

Terms of Reference for specialised technical advice regarding Trolex Air XS Silica Monitor

In February 2024, the Hon Sophie Cotsis MP, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Work Health and Safety, requested the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer provide independent scientific and technical advice and guidance to SafeWork NSW in relation to the efficacy of a real-time silica monitor, the Trolex Air XS.

The Trolex Air XS Silica Monitor (the **Monitor**) is designed to detect and distinguish respirable crystalline silica in real-time in industrial environments.

The Office of the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer (**OCSE**) will facilitate engagement by SafeWork NSW of suitable independent experts to:

- a. undertake a desktop review of the existing testing and research that has been undertaken on the Monitor to date, including seeking to obtain existing evidence from Trolex UK where relevant and practicable, to advise on the efficacy of the Monitor.
- b. if efficacy cannot be determined through the desktop review in a), advise whether a hypothesis and testing protocol can be developed to determine efficacy
- c. subject to the outcome of a) and b), provide advice regarding next steps in relation to independent testing of the efficacy of the Monitor

OCSE will identify suitable independent external experts and work with SafeWork NSW to define the scope of work and deliverables and facilitate engagement. SafeWork NSW will directly contract the experts to undertake the studies.

OCSE will assist SafeWork NSW and the experts to undertake the studies, including gaining access to project materials, engaging with stakeholders, reviewing draft work and assisting with technical or scientific questions.

OCSE will publish a summary document of the expert reports on its website (taking into consideration and removing any commercial in confidence information) on completion of the commissioned studies.