

## Detection of elevated lead levels at Captains Flat

June 2022

Transport for NSW has identified lead and other heavy metals in soil samples taken from the Captains Flat Station and Yard located at 1 Copper Creek Road, Captains Flat.

The site has a long history as the former load out facility for the nearby Lake George Lead Ore Mine between 1939 and 1969.

Some asbestos was also identified in surface soils along the Copper Creek rail embankment and in surface soils along the rail corridor.

We have notified the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) as we are required to do. We have fenced the area to create an exclusion zone and installed warning signs. We recently engaged Queanbeyan–Palerang Regional Shire Council to spray seal the Copper Creek Road crossing and road surfaces in the nearby SES compound. This will prevent access to the contaminated soils and we will make sure this capping layer is maintained.

Our next steps are to complete planning and environmental approvals for the proposed remediation.

### Community engagement

Protecting the health and wellbeing of the community and the environment is our highest priority. We will keep you updated as we continue our planning.

We will continue to engage with local stakeholders and Queanbeyan–Palerang Regional Shire Council to ensure the site remediation plan considers the needs of the local community.

### Voluntary Management Proposal

In April 2022, we submitted an updated Voluntary Management Proposal to the EPA. This outlines the key stages in the remediation process. There were some delays in completing the Detailed Site Investigation due to the Site Auditor identifying data gaps in the draft report.

We have now completed more investigations and are currently developing the site remediation plan. We are still planning to complete remediation work as planned in December 2023.

## What happens next

We are working with the Department of Regional NSW and Legacy Mines to remediate this site as part of their Lake George Lead Ore Mine remediation.

We are developing a remediation option assessment to formalise the decision to remove and safely relocate the waste material to the former mine site. This will be followed by a detailed remediation action plan and planning approvals. Legacy Mines is developing a heritage impact assessment.

At this stage we plan to start remediation in mid-2023 and complete work by December 2023. The remediation work will then be assessed by an EPA-accredited Auditor to ensure it complies with their strict standards.

## Further information

Transport will keep you informed as planning continues.

For more information about lead exposure, please see the [NSW Health website](#).

For more information about managing lead in the environment see the [EPA website](#).

For more information about asbestos exposure visit the [NSW Health website](#).

## Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact our project team:



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