



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

# PFAS Airports Investigation Program

## Townsville Airport – civilian component

May 2025 update



# 1. Program overview

- The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts (the Department) is administering the Program on behalf of the Commonwealth Government.
- Aurecon Australasia Pty Ltd (with Senversa) is the contaminated land specialist leading the Program investigation at the civilian component of Townsville Airport.
- The Department has also engaged an accredited contaminated land auditor, Environmental Earth Services, to independently audit the investigation to ensure compliance with relevant regulations, national guidance and best practice.
- Further information on the Program, and background on the Townsville Airport investigation, is included in the October 2024 eCACG update:  
<https://www.townsvilleairport.com.au/ecacg/october-2024>

## 2. Townsville Airport – investigation status

- Aurecon has completed a Data Gap Assessment that included analysing existing data regarding potential PFAS sources in the civilian component of the airport and any off-site migration.
- Based on the findings of the Data Gap Assessment, a Sampling Analysis and Quality Plan (SAQP) has been prepared.
- Following SAQP fieldworks, expected to commence in June 2025, a targeted Preliminary Site Investigation will be developed to determine if any additional investigation is necessary.
- Investigations will inform the development of a PFAS Management Plan for Townsville Airport that will document the approach to managing potential risks associated with PFAS contamination at the civilian component.

### 3. Stakeholder engagement

- The Department continues to ensure that the community and other stakeholders are fully informed about the investigation through forums including the eCACG and the Townsville Airport Indigenous Working Group (IWG).
- A Cultural Heritage Advisor has been engaged to carry out a cultural heritage risk assessment. This will consider the approach and scope of works for Indigenous cultural heritage management - consistent with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* and *Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.
- The Department and the Cultural Heritage Advisor will engage with the IWG and Townsville Airport in May 2025 to consult on the proposed scope of works, way forward, and next steps.

## 4. Where can I go for further information?

Further information on the investigation is available at [www.infrastructure.gov.au/PFAS](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/PFAS) or you can contact the Department directly at [TownsvillePFAS@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:TownsvillePFAS@infrastructure.gov.au)

To find out more about PFAS and the Australian Government's approach, please visit:

[www.pfas.gov.au](http://www.pfas.gov.au)

National health guidance is available at:

[www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/enhealth-guidance](http://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/enhealth-guidance)