

Williamtown Contamination Investigation Roadmap

| Project Element | Current and future actions to be undertaken | Who has lead responsibility/ partners | When will it be completed | Community communication – When/How |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Access to safe drinking water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interim supply of drinking water - Water Reticulation program | 1.1 Implement an interim alternative drinking water program to residents within the investigation area who are reliant on bores for drinking water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1.1 Bottled Water program implemented September 2015 1.1.2 Tankered water program implemented May 2016 | Defence | In place. To be reviewed in July 2016 based on findings of the environmental site assessment and national interim health reference levels | Direct communication with community members Defence website – www.defence.gov.au/id/Williamtown Facts Sheet – Water Supply and Assistance |
| | 1.2 Connect residents in the investigation area to water network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.2.1 Install new water mains, water meter and backflow prevention device and pipes and fittings to a termination point within the property 1.2.2 provide advice on how residents outside of the investigation area can connect to reticulated water | Hunter Water | Stage 1 June 2016/ Stage 2 June 2017 completed | Hunter Water to provide quarterly reports to CRG. First report in May 2016. Timeline for connection: www.hunterwater.com.au/major-projects/project-pages/williamtown-water.aspx Connection information on Hunter Water website |
| 2. Stage 2B Environmental Investigation - Identify nature and extent of impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental sampling and analysis - Residential Water Sampling - Hydrogeological modelling - Ecological risk assessment - Biota sampling - Additional sampling | 2.1 Develop Sampling Plan | Defence | Completed – 19 Oct 2015 | Presentation to CRG for dissemination to community via reps and Key Messages document |
| | 2.2 Conduct a residential water sampling program (collect and test samples from bores, swimming pools, surface water, tanks) | Defence | In place | Residents advised directly of their test results via face to face or letter sent to their property |
| | 2.3 Conduct environmental sampling and analysis – soil, surface water and groundwater <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.3.1 complete sampling of soil, surface water and groundwater 2.3.2 Hydro –geological Modelling and Conceptual Site Modelling 2.3.3 finalise Environmental Site Assessment Report | Defence | Sampling completed 30 May Report finalised 30 June | Direct contact with community members where sampling occurs, Environmental Investigation FAQ – Defence website Environmental Site Assessment Report – Defence website Community Information session and drop-in session week commencing 4 July 2016 |
| | 2.4 Qualitative Ecological Risk Assessment | Defence | Expected September 2016 | Report to be published on Defence website |
| 3. Stage 2B Environmental Investigation - Human Health Risk Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community survey (water use and food) - Assessment of data - Guidelines - Fishing closures | 3.1 Biota Sampling for HHRA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1.1 aquatic sampling 3.1.2 plants and other biota | DPI Defence/AECOM | Aquatic biota samples completed 24.4.16 & data to Defence Analysis to be completed 31 July 2016 | Results will be presented in the Human Health Risk Assessment and Ecological Risk Assessment |
| | 3.2 Conduct Community Survey to inform HHRA (water and food exposures) | Defence | Completed - 30 April 2016 | Drop in event 6.4.16, letter box drop, Defence telephone hotline, |
| | 3.3 Complete Human Health Risk Assessment and report to NSW Government | Defence (L) | Expected August 2016 | Media releases, community information session and drop-in sessions early to mid August 2016 |
| | 3.4 Interpretation of HHRA (as informed by enHealth guideline levels) and development of advice | Expert Panel | Expected August 2016 | |
| | 3.5 Communication of HHRA results which is anticipated to be August 2016 | EPA (L) | 31 August 2016 | Various – drop-ins, meetings, letters, website and FAQ updates |
| | 3.6 Extend fishing closures pending Human Health Risk Assessment | DPI | completed | Consultation with fishers and briefing to Fishers representatives and CRG. Fishing closures extended to 30 September 2016. DHS to contact individuals in receipt of financial assistance to explain extension of financial assistance |
| | 3.7 Review closure of Tilligerry Creek and Fullerton Cove fisheries based on sampling results information, interim human health risk assessment and/or health reference levels, if available | Expert Panel, DPI | 31 August 2016 | Consultation with fishers and briefing to Fishers representatives and CRG. Formal publication will include public notices and media releases. |

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| 4. Community Information and Wellbeing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact points Information Support Training Financial assistance package | 4.1 Establish Community Engagement and Stakeholder Management position | EPA | In place | Direct contact with community |
| | 4.2 Provide access by agencies and community to public health physician for expert advice | Health | In place | |
| | 4.3 Implement mental health initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.3.1 Weekly clinical psychologist clinic 4.3.2 Group resilience sessions | Health (L) Defence | In place As per demand | General media release, CRG and social media Group resilience sessions will be arranged on demand |
| | 4.4 Provide information and support to general practitioners | Health (L), Expert Panel | In place | Face to face meetings, fact sheets sent directly to practices, Health website |
| | 4.5 Implement support programs for Fishers and partners including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.5.1 Personal contact, regular communication 4.5.2 Organise social events for fishers and partners 4.5.3 Distribute \$9000 worth of Woolworths shopping vouchers 4.5.4 Access to rural financial counsellors and other services that may help fishers | DPI (L), EPA Community Engagement Officer | Until industry recovers July 2016 Completed In place | Individual contact and meetings as required, tailored newsletters when new information available. Flyer on contacts distributed through social media, websites and mailout. |
| | 4.6 Implement Training programs to increase employment options for Fishers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.6.1 Identify training needs 4.6.2 Marine Radio course (MRC) 4.6.3 Coxswain | DPI | completed completed July 2017 | Newsletters, emails, direct contact |
| | 4.7 Implement financial support following closure of Tilligerry Creek and Fullerton Cove <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.7.1 Administer a financial assistance package to assist with immediate financial hardship following closure of Tilligerry Creek and Fullerton Cove 4.7.2 Provide clarity around the extension of the financial assistance package 4.7.3 Fee Waiver for fishers and oyster growers | Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) DHS DPI | In place 30 June 2016 In place | Letters to Fishers, drop-in sessions, Newsletters, DHS Hotline, DHS Website, via CRG community Media Release on extension of financial assistance package beyond 30.6.16 Updated Q&As explained via phone calls, mailouts to claimants |
| 5. Remediation/Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility assessment of technology Management strategies | 5.1 Engage industry to investigate available and emerging remediation technologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1.1 initial engagement | Defence | Completed | Community information sessions, community brochures and via CRG community reps and Key Messages document |
| | 5.2 Conduct trials of available and emerging remediation technologies – (stabilisation, solidification, in-situ oxidation, in-situ reduction, foam fractionation/separation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.2.1 conduct initial trial on soil and groundwater remediation | Defence | 31 July 2016 (initial trial) | Community information brochure, CRG community reps and Key Messages document |
| | 5.3 Remediation of Lake Cochran <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.3.1 Install Water Treatment Plant to treat PFOS/PFOA leaving Lake Cochran 5.3.2 Release Expression of Interest for long term remediation | Defence | 30 September 2016 31 July 2016 | Media Release |
| | 5.4 Develop long term management strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.4.1 Identify management objectives based on actual levels of risk (informed by HHRA and ecological risk assessment) 5.4.2 Identify and assess long term management options | Defence | To be determined following completion of HHRA | Community information sessions |
| | 5.5 Implement long term management strategies | Defence | To be determined following completion of HHRA | Community information sessions |
| 6. National Health Reference Levels | 6.1 Develop national health guidance statements to inform state health advice regarding PFOS and PFOA | Environmental Health Standing Committee | Completed | Australian Government Department of Health website http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-pubhlth-publicat-enviro.htm |
| | 6.2 Develop enHealth guidelines | Environmental Health Standing Committee | 30 June 2016 | Requires Australian Principal Health Protection Committee sign off before being made available on enHealth website |