

Media Statement

Thursday 14 March 2013

Barangaroo to implement independent report recommendations

The Barangaroo Delivery Authority has welcomed the Environment Protection Authority's release of an independent report into asbestos management at Barangaroo, and, along with Lend Lease and Baulderstone, will implement the EPA endorsed recommendations contained in the report.

In November 2012, the EPA commissioned an independent public health expert to assess the current procedures and work practices in place at Barangaroo which deal with the management of asbestos and make recommendations to ensure that the processes are in line with world's best practice.

The report by Dr Tim Driscoll validates the current processes and procedures in place at Barangaroo and recommends some further exposure control and protection mechanisms be adopted.

Dr Driscoll has outlined six recommendations which relate to the remediation and management of asbestos at Barangaroo, which are the most stringent conditions in Australia for asbestos management.

He has recommended a change to the criteria set for soil previously contaminated with asbestos to be remediated and confirmed that the re-use of this material on site was appropriate.

The remaining five recommendations relate to the pedestrian access adjacent to the northern end of the site, the involvement of site safety committees in work plans, the involvement of the EPA, Workcover NSW and approval by the site auditor and that air monitoring action level be modified.

In line with the recommendations, the public foreshore walk has been re-routed around the location where the Headland Park construction is taking place and will remain open in the southern and central areas of Barangaroo.

Dr Driscoll said the risk to the public was extremely low, however as asbestos is expected to be found, he recommended the temporary diversion whilst this material is being handled.

Air quality monitoring is undertaken for both ambient air quality and asbestos fibres and to date, no detectable airborne fibres have been found anywhere on or around the site.

The safety of workers and the community is paramount at Barangaroo and measures will remain in place to continue to protect the safety of site personnel, neighbours and the general public including users of the foreshore walk.