

# **UNEXPECTED FINDS PROTOCOL**

PARRAMATTA NRL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY FACILITY



# DOCUMENT HISTORY

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this procedure is to provide information and guidance on how to safely conduct works when there is an unexpected contamination or heritage find on the Parramatta Eels Centre of Excellence Project.

# 2.0 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The following statutory obligations of the SSDA Development Consent are setout below.

## CONTAMINATION

B36. An Unexpected Contaminated Land and Asbestos Finds Procedure must be prepared before the commencement of any demolition / construction works and must be followed should unexpected contaminated land or asbestos be excavated or otherwise discovered during construction. The Unexpected Contaminated Land and Asbestos Finds Procedure must outline the steps to be undertaken to identify, report and manage any signs of potential environmental concern encountered during earthworks/redevelopment works.

## CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

C10. Prior to the commencement of any earthwork or construction, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) must be submitted to the Certifier. The CEMP must address, but not be limited to, the following matters where relevant:

... (g) an unexpected finds protocol for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage and associated communications procedure

## C24. Remediation – Unexpected Finds Protocol

Prior to the commencement of any earthwork or remediation works, the Applicant must submit to the satisfaction of the Certifier an Unexpected Finds Protocol which has been reviewed and endorsed by a suitably qualified Environmental Consultant familiar with the requirements Unexpected Finds Protocol. The protocol must outline contingency measures and the procedures to be followed in the event unexpected finds of contaminated material are encountered during works.

## 3.0 KNOWN POTENTIAL FINDS (IDENTIFIED)

3.1 Contamination

Douglas Partners carried out a Detailed Site Investigation Report to assess the potential for contamination at the site based on past and present land uses and to comment on the need for further investigation and/or management with regards to the proposed development.

Kane has reviewed the report and understand that preliminary results indicate that there is a low potential for contamination associated with fill at the site and the demolition of previous buildings.

## 3.2 Heritage

Coast History and Heritage carried out an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report and also a Statement of Heritage Impact to assess the potential for cultural heritage and heritage at the site based on past land uses.

Kane has reviewed the respective reports and understand that;

• There are no previously recorded Aboriginal archaeological sites within the site, and none were identified during the initial Aboriginal Cultual Heritage Assessment Report and;



• It is unlikely we will encounter heritage items as the site area itself is not a listed heritage item or within a heritage conservation area and had low heritage significance as setout in the Statement of Heritage Impact Report.

# 4.0 **DEFINITIONS**

An unexpected find is defined as potential contaminated land or asbestos that was not previously identified in the project plans (and sub-plans) or during pre-construction investigations. For the purposes of this plan, contaminated land comprises land within the project area that meets the definition of contamination in Contaminated Land Management Act 1997, including asbestos.

An 'unexpected heritage find' can be defined as any unanticipated archaeological discovery that has not been identified during a previous assessment or is not covered by an existing permit under relevant legislation such as the NPW Act or Heritage Act. The find may have potential cultural heritage value, which may require some type of statutory cultural heritage permit or notification if any interference of the heritage item is proposed or anticipated

# 5.0 POTENTIAL UNEXPECTED FINDS

The below items are common type of unexpected finds and their characteristics.

## 5.1 Petroleum Hydrocarbons

May be identifiable by either odour and/or visual indications of contamination. Characteristic petrol, diesel or 'oily' odours (e.g. hydraulic oil) which may vary in strength from weak (just detectable) to very strong (easily detectable at a distance from the source).

In soils, the odour may or may not be accompanied by specific areas of dark staining (black-grey) or larger scale discolouration of strata from a previously identified 'natural colour' (e.g. staining of orange and brown clay to dark grey and green.) May also be visible as a distinct coloured sheen on water within an excavation.

## 5.2 Buried Dry Waste Materials

Characteristics include a variety of construction and demolition waste materials including wood, plastic, metal fragments, building rubble such as concrete, brick, asphalt, asbestos containing materials etc

## 5.3 Buried or Surface Bonded ACM, Asbestos Fines/Friable Asbestos

Cement-bound asbestos containing material (ACM) (e.g. compressed cement sheeting) may be present in building waste or pipes. Friable forms of asbestos including lagging and insulation, textured coatings and vinyl floor tiles may also contain asbestos. Fines and fibres are not typically visible to the unaided eye. Laboratory analysis is required to identify asbestos in soil.



## 5.4 Structures or Conduits Containing Possible Hazardous Materials

Could be identified a buried storage tank or former pipelines (typically metal, concrete or plastic), deeper sand fill sometimes with visual/olfactory indications of contamination, or presence of small concrete footings surrounding by odorous of visually impacted soils and/or groundwater.

#### 5.5 Slag or Ash Deposits

Ash materials are typically light weight, grey and white sand and gravel sized particles (1mm to 10mm). Slag materials can be varied in consistency and colour and may comprise pale grey to blue/green/grey and be loose or cemented. Slag gravels can be very angular and appear to have a 'honeycomb' texture.

## 5.6 Landfill Type Materials

Could include a combination of the other categories along with domestic (e.g. clothing), clinical (e.g. human tissue or hair, laboratory specimens etc.), and/or putrescible waste (e.g. food scraps, nappies, etc.).

## 5.7 Buried Drums

Metal or plastic drums containing potentially unknown hazardous substances. Management of drum contents may require specialist hazmat contractors. Drums should not be opened to inspect contents until a qualified hazmat contractor has been engaged to assessed potential risks.

## 5.8 Other Unusual Odours

Other unusual odours that a different from surrounding soils, such as a sweet odour could indicate the presence of chlorinated hydrocarbon contamination.

#### 5.9 Heritage

The range of potential archaeological discoveries can include but are not limited to:

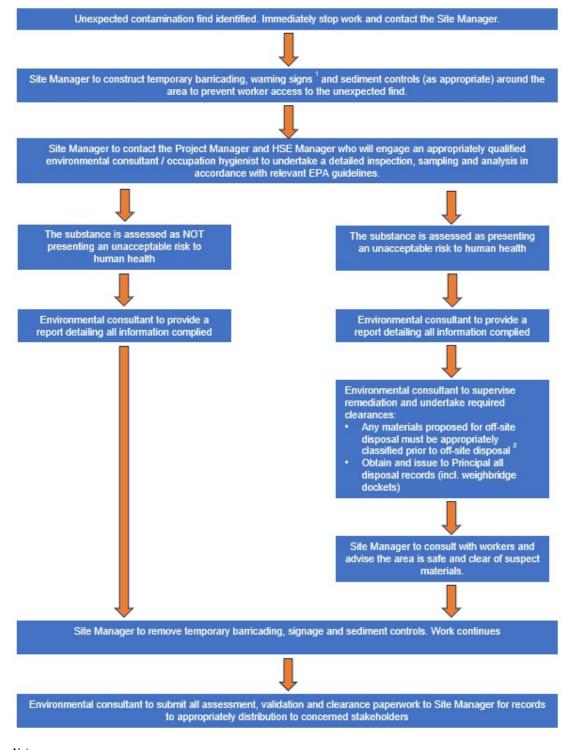
- Aboriginal stone artefacts, shell middens, burial sites, engraved rock art, scarred trees
- Remains of rail infrastructure including buildings, footings, stations, signal boxes, rail lines, bridges and culverts
- Remains of other infrastructure including sandstone or brick buildings, wells, cisterns, drainage services, conduits, old kerbing and pavement, former road surfaces, timber and stone culverts, bridge footings and retaining walls
- Artefact scatters including clustering of broken and complete bottles, glass, ceramics, animal bones and clay pipes
- Archaeological human skeletal remains.

### 6.0 EMERGENCIES

In the event of emergencies, refer to procedures set out in the project WHS and Environmental Management Plan which has details of emergency services, government authorities that would need to notified in the event of an incident involving contamination spills, exposure etc.



## 7.0 UNEXPECTED FINDS PROTOCOL (CONTAMINATION)



Notes:

- 1. Warning signs shall be specific to the findings and potential hazards and shall comply with the Australian Standard 1319-1994 – Safety Signs for the Occupational Environment.
- 2. Any materials proposed for off-site disposal must be appropriately classified prior to off-site disposal as required by the Protection of the Environment Operations (POEO) Act 1997 in accordance with relevant EPA waste classification guidelines.
- 3. All works must comply with the provisions of the relevant legislation and guidelines.

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# 8.0 ASBESTOS

Where asbestos contaminated is encountered the following additional protocols are recommended.

- A licensed asbestos assessor is to assess the find in consult with the environmental consultant to determine the most appropriate course of action.
- The impacted soil will be stockpiled for waste classification purposes (including sampling and chemical analysis) and will be disposed of, as a minimum, as Special Waste (asbestos) in accordance with the NSW EPA (2014) waste classification guidelines, at an appropriately licensed solid waste landfill site.
- In dry and windy conditions the stockpile will be lightly wetted and covered with plastic sheet whilst awaiting disposal
- All work associated with asbestos in soil will be undertaken by a contractor holding a Class A Licence if friable asbestos is identified, or Class B licence for non friable asbestos, and all workers working in the asbestos impacted zone must meet the minimum PPE requirement advised by the licenced asbestos assessor
- Monitoring for airborne asbestos fibres is to be carried out during the soil excavation is friable asbestos has been identified, and/or as required by the licensed asbestos assessor.
- Asbestos air monitoring, where required, will be undertaken in accordance with Guidance Note
  on the Membrane Filter Method for Estimating Airborne Asbestos Fibres 2nd Edition [NOHSC:
  3003 (2005)] and sampling density and locations will be determined by the Occupational
  Hygienist. All filters will be submitted to a NATA accredited laboratory for analysis. Air samples
  will be collected from the breathing zone of a person, over a minimum of four hours duration.
- Documentary evidence (weighbridge dockets) of correct disposal is to be provided to the Project Manager
- At the completion of the excavation, a clearance inspection is to be carried out and written certification is to be provided by the Occupational Hygienist that the area is safe to be accessed and worked. Clearance will include soil samples and asbestos analysis. If required, the filling material remaining in the inspected area can be covered/sealed by an appropriate physical barrier layer of non-asbestos containing material prior to sign-off. Such options will be advised by the environmental consultant
- Details of the incident are to be recorded in Hammertech
- The area may be reopened for further excavation or construction work, once formally advised by the environmental consultant.



# 9.0 UNEXPECTED FINDS PROTOCOL (HERITAGE)

