

Orica Mercury Independent Review Steering Panel Meeting

7 May 2014 – Outcomes and Actions

3	<p>Discussion: Should PCB issues management be engaged in by this panel?</p> <p>A panel member asked in the previous meeting if residual PCB issues discussed in the Professor Chris Fell review would be considered by the steering panel.</p> <p>A summary of the recommendation of the report was provided. The analysis of samples taken on or close to a Sydney Water easement outside the Orica site reveals that in a number of samples the concentration level of other materials lies above that for residential A and at or below the level for more public use. Further limited soil analysis should be undertaken for lead, chromium, PCBs and PAHs in off-site samples in this area. These are not presently considered a health risk and their presence is unlikely to be a legacy of processes operated by Orica and its ICI Australia predecessor.</p> <p>To address the recommendation, the EPA is proposing that, as well as the mercury soil sampling, additional soil samples are collected and analysed for lead, chromium, PAHs and PCBs from the sample sites identified by the Stage 2 contractor within the residential area bounded by Denison Street, Beauchamp Road, Rhodes Street and the Sydney Water easement at Hillsdale. The results will be assessed against the appropriate NEPM HIL for the location of the sample, i.e. Residential A and B or Recreational C.</p> <p>The results of these analyses may indicate an exposure pathway which will then need to be investigated. The results will be brought back to the panel for discussion.</p> <p>The EPA will fund the analysis of these samples as, if they are present, it is unlikely to be an Orica legacy.</p> <p>The panel agreed to this approach.</p>	EPA	<p>3.1 Ensure appropriate sampling and analysis for lead, chromium, PCBs and PAHs is undertaken for the samples collected in Stage 2 in the identified residential area</p>
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	<p>It was noted that none of the analysis for Stage 2 will take place at Wollongong University.</p> <p>The EPA suggested that Penrhyn Estuary foreshore be tested as a public amenity area comparable to the previously identified public parks and this was agreed by the panel.</p>	Mark Gifford	5.1 Report back to panel regarding discussion on new panel member options with the Minister
6	<p>Stakeholder engagement</p> <p>As a member of the EPA Public Affairs team was unable to attend this meeting, the discussion regarding communications for Stage 2 should take place at the next meeting.</p>	Zack Thomas	6.1 Include on the agenda for the next meeting and invite EPA Public Affairs
7	<p>Budget</p> <p>No update</p>		
8	<p>Other business</p> <p>None.</p>		
9	<p>Date for forthcoming meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 11 June at 10am until 1pm.</p>		

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