

### **Millers Point Gasworks remediation underway at Barangaroo**

- **Work starts to remove contamination underneath Barangaroo**
- **Work continues on pilot trial of in situ technique underneath Hickson Road**

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Two remediation projects are now underway to clean up contamination from the former Millers Point Gasworks, which closed almost a century ago.

The projects are being managed by the Barangaroo Delivery Authority, delivered by Lendlease and a team of national and international experts, and monitored by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

The Millers Point Gasworks enabled the first gas street light network outside Europe, which was turned on in Sydney on 24 May 1841. It was decommissioned in 1921 and above-ground structures were removed by 1925.

However certain underground gasworks structures were left behind: gas holders and tanks cut in the sandstone containing coal tar; and contaminated fill material, which remain there to this day.

In 2009, the EPA directed that the site be remediated. Extensive planning since then has included soil sampling, preparation of remediation plans and obtaining development approvals.

Two remediation projects are now underway, to clean the site up over the next three years. The first is a trial, which started in September last year, to remediate the contamination where it is, underneath Hickson Road.

The second is now getting started in earnest, to remediate contaminated fill material underneath Barangaroo.

A conventional 'dig, treat and backfill' approach will be used to excavate and remove around 150,000 tonnes of contaminated fill material from Barangaroo Blocks Four and Block Five.

The first step is to construct a large underground wall from the surface down to bedrock, in order to seal the section and prevent water from entering this area during excavation, and work is now underway on this.

A series of small, negatively pressurised tents fitted with particulate and chemical filtration devices will contain unpleasant chemical smells, and be linked to stacks that will discharge safe, cleaned air.

"We need to remediate this site so that it is safe for future generations, and we are employing a method which is safe, proven, effective and monitored," said the Director of Remediation, Andrew Tompson.

"The performance of the remediation project, including the air filtration system, is being monitored in real time to make sure that it is always safe, and there are no unpleasant smells."

After the wall is constructed, the old gasworks waste will then be dug up and placed in a truck, sealed to prevent exposure to dust and odours, and transported to an EPA-licensed facility for treatment.

Subject to a tender process, that work will occur underneath additional tents that will also be affixed to air filtration devices. For detailed information about the remediation, go to [www.barangaroo.com](http://www.barangaroo.com).