

**Response provided to journalist
10 August 2016**

Questions:

1. What were the results of the preliminary sampling investigation commenced in May 2016?
2. How many of the approx. 10 samples of bore water and surface water within the boundaries of the RAAF base had traces of PFOS and PFOA?
3. What level of risk do those detections of PFOS and PFOA pose at the base in terms of the health of personnel working on the base and the community?
4. Where exactly in terms of particular unit blocks or areas of the base were the chemicals detected on base?
5. What further detailed environmental investigations need to be undertaken focusing on PFOS and PFOA on or outside the base?
6. What communication has Defence had with the Townsville City Council in relation to the preliminary results and possible further testing or investigations?
7. What related testing or investigations will Defence undertake at the Townsville civilian airport given its proximity to the RAAF base?

Response:

All sampling conducted at RAAF Base Townsville was completed by the end of July, however, Defence has not yet received the final report of the environmental sampling. The final results are expected to be received by Defence later this month.

In consultation with relevant local and state government agencies, Defence will engage with the local community on findings of the preliminary investigation in the near future. Defence has established:

A national website to facilitate access to information regarding its PFOS and PFOA investigation program: <http://www.defence.gov.au/id/PFOSPFOA/Default.asp>

National telephone number: 1800 365 414 and

Email address: PFCDefenceCoordination@golder.com.au

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