

PFAS Briefing – Supervisor Meeting

10 April 2019



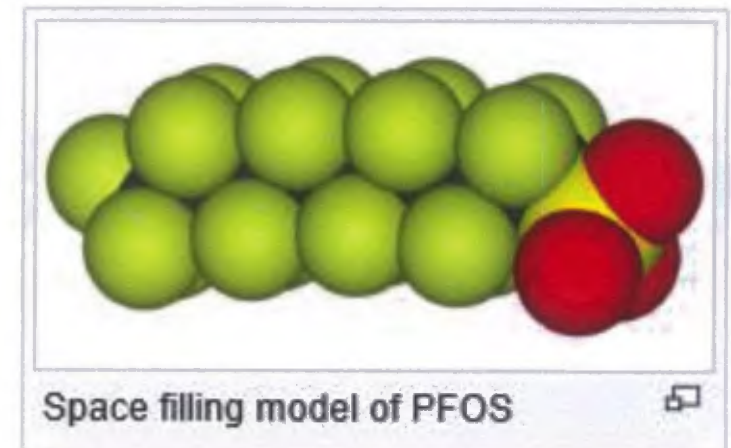
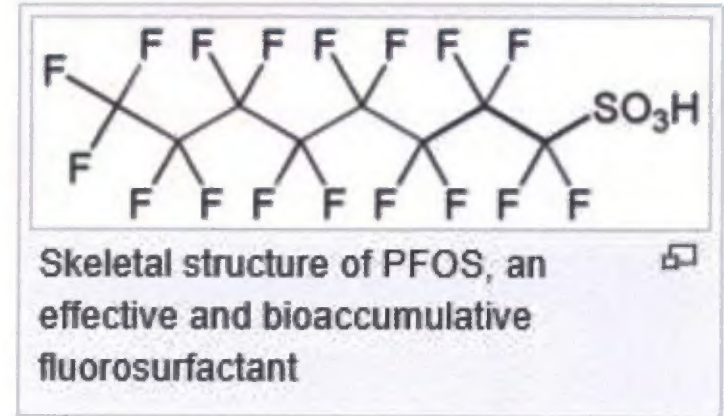
PFAS Explained

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (**PFAS**) are a group of chemicals which have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries since the 1940s.

The group includes substances such as:

- perfluorooctanoic acid (**PFOA**) which is among the Perfluoroalkyl acids (PFAA)s; and
- perfluorooctane sulfonate (**PFOS**)

These chemicals are very persistent in the environment and human body – meaning they do not break down and can accumulate over time.

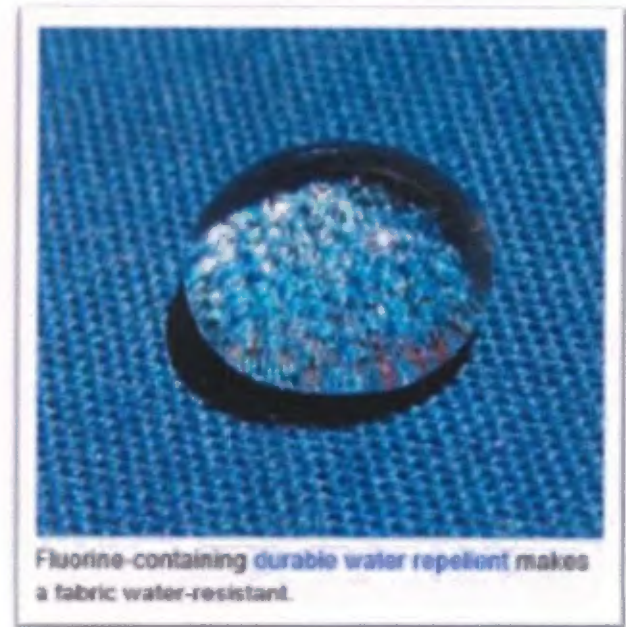


Sources of PFAS

While PFOS, PFOA and other PFAS were not manufactured in Australia, some are still in use.

PFOS and its related compounds are currently imported into Australia, mainly for industrial and chemical manufacturing uses such as mist suppressants and coatings. PFOS, PFOA and other PFAS are present in some types of firefighting foams to improve the foam's ability to smother fires.

PFOS and PFOA may be present in a range of imported consumer products, even though many countries have or are progressively phasing out its use.



Purpose of NEMP and IPS

National Environmental Management Plan (NEMP)

In summary, the NEMP provides **guidance** on PFAS and the need to respond to concerns in facilities such as landfills and wastewater treatment plants receiving PFAS-contaminated material.

Interim Position Statement (IPS)





The purpose of the interim position statement is to outline the EPA of Victoria's current state of knowledge on pre-and poly-fluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS).

The interim statement is intended to be updated as new information becomes available. It is intended for **guidance** and **information** purposes only and is not a legally binding document.

Current PFAS Status on WGTP

Testing has shown both non- detects and low concentrations.
Testing results are contained within the Spoil Work Instructions

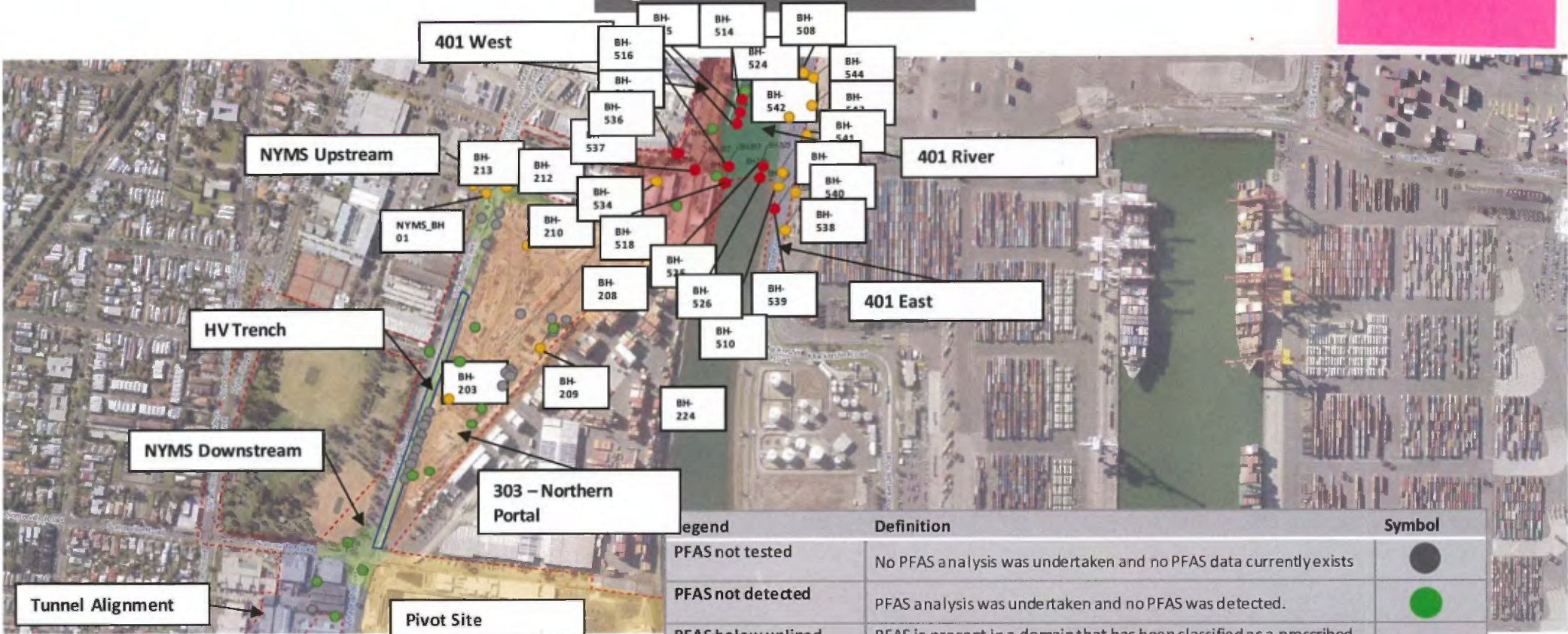
The assessment to date identified locations as per the following:

Legend	Definition	Symbol
PFAS not tested	No PFAS analysis was undertaken and no PFAS data currently exists	
PFAS not detected	PFAS analysis was undertaken and no PFAS was detected.	
PFAS below unlined landfill criteria	PFAS is present in a domain that has been classified as a prescribed industrial waste. See relevant Work Instruction for detailed discussion of domain categorisation.	
PFAS above unlined landfill criteria	PFAS is present in a domain that has been classified as chemically clean fill and would be clean fill if not for the presence of PFAS. See relevant Work Instruction for detailed discussion of domain categorisation.	



MFD

PFAS Landfill Disposal Figure



Legend	Definition	Symbol
PFAS not tested	No PFAS analysis was undertaken and no PFAS data currently exists	Black circle
PFAS not detected	PFAS analysis was undertaken and no PFAS was detected.	Green circle
PFAS below unlined landfill criteria	PFAS is present in a domain that has been classified as a prescribed industrial waste. See relevant Work Instruction for detailed discussion of domain categorisation.	Yellow circle
PFAS above unlined landfill criteria	PFAS is present in a domain that has been classified as chemically clean fill and would be clean fill if not for the presence of PFAS. See relevant Work Instruction for detailed discussion of domain categorisation.	Red circle
Subzone	Boundary of subzones (coloured), see spreadsheet for domain discussions.	White outline

How can we manage soil containing / suspected to contain PFAS?

- Avoid dust generation – if dust is generated during excavation, apply fine water spray mist to dampen, not saturate to soil being excavated.
- Cover your stockpiles – this is to stop runoff and erosion
- Temporary on-site re-use of soils suspected / contain PFAS will be managed on a case by case basis in consultation with the Environmental team.
- Hygiene and Spoil tracking will apply.

Current PFAS Storage in East Zone



Stockpile on Footscray Road – Gate F02

Quantity – Approx. – 1500tonnes



Stockpile location at Sims Street

Quantity – Approx. 2500 tonnes

Hygiene Practices

- Hygiene practices include standard PPE required to be worn in addition to disposable gloves and/or dust masks if required.
- Always wash your hands and any exposed skin before eating and before you go home.
- Hand washing facilities should be within proximity to the worksite.

Next Steps

- PFAS soils cannot be removed from site until we have received Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) classification
- Expected next week, disposal to commence in the East