

Response provided to journalist  
16 July 2018

**Question**

Advice to the Senate inquiry infers Katherine and Tindal water treatment plants are signed off on.

Do you have updated information?

**Response**

Defence has entered into a contract to install and operate two water treatment plants at RAAF Base Tindal. The contract, with ECT2, is for an initial period of three years, with two possible extensions of two years each.

It is anticipated the first plant will be delivered by the end of 2018, with full operations commencing in early 2019.

The second plant is expected to be delivered during the second quarter of 2019.

Once the water treatment plants are operational, data detailing laboratory analysis, from each plant, will be placed on the Defence website monthly.

State and federal health authorities have confirmed Katherine town water is safe to drink.

Defence will continue to work with the Katherine community and the Northern Territory Government as it investigates, and implements strategies to reduce, PFAS exposure.