Esperance Cleanup and Recovery Project Update

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Project Snapshot

Cleaning commenced on 28 June with Bay of Isles Mini Excavators and PRC Services mobilising and expanding their workforce to meet the size and complexity of the project.

Key Project Outcomes

The key project outcomes to date are as follows:

	To end of June
Total number of premises sampled	912
Total number of samples sent to ChemCentre for testing	32,975
Total number of premises analysed against the ECRP guidelines	571
Total number of premises identified as requiring some form of cleaning	544
Total number of premises cleaned	42

Sampling and Analysis

Sampling is currently underway in Stage 6 (see map on page 3) and will soon be moving into Stage 7. Letters seeking consent to sample have recently been sent to all owners of premises located within Stage 8.

The ECRP sampling and data analysis team is now providing:

- Detailed premises sampling.
- Validation sampling.
- Asbestos roof sampling.
- Isotopic sampling.
- Specialised sampling projects.
- Analysis of test results from the ChemCentre.

The sampling team has commenced weekly methodology reviews, team meetings and safety meetings. These encourage participation by all personnel to continuously improve the sampling operations.

Cleaning

On 28 June Bay of Isles Mini Excavators and PRC Services commenced cleaning activities in and around Stage 1. Bay of Isles Mini Excavators is responsible for roof surface, gutter, down pipe and rainwater tank cleaning. Bay of Isles has the capacity to complete up to four premises per day, depending on the size and complexity of each job. PRC Services currently has two crews for the cleaning of internal and external surfaces but is progressively increasing their workforce to four crews. PRC also has the contract for roof space cleaning and is waiting on delivery of their truck-mounted vacuum system, which has been specially designed to meet ECRP specifications, before commencing roof space cleaning on 12 July.

Health, Safety and Environment Risk Reviews
The project team has conducted multiple workshops and reviews to ensure that the project does not impact adversely on the health and safety of our employees, contractors or community, or on the environment. The cleaning team has identified over 100 hazards that will be controlled throughout the duration of the cleaning. The sampling and analysis team conducted a review of its existing risk analysis and identified further improvements in the standard work practices.

Methodology and Process Audit
GHD has completed a methodology and process audit of the sampling and cleaning components of the ECRP. No issues were raised that significantly affect the work that has already been undertaken or cause the project to require a fundamental change in methodology or process. The key process improvement recommendations made by the auditors have been accepted and implemented by the project team. The final audit report will be tabled at the next ECRP steering committee meeting on 29 July and subsequently published on the OnCue website.

Records Keeping Audit
The ECRP records keeping audit has been completed. The audit identified no major issues for the project under the Records Keeping Act. The final audit report will be tabled at the next ECRP steering committee meeting on 29 July and subsequently published on the OnCue website.

Asbestos Roofs
Asbestos roof sampling has commenced using the Micro-Vac Surface Sampling Vacuum System. A detailed audit is currently underway across all nine project stages to determine the total number of premises that have asbestos roofs.

Waste Disposal
The ECRP waste sampling methodology has been drafted and distributed to relevant parties for comment. The methodology identifies each containerised unit of waste as a single waste batch. Samples are being taken from the containers for leachability testing by the ChemCentre to determine the class of waste under DEC's *Landfill Waste Classification and Waste Definitions (1996)*. The waste class will determine the final disposal location of the waste material.

ECRP Database and Mapping
The first batch of sample results (comprising approximately 200 premises) has been provided to the Department of Health (DoH) for archiving onto the dedicated ECRP database. DoH will also undertake mapping of these results to provide a visual representation of the premises that have been sampled and subsequently the levels found from that sampling. An additional map series is being produced to identify the premises that require cleaning and subsequently show those that have been cleaned under the three cleaning contracts.

ECRP site visit by ChemCentre staff
Three ChemCentre personnel will travel to Esperance for a first hand look at the ECRP processes on Friday 30 July 2010. The field sampling and data analysis components of the project are of particular interest to the ChemCentre staff and will allow them to gain a better understanding of the entire sampling, analysis, cleaning and validation process.

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Visit the OnCue website to view previous Project Updates and other related ECRP information.

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Map showing Project Stages