
Wednesday, 30 June 2021

Nyrstar's licence renewed for 12 months

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has renewed the operating licence for Nyrstar's Port Pirie smelter for a further 12 months, with minor changes to licence conditions.

The EPA introduced more stringent annual average lead in air (LIA) limits from 1 July 2020, effectively requiring a 20 percent reduction in emissions.

EPA Chief Executive Tony Circelli said with the significant reduction introduced just a year ago, it was determined that the same LIA limits and targets will be required for the coming 12 months.

"It's pleasing to note that emissions for the 2021 year-to-date show an improvement in LIA over the same period in 2020," Mr Circelli said, "and Nyrstar is expected to achieve compliance with annual average LIA limits at 30 June 2021.

"With strengthened licence conditions implemented in 2020, a new Environmental Improvement Program for LIA was established and is ongoing.

"This program is designed to drive continuous improvement across the Port Pirie smelter site and to minimise environmental emissions.

"The EPA expects continuous improvement in emissions performance from Nyrstar, and requires the company to provide an updated whole of site emissions inventory by September 2021. This will inform additional investment and works required to further reduce emissions.

"The new licence also requires Nyrstar to develop a Landfill Environment Management Plan (LEMP) by 15 November 2021 requiring changes to waste management activities on site.

"EPA staff continue to inspect Nyrstar's Port Pirie operations regularly during the year to ensure compliance with licence conditions."

The company's new licensing conditions will commence on 1 July 2021. A copy of the new licence is available on the [EPA website](#).