



WORKING PAPER

DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)

TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETING

Montréal, 16 to 20 September 2019

Agenda Item 2: Managing air-specific safety risks and identifying anomalies

2.2: Develop proposals, if necessary, for amendments to the *Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (Doc 9284)* for incorporation in the 2021-2022 Edition

DROPPING IN CONNECTION WITH PEST MANAGEMENT

(Presented by S. Bitossi)

SUMMARY

This working paper proposes an amendment to the activities included under a general exception contained within Part 1;1.1.5.1 c) of the Technical Instructions to add the activity of dropping in connection with pest management.

Action by the DGP: The DGP is invited to review the proposed changes within Appendix A to this working paper and if agreed, the DGP is invited to adopt the proposed amendments to include pest management as an activity in the list of general exceptions contained within Part 1;1.1.5.1 c) of the Technical Instructions.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In Australia, there are situations where pest management activities may not be in connection with agriculture, horticulture or forestry activities.

1.2 For example, in remote island communities of the Torres Strait (far north-east Australia), birds are building grass nests on crucial infrastructure, such as power lines, which strung over areas where access from the ground is limited (see Appendix B to this working paper).

1.3 A method for managing such birds, is to spray their nests with peppermint or citronella oil which makes the nest undesirable for habitation by the birds. In this situation, the outcome is not to kill the pests (as what would occur in crop spraying for horticultural activities) but to manage their nesting preferences and create a permanent deterrent.

1.4 For safety reasons, the preferred method for dispensing the oil when working in close proximity of powerlines, is via a remotely piloted aerial system (RPAS). However, the dangerous goods may also be dispensed by rotorcraft.

1.5 The current wording within the general exception in Part 1;1.1.5.1 c) of the Technical Instructions provides relief for the following activities:

“1.1.5 General exceptions

1.1.5.1 Except for 7;4.2, these Instructions do not apply to dangerous goods carried by an aircraft where the dangerous goods are:

• • •

c) for dropping in connection with agricultural, horticultural, forestry, ice jam control and landslide clearance or pollution control activities;”

1.6 The wording “pest management” has been deliberately chosen due to various definitions of the term “pest control” which is limited to (in most cases) extermination as the primary outcome for the activity.

1.7 For example, the Collins dictionary (English) definition of “pest control” meaning the:

- 1) “killing of animal pests such as foxes, rats, mice”; and
- 2) “killing of garden and agricultural pests”.

1.8 Pest control is also commonly defined as involving the use of pesticides and herbicides, rather than alternate products for deterrence.

1.9 “Pest management” is a broader term which encompasses a range of pest control practices and deterrence techniques, extending past those traditionally used for agricultural or horticultural purposes. For example, situations where pest management activities assist in the controlling of disease or provide a deterrent to pests interfering with private or commercial structures and vital infrastructure.

2. ACTION BY THE DGP

2.1 The DGP is invited to consider the proposed amendment to Part 1;1.1.5.1 c) shown in Appendix A to this working paper and, if agreed, to adopt it.

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APPENDIX A

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PART 1 OF THE TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS

Part 1

GENERAL

Chapter 1

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

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1.1 GENERAL APPLICABILITY

...

1.1.5 General exceptions

1.1.5.1 Except for 7;4.2, these Instructions do not apply to dangerous goods carried by an aircraft where the dangerous goods are:

...

- c) for dropping in connection with agricultural, horticultural, forestry, ice jam control and landslide clearance or pollution control activities or pest management activities;

...

APPENDIX B

**SCARLET-THROATED HONEYEATER BIRD NESTING ON POWERLINES IN REMOTE
AREAS OF THE TORRES STRAIT**



— END —