

John D  
Via [www.fyi.org.nz](http://www.fyi.org.nz)

File Ref: 16/00851

Dear John D

Thank you for your email of 16 December 2016, regarding your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), as follows:

1. *Has WorkSafe same time this century investigated any safety problems or the qualification of any worker at: ECO Depot, Metro Place, Bromley, Christchurch.*
2. *Also what was the out come of any investigation and the name of any one seen there?*
3. *Are there any investigations ongoing?*
4. *Could there also be any complains/reports that have not been investigated for whatever reason?*

In regard to your questions 1) and 2) above, I can advise that WorkSafe New Zealand did not investigate any safety problems or the qualifications of any workers at the EcoCentral EcoDrop in Bromley, Christchurch, between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2016. I note that you have asked for information dating back 16 years. To obtain this, or to establish if it even exists, would take a substantial amount of staff time to search. We have therefore provided information for a three year period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2016.

I can also advise, in regard to your question 3), that there are no current investigations relating to EcoCentral EcoDrop.

In regard to your question 4) I have listed below details of all complaints and notifications received by WorkSafe by WorkSafe since 1 January 2014. I have also included assessment visits undertaken. None of these complaints or notifications resulted in an investigation. Each file includes details of the action taken by WorkSafe.

- File 5528823: 20 January 2014 – an assessment visit was made by an inspector to EcoCentral, Bromley. As a result of this visit an enforcement notice was issued in relation to the use of scales not being suitable for an explosive atmosphere. This notice has since been complied with.
- File 5462185: 23 May 2014 - a complaint regarding an ignition source from a cell phone and electrical scales in the LPG area. This file was triaged by our response inspectors and the file was closed with no further action.
- File 5517195: 1 September 2014 - a complaint regarding a man using a cell phone in the LPG area, while decanting LPG. A response inspector phoned EcoCentral and discussed the issues raised. EcoCentral responded by email giving assurances that it was prohibited to use cell phones within the decanting area. The file was closed by the response inspector.
- File 5520655: 26 September 2014 - a second complaint was received in relation to the original complaint on 23 May 2014 that cylinders were outside of the test period and that cell phones were being used. A health and safety inspector was sent to the

site and undertook an assessment. The inspector was satisfied at the time of the visit that appropriate certification was in place, that gas bottles were within test period and that there were no uncontrolled hazards.

- File 5534613: 15 December 2014 - an email complaint was received about an electrically unsafe and undersize refrigeration scale in an explosive environment. EcoCentral was telephoned by a response inspector and the email complaint forwarded to them for action and to advise WorkSafe of the outcome.
- File 5602551: 7 January 2016 – a telephone complaint from a person who was unable to directly access the EcoCentral EcoDrop pit, but had to park three metres away and carry heavy rolls of carpet from his trailer. He also complained that the edge of the pit was covered in nails, which created trip hazards. The file was triaged by our response inspectors and closed with no immediate action.
- File 5639084: 23 August 2016 – a telephone complaint from a person who had his tyres punctured by nails on the road at the EcoCentral EcoDrop. The complainant explained that the nails were large 'Z nails' "5mm wide and about 15/20cm long that would go through your foot if you were walking along the road". He subsequently emailed photos of the nails in his tyres. The response inspector advised EcoCentral of the complaint by letter. The file was then triaged by our response inspectors and closed with no immediate action.
- File 5623417: 29 April 2016 - a Health and Safety notification from the Operations Manager at EcoCentral that an employee had been injured while moving a piece of wood. The wood slipped and struck a steel pipe in the refuse bin, causing a fracture to a small bone in his wrist. The file was triaged by our response inspectors and closed with no further action
- File 5641748: 19 September 2016 - a telephoned Health and Safety notification from the Operations Manager at EcoCentral that a customer had been injured while taking scrap steel from their vehicle and throwing it into a scrap bunker. The customer had tripped over, hit their head and hurt their left arm. First aid was administered and the person was taken to hospital by ambulance. WorkSafe was satisfied with the explanation received from EcoCentral. The file was triaged by our response inspectors and closed with no further action

While not a complaint or notification, EcoCentral EcoDrop, Bromley is also mentioned on the following WorkSafe file:

- 5650791: 26 November 2016 – a report was received regarding an asbestos container bag seen sitting by a road sign just before the EcoDrop, which had probably fallen off a trailer. WorkSafe contacted EcoDrop and staff were sent out to retrieve the bag.

If you require any further information, please contact [oiia@worksafe.govt.nz](mailto:oiia@worksafe.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely



Brett Murray  
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