

**Submission
No 23**

**INQUIRY INTO INQUIRY INTO PFAS CONTAMINATION
IN WATERWAYS AND DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES
THROUGHOUT NEW SOUTH WALES**

Organisation: Shellharbour City Council

Date Received: 27 November 2024

To: Select Committee on PFAS Contamination in Waterways and Drinking Water Supplies Throughout New South Wales

From: A/Executive Manager, Strategic Planning and Environment, Shellharbour City Council

Date: 22 November 2024

Submission on the inquiry into PFAS contamination in water in NSW

The following submission is on behalf of Shellharbour City Council regarding the Legislative Council's inquiry into PFAS contamination in waterways and drinking water supplies throughout NSW.

This submission addresses broadly the Terms of References, however with specific emphasis on the following sections: (h) (i) (j) and (m).

Shellharbour City Council wishes to request the following considerations are addressed during the inquiry. This submission has been prepared by Council staff and does not necessarily reflect the views of the elected body.

1. Furthermore to (h) - Ensure there are adequate resources within the state government to identify contaminated sites, undertake testing, and identify management and improvement options. The State Government should have processes in place to monitor the management and improvement of sites. Additionally, should Local Government be allocated tasks and responsibilities, ensure adequate funding and/or resources from the State Government.
2. Furthermore to (i) and (m) - Consideration should also be given to controls to restrict the ability for PFAS to be utilised in buildings, such as in air conditioning systems. State and Federal should consider updating standards to ensure PFAS use is prohibited in buildings. This should be mandated and included in legislative requirements.
3. Furthermore to (j) – There needs to be clear, transparent communication between the responsible agencies, Local Government and the community offering clear guidance on actions required if PFAS levels exceed safe standards.

Thank you for taking Shellharbour's submission into consideration for the inquiry. We would welcome any opportunity to discuss this with you further.

Yours sincerely,

Jessica Lintern
A/Executive Manager Strategic Planning and Environment