

Transport for NSW

Project Newsletter

Goulburn Land Management Projects

January 2024



Transport for NSW Land Management Program is focused on managing contaminated land along rail lines in regional NSW to ensure health and safety of our communities, workers, and environment.

Transport for NSW (**Transport**) has identified elevated levels of lead, asbestos, and other contaminants within the Goulburn Railway Corridor (**Corridor**) related to historical industrial activities associated with use of the precinct.

In this update

Since our staff were last in Goulburn in December 2022, we have been working hard to deliver outcomes for the community.

In this newsletter you will find:

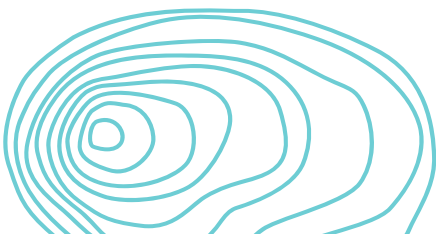
- Project overview
- Latest news and next steps
- Frequently asked questions
- How to contact us.

Transport for NSW acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past, present, and emerging.



Project overview

There are two main project areas within the Corridor - the Goulburn Wheat Yards and the Goulburn Roundhouse. Each of these sites are individual projects at various stages.



What have we done so far?

Transport has completed initial assessments and preliminary site investigations on the Goulburn Wheat Yards project and the Goulburn Roundhouse project. Investigations have identified contamination levels at both sites which were higher than the acceptable criteria for the intended land use.

The Goulburn Wheat Yards project is currently in the Detailed Site Investigation phase and the Goulburn Roundhouse project is in the Remediation Planning phase.

Transport has reported the Goulburn Wheat Yards and Goulburn Roundhouse to the NSW Environment Protection Authority (**EPA**) as required under *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997 (CLM Act)*. We are working closely the network operator, Australian Rail Track Corporation (**ARTC**), NSW EPA, and an EPA-accredited Auditor to best manage the sites.

The health and wellbeing of the community is Transport's highest priority. As such, there are interim controls measures in place at each site to manage any potential risks to human health and the environment until the matter is resolved.

Project map



Goulburn Wheat Yards

The Wheat Yards is located on ARTC leased network off Sloane Street and is used as an operational rail yard. It comprises of six key areas including: Former Fuel Depot, Former Wheat Yard Sidings, Former Stockyards, Access Track, Former JS Hollingworth & Sons, Former Caltex Depot. Investigations have identified elevated levels of lead, asbestos, and other contaminants on the site. The site was reported to the EPA in October 2021 and is awaiting determination.



Goulburn Roundhouse

The Site is located at 12 Braidwood Road in Goulburn, NSW on the ARTC network and is currently used as a railway museum and a roundhouse for restoring and maintaining heritage locomotives and railway vehicles. Investigations into the site confirmed that the main contaminants include hydrocarbons in groundwater, lead in soil, and Asbestos Containing Material in soil and buildings. The site has been declared as significantly contaminated by the EPA under the *Contaminated Land Management Act* (1997).

Latest news and next steps

Goulburn Wheat Yards

The project is currently in the investigation phase to assess and determine the extent of the contamination.

Procurement for a supplementary detailed site investigation and human health and ecological risk assessment in progress

Transport is currently in the procurement stage for a supplementary Detailed Site Investigation (DSI) and Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment (HHERA). The supplementary DSI will help us determine the full extent of the contamination and the HHERA will identify any risks to the community and environment.

Interim environmental management plan updated

The Interim Environmental Management Plan (IEMP) was updated in June 2023. Transport is currently progressing procurement for implementation of the control measures identified in the IEMP. An IEMP is a management plan which outlines temporary measures that should be put in place until additional information is obtained which supports more permanent measures or demonstrates that the site is suitable for its intended land use. To view the plan please visit the project website.

XRF survey report now available on website

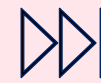
In June 2023, x-ray fluorescence (XRF) offsite soil sample collection was undertaken to determine whether the contamination has migrated outside of the rail corridor. Transport has finalised the report which confirms that there is no offsite migration of lead contamination and no risk to human health or the environment. The report is available on the project website as well as the Interim Audit Advice on the report.

Occupation hygiene assessment completed

An Occupational Hygiene Assessment to identify any potential risks to workers in the rail corridor has been completed and submitted to the NSW EPA.



Wheat yard siding looking toward Ampol fuel depot.



Next steps

Complete a supplementary DSI and HHERA in 2024 and obtain Auditor's endorsement.

The outcomes of these investigations will inform the next stage of the project.

Remediation planning is currently scheduled to commence in 2025. However, the contamination remediation process is regulated and complex and there might be circumstance beyond our control that may impact on our schedule. Should this occur, we will inform the community.

Visit website and stay up to date



Scan the QR code to visit the project website and register for project updates.



Roundhouse looking north.

Goulburn Roundhouse

The project is currently in the Remediation Planning phase where we will develop a strategy to remediate the Site and obtain relevant approvals.

Site formally declared as contaminated by the EPA

In February 2023, the site was declared as significantly contaminated by the NSW EPA under the CLM Act. As such, Goulburn Roundhouse is now a regulated site with obligations under the CLM Act. The declaration is now on the public record and is available on the EPA's website as well the project website.

Interim environmental management plan updated

The Interim Environmental Management Plan was updated in May 2023. This plan is currently available on our website as well as the Interim Audit Advice (IAA) on the plan with the Auditor's endorsement. To view the IEMP and IAA please visit the project website. A new iteration of the IEMP is currently in progress.

Voluntary management proposal accepted by EPA

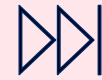
The EPA approved the Goulburn Roundhouse Voluntary Management Proposal (VMP) in July 2023. A VMP is a legal agreement between the NSW EPA and Transport which outlines the key stages in the remediation process and the proposed timing for each stage. To view the plan please visit the project website.

Supplementary detailed site investigation report available on website

Transport has completed a supplementary Detailed Site Investigation (SDSI) to address data gaps identified from previous investigations. The report has now been finalised and is available on project website.

Additional groundwater testing in 2024

Additional groundwater testing is scheduled for Q2 2024. This testing is a part of our ongoing annual groundwater monitoring to ensure groundwater plume is not migrating offsite.



Next steps

Update the IEMP to address from the SDSI.

Complete additional groundwater testing.

Update the Remediation Options Assessment (ROA) to incorporate findings from the SDSI and additional groundwater testing.

Obtain ROA endorsement from an independent auditor.

Consult with the tenant, Goulburn Locomotive Roundhouse Preservation Society, to discuss the ROA and obtain their input.

Develop a Remedial Action Plan which will outline the remediation goals and actions required for the site to be rendered suitable for its intended land use.

Submit a Statement of Heritage Impact to determine whether works may impact on the site's heritage values.

Complete a Review of Environmental Factors to determine environmental impacts which will be placed on public exhibition for comments.

Frequently asked questions

What is the process for assessment and management of land contamination?

The process for assessing and managing contaminated land varies from site to site but can be broadly divided into the following phases:

- 
- Phase 1 – Initial Assessment**
Completed for both projects
 - Phase 2 – Risk Management**
Ongoing for both projects
 - Phase 3 – Preliminary Site Investigation**
Completed for both projects
 - Phase 4 – Detailed Site Investigation**
In progress for Goulburn Wheat Yards
 - Phase 5 – Remediation Planning**
In progress for Goulburn Roundhouse
 - Phase 6 – Remediation & Validation**
 - Phase 7 – Environmental Management Plan**

How is Transport addressing railway contamination in regional NSW?

Transport has an active contamination program that is progressively identifying and prioritising legacy contaminated areas along various rail lines for further investigation and management.

Community Engagement

Transport is committed to keeping the community informed and will do this using a variety of communication channels such as email, community notifications, social media, our project website and moving forward, newsletters. Transport will also hold community information sessions from time to time, either face to face in the local area or online. We will notify the community about these events ahead of time.

Contact us



Project Infoline **1800 491 566**



landassessment@transport.nsw.gov.au



<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/goulburn-rail-corridor-contamination>



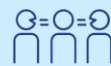
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