

JANDAKOT AIRPORT PFAS INVESTIGATION – AN UPDATE

20 SEPTEMBER 2023

In November 2022, Jandakot Airport Holdings (JAH) commenced a program of residential groundwater testing on properties adjoining the north-west boundary of Jandakot Airport that are not connected to scheme water, to investigate the presence of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

The results of these individual tests were provided confidentially to affected residents. JAH worked closely with the Department of Health and the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to communicate the test outcomes and associated health advice to residents.

To gain better insight into how a summer of low rainfall has impacted levels of PFAS and groundwater flow, a second round of residential testing was offered to select properties in June 2023.

The second round of residential testing remained focussed on properties near the northwest boundary of the airport where PFAS had previously been detected in groundwater at concentrations above Drinking Water Guidelines (DWG). Some properties in a broader area were also randomly selected to confirm previous results.

All samples were tested by an independent National Association of Testing Authorities accredited laboratory. Overall, the results were consistent with the first round of testing.

Airports Investigation Program

The Commonwealth Government has committed \$130.5 million for a PFAS Investigation Program at Australian airports where the Commonwealth previously used PFAS-containing foam in firefighting activities.

The investigation program commenced in July 2021 with a pilot at eight airports.

JAH has recently agreed to participate in the Investigation Program. JAH will be working with the Commonwealth Government to conduct the PFAS investigation at the airport. JAH understands that the investigation will likely take at least two years.

Further information about the Australian Government's PFAS—Airports Investigation Program can be found at <https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/>.

Community Engagement

While the Commonwealth Government investigation is undertaken, JAH remains focused on acting in good faith to reduce risk to human health and minimise harm to the environment.

JAH has engaged with all affected residents on an individual basis, in order to offer immediate support based on the specific needs, unique to each property and the people who live there.

JAH has continued to ensure that affected residents have access to suitable water for drinking and domestic use in the immediate term. This has included the delivery of potable water and water tanks, plumbing connections to fresh water, and the refilling of pools as required.

JAH is continuing the program of groundwater monitoring on the airport site and at its boundaries. In parallel, JAH is continuing to engage with relevant WA and Commonwealth government agencies for the implementation of a long-term solution for affected residents.

JAH thanks residents for their continued understanding.

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