

Our Reference : HO1295/HOF5700  
Contact : Helen Davies, 02 9995 5613



Mr C Collier  
State Rail Authority  
Level 5 Transport House  
11-31 York Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Contaminated Sites

17 AUG 2000

Dear Mr Collier,

**RE: Contaminated land at the gasworks portion of Macdonaldtown Triangle SRA Eveleigh.**

I refer to your notification under section 60 of the Contaminated Land Management (CLM) Act, dated 28 June 2000, of the former gas works site in the southern portion of Lot 50 DP 1001467.

On the basis of the information provided in the report titled *Macdonaldtown Triangle Erskineville, Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments (volumes 1 and 2)* prepared by CH2MHill, dated 13 June 2000 (Ref No:110158.141) the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has determined that there are reasonable grounds to believe that contaminants on the site pose a significant risk of harm to human health and the environment, pursuant to section 9 of the CLM Act.

The issues of concern are:

- Dissolved phase contaminants, including benzene, a known carcinogen, are present in groundwater in boundary wells in concentrations significantly exceeding ANZECC water quality guidelines. Also, there is potential for separate phase hydrocarbons to be present on site;
- The potential for contaminants to migrate off the site through surface water run-off and into Alexandra Canal; and
- The potential for contaminated groundwater to migrate off-site and into neighbouring residential properties.

The EPA believes these concerns can be addressed by way of remediation of the hydrocarbon contaminated soil and groundwater to address both on-site and off-site impacts and prevent continued off-site migration. Planning for the remediation will need to include further investigations of the nature and extent of off-site migration of contamination in soil and groundwater, and off-site impacts to human health and the environment. The steps already taken to communicate the findings of your investigations with local residents and ensure access to the contaminated area is restricted to appropriate SRA staff and contractors only, are also noted and supported.

**Environment Protection Authority**

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59-61 Goulburn Street Sydney NSW 2000

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Facsimile 61 2 9995 5999

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Options available within the CLM Act to address this matter include:

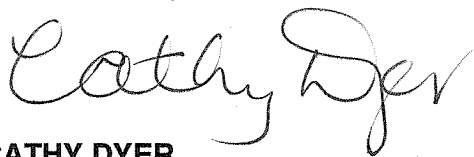
- Declaring a remediation site (under section 21) and issuing a remediation order (under section 23), or
- Agreeing to a voluntary remediation proposal (under section 26).

If you choose to enter into a voluntary agreement with the EPA, you will need to provide a site remediation proposal by **14 November 2000** which adequately addresses the above issues. Also, the conditions of section 26 of the CLM Act will need to be satisfied. This refers to the identification of other contributors to the contamination and giving such parties an opportunity to be involved in any works undertaken, or providing the EPA with an undertaking not to recover costs from such parties under the CLM Act.

I would appreciate an indication of your preferred option for formalising the proposed remediation by **4 September 2000**.

If you wish to discuss this matter please contact Helen Davies on (02) 9995-5613.

Yours sincerely



14 AUG 2000

**CATHY DYER**  
**Director Contaminated Sites**  
for Director General