



Gabrielle Upton
Minister for the Environment

MEDIA STATEMENT

Thursday 11 May 2017

STATEMENT ON CONTAMINATED SITES MANAGEMENT

Professor Mark Taylor has completed his Review of the Environment Protection Authority's Management of Contaminated Sites.

I thank Professor Taylor for his report and welcome the findings. The Government is considering the recommendations and will respond as appropriate.

The NSW Government has already taken steps to address contaminated sites across the state including establishing a backlog program in 2014 to reduce the number of unassessed contaminated sites. The number of unassessed sites was reduced by more than 40 per cent between 2014 and 2016.

In 2016 the Government also announced its state-wide investigation program to coordinate management of and reduce risks posed by PFAS at potentially adversely affected sites across NSW.

Professor Taylor's report found the EPA may have been more proactive in its management of Williamtown contamination between 2012 to 2015, but the EPA and other NSW government agencies' response since August 2015 have been timely and appropriate.

Addressing issues related to contaminated sites, which are often very complex, is a priority for the NSW Government to ensure the protection, safety and wellbeing of the community and environment.

To read Professor Taylor's final report visit:

<http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/MediaInformation/taylor-report-williamtown.htm>