

Questions:

Further to the Contaminated Site Final Report by Prof Mark Taylor about the ongoing remediation of sites I've got a few questions for the DOD.

1 - Why is Randwick Barracks not on the list of sites being reviewed for AFFF contamination?

2 - It has been used for fuel storage and therefore would it not have had AFFF in use?
(<http://www.defence.gov.au/ID/PFOSPFOA/DefenceSites.asp>)

3 - Plans to remediate the site go back as far as 2002. What are the reasons the site has not been treated yet?

4 - What are the barrack's future plans for the site?

Response to all:

In 2015, Defence engaged an independent environmental advisor to assess the history of AFFF use across the Defence Estate, this review included Randwick Barracks. Randwick Barracks was categorised as a facility that “can be removed from further consideration because the information reviewed indicates that there is no current or former use or storage of AFFF on the facility”.

Defence engaged an independent advisor in 2016 to conduct an estate wide review of AFFF use by Defence. While there is history of underground storage tanks at Randwick Barracks, this review found no documented history of AFFF storage or use.

Defence continues to review available information, consider new information as it becomes available and, where necessary, proactively seek additional data to determine the status of each property on the Defence estate in relation to potential risks associated with PFAS contamination.

Contamination investigations conducted at Randwick Barracks in recent years have not identified any widespread contamination or high contamination risks. Some asbestos remediation has occurred.

No further remediation is proposed for the base in its current layout. Further assessment works and possible remediation activities have been recommended if the site is to be redeveloped.

Randwick Barracks is an enduring Defence Site that will continue to support Defence activities and personnel in the Sydney region.