

Specific provisions of Proposed District Plan Change 13 to which the Association submission relates are:

Table 17.1 Explosives, pages 17:38

This submission is on behalf of the New Council of Licensed Firearms Owners Incorporated (COLFO)

This is in lieu of **SUBMISSION FORM 5**, cited under Clause 6 of the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991, as being the prescribed form for making submission on publicly notified proposed **District Plan Change 13 – Hazardous Substances**

Introduction

COLFO was set up in 1996 to lobby on behalf of firearm owners in New Zealand. It has successfully lobbied various governments since then on matters relating to firearms, ammunition and related products. Its current office is located in Wellington. It has also achieved roster status at the United Nations (UN). This status enables COLFO to have input into any legislation that the UN may seek to produce on the civilian ownership of firearms and ammunition. COLFO is also a member of the World Forum on Shooting Sports (WFSA). Members regularly travel overseas to address UN and WFSA meetings; this keeps us and our members fully updated globally on the matters that interest COLFO.

In respect of ammunition matters in New Zealand, COLFO had serious discussions with the old ERMA in 2001 – 2002 over the amount of ammunition that was allowed for private possession at home and for retailers of the product. The outcome of those discussions was that the limits at the time were set at 10 tonnes. Subsequent contact with the new RMA that has taken over ERMA's role in these matters now reveals that the quantity has now risen to 25,000 kg gross weight. See email following COLFO's submission[^]. These figures relate to amounts that activate requirements for a test certificate at the storage location.

It is well documented that safety ammunition class 1.4S UN 0012 is one of the safest products that people can possess. Certainly much safer than petrol, sugar, LPG and other house hold products. See attached email for trigger quantities that require a test certificate at a hazardous substance location. See also copies of relevant current DVD from Chicago fire department. These are being sent by courier separately. Since the advent of smokeless powder filled ammunition in New Zealand there is not one recorded case of a mass explosion or large scale fire caused by the storage of a large amount of class 1.4S safety ammunition. If I am wrong in terms of this statement, could the DCC produce documentary evidence to the contrary? ERMA could not in 2001. [Looking at some other councils district plan in relation to hazardous substances it is interesting to note some don't even list he classification of 1.4S. Maybe because it is such a safe product.](#)

COLFO believes that the proposed DCC storage quantities for class 1.4S safety ammunition will very negatively impact on all the shooting sports in the DCC area. The proposed requirements will impact the amount of ammunition that active shooters can store legally in their home and or business. This will result in more cost for those people because they will no longer be able to purchase ammunition in bulk at better prices, and will have to pay higher freight costs because of smaller shipments of ammunition from their suppliers. Also there will be additional travel costs, both in time and money with people having to make more trips to retailers to access ammunition. This will also apply to retailers. All firearm owners are already vetted by the New Zealand Police as fit and proper people, so as much as anyone can be are responsible and careful people, who are extremely unlikely to misuse ammunition.

Governments, and by default local councils can only govern successfully with the consent of the people they serve. If stupid and unnecessary and or draconian legislation is imposed on reasonable people, like licensed firearm owners the result is total contempt and often deliberate breaking of the law, is this the outcome the DCC wishes to achieve?

What non-existent problem is the DCC trying to fix by the introduction of new and unnecessary laws relating to the storage of small arms ammunition class 1.4S? They also potentially leave themselves open to lawsuits by affected parties. Is this what the citizens of Dunedin want in these hard economic times?

So in summary, as far as COLFO is concerned, the DCC has failed to substantiate their case in any meaningful way. We cannot see any benefits to the city of Dunedin or its people, beyond increased enforcement costs to the ratepayers, and encouraging normally law abiding people to break any new regulations in this area.

So firstly, we kindly ask the council not to pass these proposed bylaws in regard to the storage both commercial and private, of Safety Ammunition class 1.4S UN0012.

Secondly, to consult more widely and much earlier with interested stakeholders in these matters.

Thirdly, COLFO would like to ask for a public hearing on this issue, and I and other COLFO executive members will fly to Dunedin to present our case in person.

Paul L Clark

COLFO executive member.

^ Email from Karen Lau of EPA

Main regulations under HSNO that relate to storage of safety ammunition (Class 1.4S):

Hazardous Substances (Classes 1 to 5 Controls) Regulations 201

http://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2001/0116/latest/DLM35395.html?search=ts_regulation_classes_resel&p=1&sr=1

I have copied out the relevant bit (which refers to location test certificate requirements for storage of Class 1).

Table 6 (Schedule 2)

Quantities of class 1 substances that activate requirements for a test certificate at a [rr 26, 30](#), hazardous substance location, for a designated use zone, for a designated transfer zone, and [32, 46, 51](#) for notification of transport

Hazard classification	Quantities
1.1B, 1.2B, and 1.4B	5 kg
1.1 (other than 1.1B or 1.1C), 1.2, and 1.5	50 kg
1.1C and 1.3 (other than 1.3G)	100 kg
1.3G and 1.4 (other than 1.4S)	200 kg
1.4S	1 000 kg
Fireworks in hazard classifications 1.3G, 1.4G, and 1.4S that are controlled under the Hazardous Substances (Fireworks) Regulations 2001	10 000 kg (gross weight)
Safety ammunition including pre-primed cartridges and primers of class 1.4S	25 000 kg (gross weight)

- Schedule 2 table 6: substituted, on 28 August 2003, by [regulation 23](#) of the Hazardous Substances (Classes 1 to 5 Controls) Amendment Regulations 2003 (SR 2003/177).

Other bit from the same regulation that refer to safety ammunition:

Reg 13 Class 1 substances generally to be under control of approved handlers

(1) Except as provided in subclauses (2) to (6), all class 1 substances in any quantity must be under the personal control of an approved handler.

(2) The following class 1 substances are not required to be under the personal control of an approved handler:

(a) safety ammunition, including pre-primed cartridges and primers, of class 1.4S:

(b) airbag initiators and seatbelt pretensioners of class 1.4G or 1.4S:

(c) cable cutters of class 1.4S (UN 0070):

(d) power device cartridges of class 1.4S (UN 0323):

(e) signal tubes or shock tubes of class 1.4S (UN 0349):

(f) cassette degradation devices of class 1.4S (UN 0432)

Hope this helps. Feel free to contact me if you need further information on the regulations about safety ammo. My contact details are below.

Kind regards

Karen Lau

Compliance Advisor

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Environmental Protection Authority • BP House • 20 Customhouse Quay

PO Box 131 • Wellington 6140 • New Zealand • www.epa.govt.nz

Tel +64 4 916 2426 • Fax +64 4 914 0433 • DDI +64 4 918 4856