



Defence Reference: FOI 509/19/20

E&IG Reference: BS1061383

FOI 509/19/20 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

1. I refer to the application by [REDACTED] under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act), for access to:

“Documents regarding or evidencing the results of any inspections or testing carried out to determine the presence of asbestos in relation to the areas at the Site, other than ‘Emu Pick Area 1’ and ‘Emu Pick Area 2’ which were the subject of the following letters by GHD:

- (1) ‘Defence National Service and Distribution Centre: Asbestos Removal Clearance Certification – Emu Pick Area 1’ dated 25 June 2012 (FOI IR Document 19); and*
- (2) ‘Defence National Service and Distribution Centre: Asbestos Removal Clearance Certification – Emu Pick Area 2’ dated 12 July 2012 (FOI IR Document 1).”*

Personal email addresses, signatures, PMKeyS numbers and mobile telephone numbers contained in documents that fall within the scope of the FOI request, duplicates of documents and documents to or from the applicant are excluded from this request. Furthermore, Defence only considers final versions of documents.

2. The applicant further clarified the following:

“We have, however, to date only received copies of the clearance reports relating to Area 1 and Area 2, being Documents 19 and 1 respectively (attached). Accordingly, through this FOI request dated 20 March 2020, we are seeking copies of the clearance reports, or other documents that evidence the carrying out of a clearance inspection or emu picking (and the results of those activities), in relation to the other areas of the site (ie Areas 3-16 or 3-20, whichever configuration was finally chosen).

Our last FOI request (FOI 423/19/20 dated 12 February 2020) sought an explanation of the different segregation of the site into sixteen areas according to the attached reports, and the segregation of the site into 20 areas according to the attached map but no documents were provided.”

FOI decision maker

3. I am the authorised officer pursuant to section 23 of the FOI Act to make a decision on this FOI request.

Documents identified

4. I identified 18 documents as matching the description of the request.

5. The decision in relation to each document is detailed in a schedule of documents.

6. I have added an FOI reference number and Item/Document number to each of the documents, which corresponds with the schedule.

Decision

7. I have decided to release:

- a. eighteen documents in full; and
- b. remove irrelevant material as referred to in the scope of the request in accordance with section 22(1)(b)(ii) of the FOI Act.

Material taken into account

8. In making my decision, I had regard to:

- c. the terms of the request;
- d. the content of the identified documents in issue;
- e. relevant provisions in the FOI Act; and
- f. the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the Guidelines).

BruceBennett2

Digitally signed by

BruceBennett2

Date: 2020.05.22 06:27:55

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Bruce William Bennett
Accredited Decision Maker
E&I Group