20 species of marine organisms. The Committee noted that the applicant described the packaging, transportation and transit details of the organisms in the application.
- 4.4 The Committee considered that the most likely pathways for escape of the organisms are where leaks or breaks occur in packaging or when packages are misplaced. Therefore, the Committee imposed controls in Appendix 1 to ensure that;
- the approved organisms (control 1) are contained and held within a transitional facility while in New Zealand and exported within 20 working days of arrival (controls 2-4);
 - the approved organisms are adequately packaged (control 5);
 - packages are tracked (control 6); and
 - contingency plans are in place to deal with breakages or damage to packages (controls 7 and 8).
- 4.5 The Committee noted that under the Biosecurity Act, the Ministry for Primary Industries will regulate the movements of approved organisms from the point of import to the transitional facility and from the transitional facility to the point of export.
- 4.6 The Committee was satisfied that with the controls imposed in Appendix 1 the approved organisms will be adequately contained.

5. Decision

- 5.1 The Committee was satisfied that this application met the definition of a transshipment application as specified in section 2 of the HSNO Act.
- 5.2 The Committee was satisfied that the application did not include organisms specified in Schedule 2 of the HSNO Act.
- 5.3 The Committee was satisfied that with the controls imposed in Appendix 1 the approved organisms will be adequately contained. This will prevent the environment from being exposed to the approved organisms or any adverse effects of the approved organisms.
- 5.4 Therefore the application to tranship new organisms is **approved, with controls** (Appendix 1).



Dr Kevin Thompson
Chair, Decision Making Committee
Environmental Protection Authority

Date 22 November 2017

Approval codes

Approval number	Organism
TNO100003	<i>Adamussium colbecki</i>
TNO100004	<i>Neobuccinum eatoni</i> , or similar sea snail
TNO100005	<i>Laternula elliptica</i>
TNO100006	<i>Nuttallochiton mirandus</i>
TNO100007	<i>Parborlasia corrugatus</i>
TNO100008	<i>Urticinopsis antarctica</i>
TNO100009	<i>Hormatia lacunifera</i>
TNO100012	<i>Alcyonium paessleri</i>
TNO100011	<i>Gersemia antarctica</i>
TNO100010	<i>Alcyonium antarcticum</i>
TNO100013	<i>Leucascus leptoraphis</i>
TNO100014	<i>Dendrilla antarctica</i>
TNO100015	<i>Kirkpatrickia variolosa</i>
TNO100016	<i>Perkinsiana littoralis</i>
TNO100017	<i>Odontaster validus</i>
TNO100018	<i>Pteraster affinis</i>
TNO100019	<i>Heterocucumis steineni</i>
TNO100020	<i>Promachocrinus kerguelensis</i>
TNO100021	<i>Ammothea clausi</i>
TNO100022	<i>Trematomus bernacchii</i>

Appendix 1: Controls required by this approval

1. This approval is limited to the transshipment of the following organisms ('approved organisms');
Adamussium colbecki; *Neobuccinum eatoni*, or similar sea snail; *Laternula elliptica*; *Nuttallochiton mirandus*; *Parborlasia corrugatus*; *Urticinopsis antarctica*; *Hormatia lacunifera*; *Alcyonium paessleri*; *Gersemia antarctica*; *Alcyonium antarcticum*; *Leucascus leptoraphis*; *Dendrilla Antarctica*; *Kirkpatrickia variolosa*; *Perkinsiana littoralis*; *Odontaster validus*; *Pteraster affinis*; *Heterocucumis steineni*; *Promachocrinus kerguelensis*; *Ammothea clause*; *Trematomus bernacchii*
2. The approved organisms must not escape containment.
3. The approved organisms must be transhipped within 20 working days of arrival in New Zealand.
4. While in New Zealand, the approved organisms must be held in an MPI-approved transitional facility.
5. Approved organisms must be transported in packages that adequately contain the organisms.
6. The approved organisms and the external packaging must be labelled and tracked to ensure that all packages arriving in and departing from New Zealand can be identified, verified, and reconciled against registers. Tracking records must be maintained to ensure that all packages can be accounted for. Such records must be made available to MPI.
7. A contingency plan that effectively manages the risks of escape from breakage and damage to packages during transit and while being held in containment must be in place.
8. Any damage that results in the contents of packages being spilt or exposed must be reported to MPI and the EPA as soon as practicable and within 24 hours of discovery.