

Response provided to journalist  
14 November 2017

**Question**

With news of PFAS being detected in the Shoalhaven River, albeit low levels, is there any chance this is linked to firefighting foams formerly used by Defence?

**Response**

Defence is aware that the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is conducting sampling in the Shoalhaven River and these investigations will work to identify potential sources of PFAS detections. On this basis, it is premature to speculate whether HMAS Albatross or any other potential source in the Shoalhaven River catchment have contributed to these detections.