

Remediation

This fact sheet provides an update on plans to remediate the area of historical gasworks contamination at Millers Point, which includes part of Barangaroo, and part of the adjoining Hickson Road.

(NSW EPA declared Remediation Site 21122)

- > An application has been submitted to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DoP&I) for the first phase of remediation of the NSW EPA Declared Remediation Site ('EPA Declared Area') at Barangaroo.
- > This application includes a proposal to remediate an area known as 'Block 4', which comprises the part of the EPA Declared Area that is located within Barangaroo South, and some adjoining land to the west.
- > Further applications will be made in the future covering the remediation of the remaining parts of the EPA Declared Area (located on Barangaroo Central and part of Hickson Road).
- > The Barangaroo Delivery Authority and its contractor for the remediation, Lend Lease, are committed to remediating the gasworks contamination in order to remove the EPA declaration and ensuring all work is carried out without unacceptable risks to human health and the environment.

Extent of contamination

As a former industrial site, Barangaroo has historical contamination arising from gasworks processes and gasworks waste products. The operation of the Millers Point Gasworks from the 1840's to 1918 resulted in the contamination of parts of the site and parts of Hickson Road.

The nature and extent of gasworks contamination identified at Barangaroo is very similar to other historical gasworks sites in Sydney. The gasworks contamination principally arises from waste tars which comprise a complex mixture of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, petroleum hydrocarbons, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene (BTEX), phenols, cyanide and other chemical substances produced in the gas making process.

Barangaroo has significant sustainability ambitions, which means we want to manage the contamination in the best way possible. Before construction started, over 800 test samples were taken over a five year period to identify areas and levels of contamination, so that we could assess the extent of the contamination and plan to manage it.



Remediating and managing contaminated material

The Barangaroo Delivery Authority, Lend Lease and the contractors working at Barangaroo are cleaning up and managing the contamination to protect human health and the environment in accordance with approved remediation action plans, stringent legislation and guidelines, in consultation with the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and an independent EPA accredited site auditor.

The Barangaroo Delivery Authority has entered into a Voluntary Management Proposal (VMP) with the NSW EPA for remediation of the EPA Declared Area.

Remediation of the EPA Declared Area will be in accordance with this VMP and a detailed Remedial Action Plan. This Remedial Action Plan has been approved by the EPA accredited site auditor.

What is the main remediation issue?

The major source of contamination is from the former Millers Point Gasworks. Although above ground structures associated with the gasworks were demolished between 1922 and 1925, the underground structures including tar and gasholder tanks were left in place.

What is the area of the Remediation Site (EPA Declared Area)?

In May 2009, the NSW EPA declared specific portions of Barangaroo (around 2 hectares of the 22 hectare area of Barangaroo) and of Hickson Road as a “remediation site” under the provisions of the Contaminated Land Management Act 1997. The “remediation site” area coincides with the known footprint of the former Millers Point Gasworks. *Refer to the “Location of Remediation Site” drawing provided overleaf.*

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

What application has been submitted to address contamination of the EPA Declared Area?

In October 2013, an application was submitted by Lend Lease to the DoP&I to undertake remediation and land forming activities within the part of the EPA Declared Area on the Barangaroo South site and some adjoining land to the west. This area is referred to as “Block 4”. This application covers this part of the EPA Declared Area only.



Will further applications be submitted?

Applications for remaining parts of the EPA Declared Area will be made separately in consultation with the DoP&I and the EPA. Remediation of the Block 4 portion of the EPA Declared Area does not remove obligations for remediating remaining parts of the EPA Declared Area. The EPA Declaration is likely to remain in force in relation to the Block 5 (Central) and Hickson Road remediation areas until these areas are remediated (under separate development applications) to the satisfaction of the EPA. This, together with the VMP, will ensure that all required remediation areas will be suitably remediated in due course in accordance with the relevant legislation.

Why are the applications being made separately?

The application for the remediation of the area within Block 4 at Barangaroo South is being made first to allow remediation of the EPA Declared Area to commence in line with the proposed development program. Construction activity is now well underway within the first stage of Barangaroo South and in line with the program, activities are proposed to commence in the next stage of the Barangaroo South site in 2014, with the construction of the Block 4 perimeter retention wall.



What work does this application cover?

This application covers a proposal to construct a perimeter retention wall around the area referred to as the “Stage 1b” basement, dewatering of material, excavation, soil treatment on site (when required), removal of the excavated soil/material and the diversion of a stormwater main that is currently located within this area of the site.

How is the contaminated material proposed to be managed?

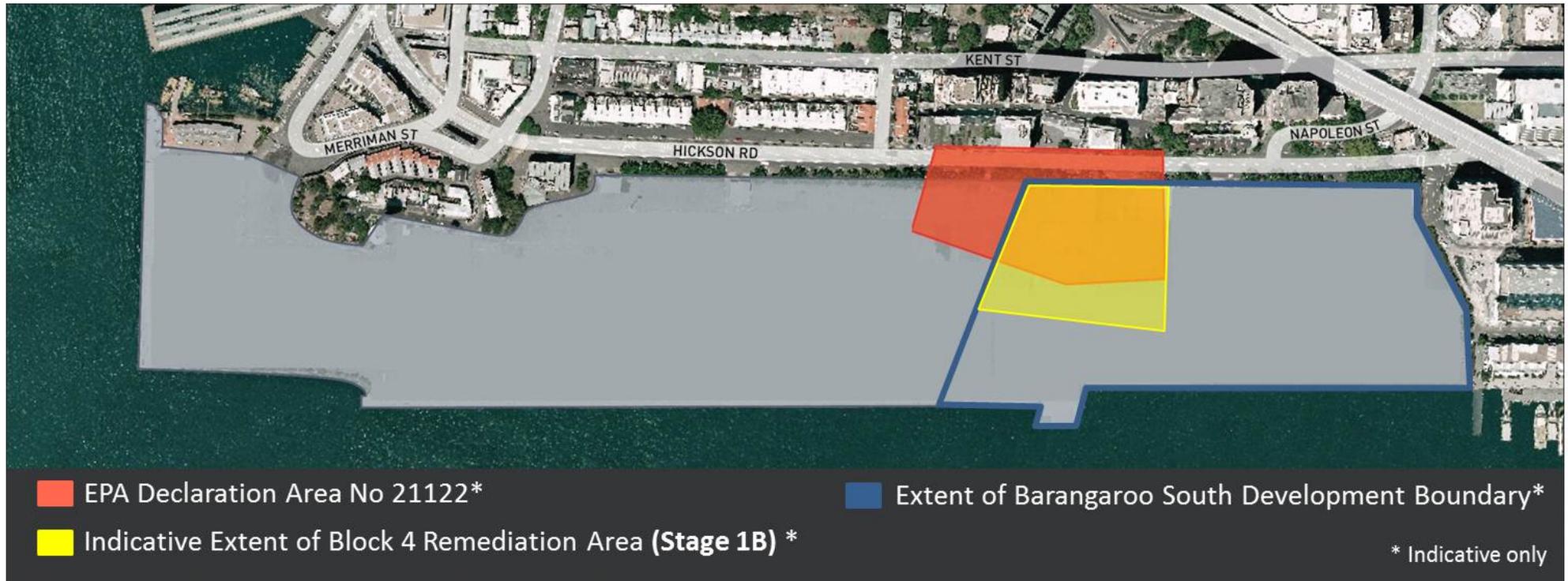
The contaminated material at Block 4 of Barangaroo South will be excavated, treated on site (where required) and then taken off site to be disposed of at licensed landfill locations. Stringent environmental controls will be in place during works, to manage any impacts from the remediation activities. In particular, odour management is a key part of the remediation of the gasworks contamination, and the works will include utilisation of odour tents with air emission controls over the excavation and treatment areas. This work is subject to oversight by the EPA.

If approved, when is the remediation within Barangaroo likely to commence?

Pending determination of the application, remediation is anticipated to commence in the second half of 2014.

The activities covered in this application would take approximately 2 years to complete.

Location of EPA Declared Remediation Site and the Block 4 Site for SSD 5897-2013



How to make a comment on the development application?

This application will be placed on public exhibition by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure for 30 days. The exhibition commences on Wednesday 20 November 2013.

To view the application visit www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au and search for "declared area" or visit the Department's Information Centre located at 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney.

To find more about Barangaroo or remediation please contact the Barangaroo Delivery Authority on 1300 966 480, email info@barangaroo.com or visit us online at www.barangaroo.com or in person at Level 21, 201 Kent Street, Sydney during business hours.