

Question:

I was just hoping to get some clarity around the PFAS investigation regarding the Amberley Base.

Response:

In March 2017, Defence commenced a detailed environmental investigation on and near RAAF Base Amberley.

The first stage of the investigation has been completed. This involved the historical review of legacy firefighting foam use and storage, how PFAS moves in the environment, and people, animals and the environment that may be exposed to PFAS.

This information was used to develop a Sampling and Analysis Quality Plan (SAQP) which details the location, nature and extent of sampling activities to take place as part of the second stage of the environmental investigation, the Detailed Site Investigation (DSI).

Sampling and testing for the DSI will involve the collection of soil, sediment, surface water and groundwater on and off the base. Sampling at RAAF Base Amberley has commenced, with off-base sampling activity to commence soon.

Defence is committed to keeping the community informed of the progress of the PFAS environmental investigations. Defence will hold a community walk-in session at Leichardt One Mile Community Centre, 1 Denman Street, Leichhardt on 28 November to update the community on the PFAS investigation at Amberley. Details of this investigation are available on the Amberley PFAS website.