

Response provided to journalist
7 November 2017

Question

Katherine residents have been told that PFAS sludge, from its new water treatment plant and also from the town's pool, is to be collected and stored on RAAF Base Tindal.

We have been told it is to be stored in drums and then into shipping containers.

How many drums do you expect to collect?

What is the long-term disposal solution for this residue?

Response

The waste stream from the new water treatment plant is minimal.

During the remediation process, Defence expects to remove approximately 10m³ of contaminated waste from the Katherine pool while it is closed. As an interim measure, any waste will be stored securely at RAAF Base Tindal until appropriate management or disposal is complete.

Defence continues to work with industry and Northern Territory Government agencies to confirm the most appropriate treatment and disposal options for management of PFAS contaminated waste.