

Question:

Is there updated information about the delivery of the water treatment plant to Katherine?

Response:

Defence has engaged an international environmental company, Emerging Compounds Treatment Technologies (ECT2), to provide a water treatment plant to reduce the amount of per- and poly- fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the Katherine town water supply.

The plant was identified as a viable approach to mitigating the impact of PFAS in the groundwater which is mixed with Katherine River water for the town water supply. Current manufacturing and transportation timeframes indicate the plant will be delivered and operational in the final quarter of 2017.

Defence will continue to work with the NT Government to implement interim solutions to minimise the level of PFAS in the water supply, while longer-term solutions are investigated by the NT Government.

Defence is committed to regularly updating the community about PFAS management activities. Further information on the environmental investigation at RAAF Base Tindal can be found at: <http://www.defence.gov.au/environment/pfas/Tindal/>