

Changes to Workplace Exposure Limits

Effective from 1 December 2026

Disclaimer

Safe Work Australia is a national policy body representing the interests of the Commonwealth, states and territories, as well as workers and employers to improve work health and safety and workers' compensation arrangements. Safe Work Australia does not regulate WHS laws or administer workers' compensation arrangements.

Safe Work Australia is providing this information to assist PCBU's and duty holders to understand and prepare for the transition to the WEL.

The information in this document is provided as general information only. It does not constitute and should not be relied on as legal, business, health, or financial advice. You should obtain independent professional advice relevant to your circumstances.

Safe Work Australia has used its best endeavours to ensure the quality of the information in this document but cannot guarantee its accuracy or completeness.

Neither Safe Work Australia, nor the Commonwealth of Australia will accept liability for any direct, incidental, or consequential loss or damage resulting from this document, or the information provided through this document.

Creative Commons

With the exception of the Safe Work Australia logo, this copyright work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence. To view a copy of this licence, visit creativecommons.org/licenses In essence, you are free to copy, communicate and adapt the work, even commercially, as long as you attribute the work to Safe Work Australia and abide by the other licence terms.

Contact information

Safe Work Australia | <mailto:info@swa.gov.au> | www.swa.gov.au

1. Introduction

Workplace Exposure Limits (WEL) will come into effect from 1 December 2026.

Currently, under the [model Work Health and Safety \(WHS\) Regulations](#) persons conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) must ensure that no person in the workplace is exposed to an airborne contaminant at a concentration exceeding the workplace exposure standard (WES).

Safe Work Australia undertook a [review of the WES](#), to ensure that they are based on contemporary health evidence and provide the best protection for workers. WHS ministers agreed to change the terminology from 'workplace exposure standard' to 'workplace exposure limit' (WEL). They also approved the revised WEL list, with an implementation date of 1 December 2026. The changes WHS ministers agreed to are detailed in this document. Up until 30 November 2026 you must continue to comply with the current exposure standards in the [Workplace exposure standards for airborne contaminants](#) (WES list). From 1 December 2026, you must comply with the exposure standards in the [Workplace exposure limits for airborne contaminants](#) (WEL list).

1.1 Purpose of this document

This document provides information on the changes that will take effect from 1 December 2026. These include:

- a decreased or increased exposure limit value
- an addition or removal of a type of exposure limit
- merging or splitting of groups of airborne contaminants
- addition or removal of an airborne contaminant listing.

This document is limited only to WEL that are new or changing on 1 December 2026. It is not a full list of all chemicals subject to a WEL. For the comprehensive lists, consult the [WES](#) (for current standards) and [WEL](#) (from 1 December 2026) .

1.2 The meaning of key terms

Airborne contaminant means a contaminant in the form of a fume, mist, gas, vapour or dust, and includes microorganisms. An airborne contaminant of this type is a potentially harmful substance that is either not naturally in the air or is present in an unnaturally high concentration and to which workers may be exposed in their working environment.

Breathing zone means a hemisphere of 300 mm radius extending in front of a person's face and measured from the midpoint of an imaginary line joining the ears.

Exposure limit represents the airborne concentration of a particular substance or mixture that must not be exceeded. The exposure limit can be of three forms:

- a) eight hour time weighted average,
- b) peak limitation, and
- c) short term exposure limit.

Eight hour time weighted average (TWA) means the maximum average airborne concentration of a substance when calculated over an eight hour working day, for a five day working week.

Peak limit means a maximum or peak airborne concentration of a substance determined over the shortest analytically practicable period of time which does not exceed 15 minutes.

Short term exposure limit (STEL) means the time weighted average maximum airborne concentration of a substance calculated over a 15 minute period.

Units for exposure standards (mg/m³) is a unit of measurement for airborne concentrations of gases, vapours and particulate contaminants (expressed gravimetrically as milligrams of substance per cubic metre of air, (mg/m³).

Units for exposure standards (ppm) is a unit of measurement for the concentration of gases and indicated in parts per million (ppm) by volume. Where both gravimetric (mg/m³) and volumetric (ppm) values are quoted, the volumetric (ppm) value is exact as its value is not affected by changes in temperature or pressure and should be used as the common means of reference to the exposure standard.

The comparison table was last updated on 29 May 2025.

2. Chemicals added to the WEL list

The Review of Workplace exposure standards identified health-based limits for 31 airborne contaminants, which have been added to the WEL list. From 1 December 2026, PCBUS must ensure that no person at the workplace is exposed to these chemicals at an airborne level above their exposure limit.

New entries in the WEL	TWA (mg/m ³)	TWA (ppm)	STEL (mg/m ³)	STEL (ppm)	Peak Limit (mg/m ³)	Peak Limit (ppm)
Barium sulfate (respirable)	1.35					
Benzoyl chloride					2.8	0.5
Bisphenol-A	2					
1-Bromopropane	0.5	0.1				
But-2-yne-1,4-diol	0.5					
Diacetyl	0.04	0.01	0.07	0.02		
Dichloroacetic acid	2.5	0.5				
Diesel particulate matter (as respirable elemental carbon)	0.01					
Diethylene glycol monobutyl ether	67.5	10				
Dimethyl sulfide	25	10				
1,3-Dioxolane	61	20				
Diquat (respirable)	0.1					
2-Ethylhexanoic acid	5					
2-Ethylhexanol	5.33	1				
Ethylene thiourea	0.02					
Flour (cereal) dust	0.5					
Gallium arsenide	0.0003					
Glyoxal	0.1	0.042				
Hexahydrophthalic anhydride					0.005	
Indium phosphide	0.1					
2-Methylbutyl acetate	266	50	532	100		
5-nitro-o-toluidine (inhalable)	1					
2,3-Pentanedione	0.083	0.02				
2,4-Pentanedione	102	25				
Peracetic acid					1.24	0.4
Phenyl isocyanate	0.024	0.005				
Polyvinyl chloride (respirable dust)	1					
Silicon carbide (non-fibrous dust) (inhalable)	10					
Terephthalic acid	5					
Tetrafluoroethylene	8.2	2				
Tungsten, metal and compounds (as W)	3					

3. WES and WEL Comparison Table

Note: In the WES and WEL lists the exposure limits for gases and vapours are given as ppm and as mg/m³, with the ppm number considered to be exact and the mg/m³ used as a guide. In this table, ppm values are used for gasses and vapours (where available) for comparative purposes. Where a ppm value is available in only one list, the mg/m³ values have been listed for comparative purposes. Consult the [Workplace exposure standards for airborne contaminants](#) and the [Workplace exposure limits for airborne contaminants](#) lists for full values.

Changed limits have been highlighted in red to indicate a decrease, and green to indicate an increase.

Chemical	Unit	WES values			Name in WEL (if changed)	WEL values		
		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit
Acetic anhydride	ppm			5		0.5	1	
Acetone	ppm	500	1000			250	500	
Acetonitrile	ppm	40	60			20		
Acrolein	ppm	0.1	0.3			0.02	0.05	
Acrylic acid	ppm	2				10		
Allyl alcohol	ppm	2	4			1	4	
Amitrole	mg/m ³	0.2				2		
Ammonia	ppm	25	35			20	35	
Ammonium perfluorooctanoate	mg/m ³	0.1				0.01		
Ammonium persulfate	mg/m ³			0.01	Persulfates, ammonium- and alkali metal salts	0.1		
Potassium persulfate	mg/m ³			0.01				
Sodium persulfate	mg/m ³			0.01				
n-Amyl acetate	ppm	50	100		Amyl acetate (iso-, n-, sec- isomers)	50	100	
sec-Amyl acetate	ppm	50	100					
Isoamyl acetate	ppm	50	100					
Aniline & homologues	ppm	2				0.5		
Arsenic & soluble compounds (as As)	mg/m ³	0.05			Arsenic and compounds (except arsine)	0.01		
Atrazine	mg/m ³	5				1		
Azinphos-methyl	mg/m ³	0.2				1		
Barium sulphate	mg/m ³	10			Barium sulfate (inhalable)	4		
					Barium sulfate (respirable)	1.35		
Benomyl	ppm	0.84				0.08		
Beryllium & compounds	mg/m ³	0.002				0.00002	0.0002	
Bitumen fumes	mg/m ³	5				0.5		
Borates, tetra, sodium salts (anhydrous)	mg/m ³	1				0.75		

Chemical	Unit	WES values			Name in WEL (if changed)	WEL values		
		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit
Borates, tetra, sodium salts (decahydrate)	mg/m ³	5			Borates, tetra, sodium salts, incl anhydrous, decahydrate, pentahydrate			
Borates, tetra, sodium salts (pentahydrate)	mg/m ³	1						
Boron tribromide	ppm			1				0.7
Boron trifluoride	ppm			1		0.1		0.7
2-Butoxyethanol	ppm	20	50			10	40	
2-Butoxyethyl acetate	ppm	20	50			20		
n-Butyl acetate	ppm	150	200		n-Butyl acetate sec-Butyl acetate tert-Butyl acetate iso-Butyl acetate	50	100	
sec-Butyl acetate	ppm	200						
tert-Butyl acetate	ppm	200						
Isobutyl acetate	ppm	150						
n-Butyl alcohol	ppm			50		20		
tert-Butyl alcohol	ppm	100	150			20		
n-Butyl glycidyl ether (BGE)	ppm	25				3		
Cadmium and compounds (as Cd)	mg/m ³	0.01				0.001		
Calcium cyanamide	mg/m ³	0.5				0.2		
Calcium hydroxide	mg/m ³	5				1	4	
Calcium oxide	mg/m ³	2				1		
Calcium sulphate	mg/m ³	10			Calcium sulfate	1.5		
Camphor, synthetic	ppm	2	3			2		
e-Caprolactam (dust and vapour)	mg/m ³	10	20		Caprolactam (dust and vapour) (incl. e caprolactam)	5		
Caprolactam (dust)	mg/m ³	1	3					
Carbaryl	mg/m ³	5				0.5		
Carbon disulphide	ppm	10			Carbon disulfide	1		
Carbon monoxide	ppm	30				20		
Carbon tetrachloride	ppm	0.1				0.1	5	
alpha-Chloroacetophenone	ppm	0.05				0.02	0.05	
Chlorobenzene	ppm	10				5		
o-Chlorobenzylidene malononitrile ¹	mg/m ³			0.39		0.02		
Chloroform	ppm	2				0.5		
Chlorpyrifos ²	mg/m ³	0.2				0.1		
Chromium (II) compounds (as Cr)	mg/m ³	0.5			Chromium (metal), (II), (III) (as Cr)	0.5		

¹ Consult WEL list for ppm values.

² Consult WEL list for ppm values.

Chemical	Unit	WES values			Name in WEL (if changed)	WEL values		
		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit
Chromium (III) compounds (as Cr)	mg/m ³	0.5						
Chromium (metal)	mg/m ³	0.5						
Clopidol	mg/m ³	10				2		
Cobalt, metal dust & fume (as Co)	mg/m ³	0.05			Cobalt (metal and inorganic compounds)	0.02		
Cotton dust, raw	mg/m ³	0.2				0.1		
Cyanamide	mg/m ³	2				0.2		
Cyanides (as CN)	mg/m ³	5				1	5	
Cyanogen	ppm	10						5
Cyclohexane	ppm	100	300			100		
Cyclohexanone	ppm	25				10	20	
Cyclohexylamine	ppm	10				2		
Cyclonite	mg/m ³	1.5				0.1		
Diacetone alcohol	ppm	50				20		
Diazinon	mg/m ³	0.1				0.01		
Diborane	ppm	0.1				0.01		
Dibutyl phosphate	ppm	1	2			0.6		
Dibutyl phthalate ³	mg/m ³	5				0.58		
2-N-Dibutylaminoethanol	ppm	2				0.5		
p-Dichlorobenzene	ppm	25	50			2	10	
Dichloroethyl ether	ppm	5	10			5		
Dichlorvos (DDVP)	ppm	0.1				0.01		
Dicyclopentadiene	ppm	5				0.5		
Dicyclopentadienyl iron	mg/m ³	10				0.1		
Diethanolamine	ppm	3				0.11		
Diethyl ketone	ppm	200				200	300	
Diethylamine	ppm	10	25			2	10	
Dimethylamine	ppm	2	6			2		
N,N-Dimethylethylamine	ppm	10	15			2		
Dimethylformamide	ppm	10				5		
Dinitolmide	mg/m ³	5				1		
m-Dinitrobenzene	ppm	0.15			Dinitrobenzene (m-, o-, p-isomers)	0.15		
o-Dinitrobenzene	ppm	0.15						
p-Dinitrobenzene	ppm	0.15						

³ Consult WEL list for ppm values.

Chemical	Unit	WES values			Name in WEL (if changed)	WEL values		
		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit
1,4-Dioxane	ppm	10				5		
Diphenylamine	mg/m ³	10				5		
Di-sec-octyl phthalate	mg/m ³	5	10			2		
Disulfoton	mg/m ³	0.1				0.02		
Enflurane	ppm	0.5				20		
Epichlorohydrin	ppm	2				0.5		
EPN	mg/m ³	0.5			O-Ethyl O-(4-nitrophenyl) phenylphosphonothioate	0.1		
Ethion	mg/m ³	0.4				0.05		
2-Ethoxyethanol	ppm	5				2		
2-Ethoxyethyl acetate	ppm	5				2		
Ethyl acrylate	ppm			5		2	5	
Ethyl alcohol	ppm	1000				200	800	
Ethyl benzene	ppm	100	125			20		
Ethyl butyl ketone	ppm	50				50	75	
Ethyl chloride	ppm	1000				100		
Ethyl formate	ppm	100				100	150	
Ethyl silicate	ppm	10				5		
Ethylamine	ppm	2	6			5	15	
Ethylene glycol (particulate)	mg/m ³	10					10	
Ethylene glycol dinitrate	ppm	0.05				0.01		
Ethylidene norbornene	ppm			5		2	4	
Fenamiphos	mg/m ³	0.1			Fenamiphos (including vapour)	0.05		
Fensulfothion	mg/m ³	0.1			Fensulfothion (including vapour)	0.01		
Ferbam	mg/m ³	10				5		
Furfural	ppm	2				0.2		
Furfuryl alcohol	ppm	10	15			0.2		
Glutaraldehyde	ppm			0.1				0.05
Grain dust (oats, wheat, barley)	mg/m ³	4				1.5		
Hexamethylene diisocyanate	mg/m ³	See Isocyanates, all (TWA: 0.02, STEL: 0.07)				0.02	0.07	
Hexane (n-Hexane)	ppm	20				50		
Hydrogen chloride	ppm			5				2
Hydrogen fluoride (as F)	ppm			3		0.5		2
Hydrogen peroxide	ppm	1				0.5		
Hydrogenated terphenyls	ppm	0.5				0.5	2	

Chemical	Unit	WES values			Name in WEL (if changed)	WEL values		
		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit
2-Hydroxypropyl acrylate	ppm	0.5			Hydroxypropyl acrylate (all isomers)	0.5		
Iodine	ppm			0.1		0.01		0.1
Iron pentacarbonyl (as Fe)	ppm	0.1	0.2			0.1		0.2
Isoamyl alcohol	ppm	100	125			20	80	
Isophorone diisocyanate	mg/m ³	See Isocyanates, all (TWA: 0.02, STEL: 0.07)				0.02	0.07	
Isopropoxyethanol	ppm	25				10		
Isopropyl acetate	ppm	250	310		Propyl acetate (all isomers)	100	150	
n-Propyl acetate	ppm	200	250					
Isopropyl alcohol	ppm	400	500			200	400	
Lithium hydride	mg/m ³	0.025					0.02	
Malathion	mg/m ³	10				1		
Maleic anhydride	ppm	0.25				0.0025		
Manganese, dust & compounds (as Mn)	mg/m ³	1			Manganese fume, dust and compounds (as Mn) (inhalable)	0.1 (inhalable)		
Manganese, fume (as Mn)	mg/m ³	1	3		Manganese fume, dust and compounds (as Mn) (respirable)	0.02 (respirable)		
Mesityl oxide	ppm	15	25			2		
Methomyl	mg/m ³	2.5				0.2		
2-Methoxyethanol	ppm	5				0.1		
2-Methoxyethyl acetate	ppm	5				0.1		
Methyl 2-cyanoacrylate	ppm	2	4		Cyanoacrylates (Ethyl and Methyl)	0.2	1	
Methyl acrylate	ppm	10				2		
Methyl alcohol	ppm	200	250			100		
Methyl bromide	ppm	5				1		
Methyl chloride	ppm	50	100			20	80	
Methyl ethyl ketone (MEK)	ppm	150	300			200	300	
Methyl formate	ppm	100	150			50	100	
Methyl isoamyl ketone	ppm	50				20	40	
Methyl isobutyl ketone	ppm	50	75			20	75	

Chemical	Unit	WES values			Name in WEL (if changed)	WEL values		
		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit
Methyl isocyanate ⁴	mg/m ³	See Isocyanates, all (TWA: 0.02, STEL: 0.07)				0.047	0.14	
Methyl isopropyl ketone	ppm	200				20		
Methyl n-butyl ketone	ppm	5				5	10	
Methyl parathion	mg/m ³	0.2				0.02		
Methyl propyl ketone	ppm	200	250				150	
1-Methyl-2-pyrrolidone	ppm	25	75			20		
Methylcyclohexane	ppm	400				200		
Methylene bis(4-cyclo-hexylisocyanate)	mg/m ³	See Isocyanates, all (TWA: 0.02, STEL: 0.07)				0.02	0.07	
Methylene bisphenyl isocyanate (MDI)	mg/m ³	See Isocyanates, all (TWA: 0.02, STEL: 0.07)			Isocyanates, (poly-) (as NCO)	0.02	0.07	
Toluene-2,4-diisocyanate (TDI)	mg/m ³	See Isocyanates, all (TWA: 0.02, STEL: 0.07)						
Methyl-tert butyl ether	ppm	25	75			50		
Mevinphos ⁵	mg/m ³	0.092	0.27			0.01		
Mineral turpentine ⁶	mg/m ³	480			Mineral spirits (mineral turpentine)	296	593	
White spirits ⁷	mg/m ³	790			Mineral spirits (white spirits)	296	593	
Molybdenum, insoluble compounds (as Mo)	mg/m ³	10			Molybdenum, insoluble compounds (as Mo) (inhalable)	10		
					Molybdenum, insoluble compounds (as Mo) (respirable)	3		
Molybdenum, soluble compounds (as Mo)	mg/m ³	5				0.5		
Monochloroacetic acid	ppm	0.3				0.5		
Monocrotophos	mg/m ³	0.25				0.05		
Naled	mg/m ³	3				0.1		
Naphthalene	ppm	10	15			10		
Nickel carbonyl (as Ni)	ppm	0.05						0.05
Nickel dichloride	mg/m ³	0.1			Nickel, metal and insoluble	0.1		
Nickel salt, nitric acid	mg/m ³	0.1						

⁴ Consult WEL list for ppm values.

⁵ Consult WES list for ppm values.

⁶ Consult WEL list for ppm values.

⁷ Consult WEL list for ppm values.

Chemical	Unit	WES values			Name in WEL (if changed)	WEL values		
		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit
Nickel dinitrate	mg/m ³	0.1			compounds (as Ni)			
Nickel, metal	mg/m ³	1						
Nickel sulphide roasting (fume & dust) (as Ni)	mg/m ³	1						
Nickel, powder	mg/m ³	1						
Nitric acid	ppm	2	4			2		
Nitric oxide	ppm	25				2		
Nitroglycerine (NG)	ppm	0.05				0.01	0.02	
Nitrous oxide	ppm	25				50		
Osmium tetroxide (as Os)	ppm	0.0002	0.0006			0.0002		
Paraquat (respirable sizes)	mg/m ³	0.1				0.05		
Pentaborane	ppm	0.005	0.015			0.005		
Pentane	ppm	600	750		Pentane (all isomers)	1000		
Perchloroethylene	ppm	50	150			20	40	
Perchloryl fluoride	ppm	3	6			3		
Petrol (gasoline) ⁸	mg/m ³	900				900		1480
Phenyl mercaptan	ppm	0.5				0.1		
Phorate	mg/m ³	0.05	0.2			0.05		
Phosgene	ppm	0.02	0.06			0.1	0.4	
Phosphine	ppm	0.3	1			0.05		0.15
Phosphorus (yellow)	mg/m ³	0.1				0.01		
Phosphorus oxychloride	ppm	0.1				0.02		
Phthalic anhydride	ppm	1				0.0003		
Piperazine dihydrochloride ⁹	mg/m ³	5			Piperazine and salts	0.1	0.3	
Platinum, metal	mg/m ³	1				0.1		
Portland cement	mg/m ³	10			Portland cement (respirable dust)	1		
Propane-1,2-diol total (vapour & particulates) ¹⁰	mg/m ³	474				50		
Propane-1,2-diol (particulates only)	mg/m ³	10				50		
n-Propyl nitrate	ppm	25	40			25		
Propylene glycol dinitrate	ppm	0.05				0.01		

⁸ Consult WEL list for ppm values.

⁹ Consult WEL list for ppm values.

¹⁰ Consult WES list for ppm values.

Chemical	Unit	WES values			Name in WEL (if changed)	WEL values		
		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit
Propylene imine	ppm	2				0.2		
Propylene oxide	ppm	20				2		
Pyrethrum	mg/m ³	5				1		
Pyridine	ppm	5				1		
Resorcinol	ppm	10	20			10		
Ronnel	mg/m ³	10			Ronnel (inhalable and vapour)	5		
Silicon carbide	mg/m ³	10			Silicon carbide (non-fibrous dust) (respirable)	3		
Sodium fluoroacetate	mg/m ³	0.05	0.15			0.05		
Stearates	mg/m ³	10			Stearates (inhalable)	10		
					Stearates (respirable)	3		
Styrene, monomer	ppm	50	100			20	40	
Sulphur dioxide	ppm	2	5		Sulfur dioxide		0.25	
Sulphuric acid	mg/m ³	1	3		Sulfuric acid	0.1		
Sulprofos ¹¹	mg/m ³	1				0.1		
Talc (containing no asbestos fibres)	mg/m ³	2.5			Talc (respirable) (containing no asbestos fibres)	2		
Temephos ¹²	mg/m ³	10				2		
Tetrahydrofuran	ppm	100				50		
Thallium, soluble compounds (as Tl)	mg/m ³	0.1				0.02		
Thionyl chloride	ppm			1				0.2
Tin, organic compounds (as Sn)	mg/m ³	0.1	0.2			0.1		
Tin, metal	mg/m ³	2			Tin (metal and inorganic compounds)	2		
Tin oxide and inorganic compounds except SnH ₄ (as Sn)	mg/m ³	2						
Toluene	ppm	50	150			20		
Triethylamine	ppm	2	4			1	2	
Trimellitic anhydride	ppm	0.005				0.00006		0.00002
Trimethyl benzene	ppm	25			Trimethyl benzene (all isomers)	20		
2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene (TNT)	mg/m ³	0.5				0.1		
Tungsten, insoluble compounds (as W)	mg/m ³	5	10			3		

¹¹ Consult WEL list for ppm values.

¹² Consult WEL list for ppm values.

Chemical	Unit	WES values			Name in WEL (if changed)	WEL values		
		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit		TWA	STEL	Peak Limit
Tungsten, soluble compounds (as W)	mg/m ³	1	3			3		
Uranium (natural), soluble & insoluble compounds (as U)	mg/m ³	0.2	0.6		Uranium (natural), soluble and insoluble compounds (as U)	0.2		
Vinyl acetate	ppm	10	20			10	15	
Vinyl toluene	ppm	50	100			20	40	
Warfarin	mg/m ³	0.1				0.01		
Wood dust (soft wood)	mg/m ³	5	10			2		
Zinc chloride (fume)	mg/m ³	1	2				2	
Zinc oxide (dust)	mg/m ³	10			Zinc oxide (dust and fume)	2	10	
Zinc oxide (fume)	mg/m ³	5	10					

3.1 Removal of WES for non-threshold genotoxic carcinogens

The Review of Workplace exposure standards identified that 33 airborne contaminants are [non-threshold genotoxic carcinogens](#) (NTGCs). These are chemicals that can cause genetic damage and may lead to cancer. Unlike other airborne contaminants, NTGCs cannot be assigned a practical safe level of exposure due to limited data and the nature of their effects.

From 1 December 2026, there will no longer be exposure limits for NTGCs. However if NTGCs are present, PCBUs must either eliminate them from the workplace, replace them with a safer alternative if possible, or reduce the risk as much as reasonably practicable.

NTGCs
Acrylamide
Acrylonitrile (Vinyl cyanide)
Allyl chloride (3-Chloro-1-propene)
Allyl glycidyl ether (AGE, Allyl 2,3-epoxypropyl ether)
Anisidine (o, p- isomers) (Methoxyaniline)
o-Anisidine
p-Anisidine
Benzidine
(bis)chloromethyl ether
1,3-Butadiene
Catechol (Pyrocatechol, o-Dihydroxybenzene)
beta-Chloroprene (2-Chloro-1,3-butadiene)
Chromium VI compounds (including zinc chromates)
Coal tar pitch volatiles (as benzene solubles)
1,2-Dibromo ethane (ethylene dibromide)

NTGCs
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine
Diethyl sulfate
Dimethylcarbamoyl chloride
Dimethyl sulfate
Dinitrotoluene
Ethylene dichloride (1,2-Dichloroethane)
Ethylene oxide (Oxirane)
Ethylenimine (Aziridine)
Hydrazine (Diamine)
Lead chromate (as Cr)
4,4'-Methylene bis(2-chloroaniline) (MOCA, MBOCA, 2,2'-Dichloro-4,4'-methylenedianiline)
2-Nitrotoluene
Propane sultone
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) mixture when containing benzo[a]pyrene
Tetranitromethane (TNM)
Urethane
Vinyl Bromide (Bromoethylene)
Vinyl chloride, monomer (Chloroethylene)

3.2 Other chemicals removed from the WES list

The Review of Workplace exposure standards identified 6 airborne contaminants which are **prohibited for import, manufacture and use under Australian legislation** and which are not included in the WEL list.

Entries removed in the WEL
Aldrin
Chlordane
DDT (Dichlorodiphenyl-trichloroethane)
Dieldrin
Endrin
Heptachlor