



Tuesday 13 July 2010

TITLE: Response to enquiry from the Sunday Times

On Thursday 8 July 2010 the following was provided to Trevor Paddenburg from the Sunday Times.

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The cleaning component of the Esperance lead cleanup project is underway.

Project director Wayne Winchester said he expected most of the required cleaning would be completed by the end of the year.

“To the end of June we had sampled 912 of about 1,800 premises in the area where contamination was likely.”

He said almost 33,000 samples had been sent to ChemCentre for testing, and 571 properties had been analysed against the project guidelines of which 540 had been identified for some form of cleaning. Each property that required cleaning had its own customised cleaning plan.

“We are still working through the town taking samples and more properties will require cleaning as results come in, however samples from areas further out from the port are showing less contamination so less cleaning will be required,” Mr Winchester said.

Mr Winchester praised the positive involvement of the Esperance community in the cleanup project, particularly those living in the affected area and the community representatives on the project’s steering committee.

“People understand that the time taken so far has been necessary to ensure a systematic and thorough cleanup,” Mr Winchester said.

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