

Recommendations

Recommendation 1

6.14 The committee recommends that Defence immediately review its provision of water and replacement of water infrastructure to affected residents to ensure it is sufficient to meet their needs.

Recommendation 2

6.19 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government, with the advice of the NSW Department of Primary Industries, develop an initial compensation package for the commercial fishermen affected by the closures of Fullerton Cove and Tilligerry Creek.

Recommendation 3

6.23 The committee recommend that Defence examine providing additional mental health and counselling support services to those affected by contamination at RAAF Base Williamtown.

Recommendation 4

6.26 The committee recommends that Defence and the NSW Government examine establishing a joint taskforce to coordinate the response of government agencies to the contamination from RAAF Base Williamtown.

Recommendation 5

6.32 The committee recommends the Commonwealth Government commit to voluntarily acquire property and land which is no longer fit for purpose due to PFOS/PFOA contamination from RAAF Base Williamtown.

Recommendation 6

6.35 The committee recommends that if PFOS/PFOA contamination from RAAF Base Williamtown causes permanent or long-term fishing closures, the Commonwealth Government should:

- commit to compensate and purchase the relevant rights of fisherman affected; and
- establish an industry transition program for affected commercial fishermen to assist them relocate or transfer to other industries.

Recommendation 7

6.41 The committee recommends that Defence arrange and fund a program of blood tests for residents in the investigation area on an annual basis.

Recommendation 8

6.43 The committee recommends that Defence release a policy statement to clarify its environmental obligations and responsibilities for contamination which

spreads to non-Commonwealth land. In particular, it should clarify the capacity of State and Territory environment regulation to apply to its activities.