

# Katherine PFAS Community Consultation Group

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Date: Thursday 06 August 2020

Location: Katherine Government Centre, Level 1 Conference Room

	Name	Organisation
Attending Members and Proxies	Jessica Powter Faye Miller Ian Bodill Colin Abbott Tim Ferrell Allan Domaschenz	Department of the Chief Minister (Chair) Mayor – Katherine Town Council CEO – Katherine Town Council Chamber of Commerce RAAF Base Tindal Community (Co-Chair)
Apologies	Chris Norton Kevin Grey Jake Quinlivan	Power & Water Corporation Community Department of the Chief Minister
No Response to Invitation	Meg Geritz Natalie Ellis Biju Mani	Community Community Community
Additional Attendees	Sarah Gotch Kellie Sharp Angela Brannelly Skefos Tsoukalis Errol Lawson	Department of the Chief Minister (DWN) Department of the Chief Minister (DWN) Department of Health Power & Water Corporation Advisor
Secretariat	Sahardi Garling	Department of the Chief Minister

## 1. Welcome, opening remarks and apologies

Outcome:

Welcome Colin Abbott from the Chamber of Commerce (first meeting).

Welcome additional attendees.

## 2. Minutes from 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2019 meeting

Outcome:

Draft minutes accepted by the KPCCG committee, Moved: FM Seconded: IB

## 3. Update on Action Items

3.1 Members discussed the action register and noted the updates.

Outcome:

Members discussed the action register and noted the updates.

## 4. Power and Water Corporation

4.1 ST from Power & Water played a video with information PFAS and the treatment plant.

Outcome:

ST provided a fact sheet with information from the video presentation. Attachment B.

## 5. RAAF Base Tindal

5.1 TF will organise a visit to Tindal RAAF Base treatment plant. KFCCG committee decided that the next meeting will happen after visit.

5.2 Complaint about the quality of water being delivered to properties supplied with the new water tanks.

Outcome:

TF will advise on date of visit.

TF provided documentation "*Registration of a Food Business*", which the driver should carry at all times. Shows that the business is registered and required to follow the Food Act and Regulations. Attachment C.

## 6. Information and messaging for community members

6.1 Draft newspaper advert passed around the committee to be approved. Committee has asked for changes to some information and more information needs to be added.

Outcome:

Newspaper advert amended and sent. Attachment D.

## 7. General Business

7.1 Sarah Gotch & KS from Darwin spoke about their job roles.

## 7. General Business

7.2 AD shared a newspaper article from the Centralian Advocate.

Outcome:

Sarah Gotch is the PFAS Taskforce Director & KS role is a PFAS Support Officer for Darwin. Sarah is the chair and KS is the secretariat for the PFAS Interagency Steering Committee. The PFAS Interagency Steering Committee is where the heads of each Department come together to discuss PFAS issues.

AD shared a newspaper article from the Centralian Advocate. Attachment E.

## 8. Wrap up and meeting close

Next Meeting: TBA TF will advise us when visit for treatment plant. Meeting will follow visit.

Outcome: Meeting Closed at 18:20

## Actions

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
6.8.20	Amend newspaper advert.	Secretariat	In Progress	
2.7.20	Committee would like Errol Lawson to still contribute to KPCCG Meeting in an advisor role.	AD	In Progress	<b>EL had already been invited to become an advisor on the KPCCG committee meeting in November last year. EL has accepted the role. Attachment A.</b>
2.7.20	Questions to DoH, P&W, DoD	ALL	In Progress	<b>Some questions on the registrar were clarified at the KPCCG committee meeting and will be further investigated.</b>
2.7.20	Check and verify PFAS contact details for are correct on the KTC web site and news letter	KTC	In Progress	<b>FM verified the contact details.</b>
2.7.20	Katherine Times advertisement.	Secretariat	In Progress	<b>Presented to the KPCCG committee meeting with draft advert for approval.</b>
2.7.20	Select KPCCG meeting date	ALL	In Progress	
2.7.20	Organise a visit to treatment plant at the RAAF Base	TF	In Progress	<b>TF will advise on date of visit. KPCCG committee meeting will follow</b>

**From:** [Errol Lawson](#)  
**To:** [KPCCG DCM](#)  
**Subject:** Re: KPCCG Advisory Position  
**Date:** Friday, 15 November 2019 2:53:31 PM

---

Hi Darcy

Thanks to the committee's offer of advisory position. I am very pleased to accept. Just because I have left town does not mean I have no further interest in the affairs of Katherine. I might even learn something of use down here where there are places with PFAS contamination. I will email Alan and congratulate him on assuming the deputy chair role.

RegardsErrol

Sent from my iPhone

On 15 Nov 2019, at 2:03 pm, KPCCG DCM <[KPCCG.DCM@nt.gov.au](mailto:KPCCG.DCM@nt.gov.au)> wrote:

Good Afternoon Errol,

I hope the move down south is treating you well.

On Thursday 7 November the KPCCG successfully met with lots of productive chats and actions. Natalie Ellis, Kevin Grey, Allan Domaschenz, Petrena Ariston, Nathanael Knapp, Chris Horton and Tim Ferrell attended.

Your resignation as you might expect was tabled immediately, and Allan was nominated as the new Co-Chair.

However, the members wondered if you would still be interested in being involved in the group's information circulation, especially considering the quality feedback you often give, and formalised this into an action.

If you would be interested in this, please let me know and I'll forward you the draft minutes and keep you on mailing lists.

Cheers,

Darcy

KPCCG Secretariat

**Darcy Lye**

Project Support Officer - Big Rivers Region  
Regional Network Group  
Department of the Chief Minister  
Northern Territory Government

Level 1, Katherine Government Centre  
5 First Street, Katherine, NT 0850  
PO Box 1571, Katherine, NT 0801

# New Katherine PFAS Treatment Plant

Construction update 2 - June 2020



Power and Water Project Manager Liam Early and Yingwati Civil Construction Manager Theo Rapp on site

**Power and Water is implementing the construction of a world first 10ML per day PFAS treatment plant, using leading ion exchange technology.**

The new treatment plant, which will supplement Katherine's drinking water supply, is under construction with early site preparation works completed late last year. Key components and filter resins arrived from the USA in February and are currently being stored in Katherine.

Aboriginal and family owned company Yingwati Civil and Construction is building the two large process tanks. On-site construction started late in May. This part of the project involves a number of local suppliers and businesses, which includes hire equipment, concrete and

pump, and accommodation for some of the specialised skills workforce required. Tenders for the water treatment plant building have closed and award for this work is anticipated in July 2020.

Commissioning of the first stage of the project is now expected to commence in the first quarter of 2021.

The new treatment plant has been sourced from Emerging Compounds Treatment Technologies, who also provided the successful pilot treatment plant that has been in operation in Katherine since October 2017. The pilot treatment plant has treated over 1 billion litres of groundwater using leading ion exchange technology.

Email [customer@powerwater.com.au](mailto:customer@powerwater.com.au)  
Phone 1800 245 092

00 @PowerWaterCorp

**PowerWater**  
powerwater.com.au

# New Katherine PFAS Treatment Plant

During its operation the plant has not discharged any waste streams into the environment, which means it is a very safe and reliable system.

While there have been some delays, Power and Water is committed to delivering this proven solution to the residents of Katherine, which assures confidence that Katherine's town water is safe to drink and will meet future demand, over a 30 year planning horizon.

While the new PFAS water treatment plant is being built it is essential to continue with water conservation measures

to ensure water consumption is not greater than 10 million litres per day - the safe buffer for the existing treatment plant's capacity to supply PFAS free water.

Katherine residents have become great water efficiency champions, demonstrating tremendous responsibility in valuing this precious resource - thank you for your patience and sharing this obligation.

For more information visit: [powerwater.com.au/katherine-water-supply](http://powerwater.com.au/katherine-water-supply)



Concrete foundations for the large process tanks



Small carbon steel pressure vessels that were delivered in April

Email [customerservice@powerwater.com.au](mailto:customerservice@powerwater.com.au)  
Phone 1800 245 092

00 @PowerWaterCorp



## Environmental Health Branch

### **REGISTRATION OF A FOOD BUSINESS**

This is to certify that

**Mr David Warton**

Trading as

# **JD Truck Hire**

situated at

**Lot 2566 Hendry Rd, KATHERINE NT 0850**

is registered in accordance with section 70 of the *Food Act* 2004 until  
11 July 2021

This registration is subject to the following conditions:

1. This business has been classified as a Food Transporter / Distributor.
2. The proprietor will *conduct* the business in a proper manner and in accordance with its registration, the *Food Act* 2004 and the Regulations.

Any variation to these conditions, including registration details,  
must be notified in writing and will require further approval.

A stylized signature consisting of the letters "CJ" in a large, bold, serif font.

Delegated Chief Health Officer

21 July 2020

Registration No 2019/2425EH

# PFAS Information Update

For further information on the impacts of PFAS contamination on the health and wellbeing of residents, the environment and those people who are most effected. A national information line has been established to respond to general enquiries about Defence's PFAS Investigation and Management Program.

Please contact the following:

Phone 1800 365 414 or email [pfas.enquiry@defence.gov.au](mailto:pfas.enquiry@defence.gov.au)

Any, questions relating to PFAS in food including fish and/or crustaceans, contact the NTG Environmental Health

Phone 1800 095 646 or email [envirohealth@nt.gov.au](mailto:envirohealth@nt.gov.au)

Or

Follow the related links for more information.

<https://www.katherine.nt.gov.au/>

<https://www.defence.gov.au/environment/pfas/Tindal/>

<https://www.katherine.nt.gov.au/our-town/water-resources/community-information.aspx>

<https://nt.gov.au/industry/hospitality/accommodation-and-food-businesses/food-safety-and-regulations/food-contamination/fish-and-bush-food-containing-pfas>

<https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-pfas.htm>

<https://ntepa.nt.gov.au/your-environment/pfas>

<https://www.powerwater.com.au/about/what-we-do/water-supply/drinking-water-quality/pfas>

14 NEWS

CENTRALIAN

FRIDAY JULY 31 2020

## Advocate

# United effort for safe water

JAMAL BEN HADDOU  
centralianadvocate.com.au

THE four Northern Territory land councils have united in condemning the "unacceptable" lack of protection for safe and adequate drinking water in the NT.

Meeting in Darwin with Chief Minister Michael Gunner and opposition party leaders, the land councils called for urgent legislation to ensure all Territorians have access to safe drinking water.

The land councils want all parties to commit to enacting a Safe Drinking Water Act that would provide regulatory protection and accountability for safe and adequate water for all.

Communities throughout the NT are experiencing poor water quality and water stresses, including Kintore, Yuendu-

mu, Willowra, Mutitjulu, Willora, Utopia, Alpurrurulam and Laramba.

Central Land Council chief executive Joe Martin-Jard said residents of the Laramba community, three hours northwest of Alice Springs, were drinking water that contained three times the level of uranium than was recommended as safe by the World Health Organisation.

"The lack of legislative protection out bush is discriminatory, and constitutes negligence by the Northern Territory government," he said. "That's why we want whoever forms the next NT government to bring in legally enforceable minimum standards for drinking water quality and security."

"All Territorians, not just those living in major towns, have a right to safe and ad-

equate drinking water." Darwin-based researcher at the Housing for Health Incubator Kirsty Howey told the NT News there was a disturbing lack of safeguards in the NT.

"The first thing to note is that there is a complete absence of any laws around safe drinking water across the NT, but particularly drinking water provisions in remote communities in the Northern Territory is completely unregulated," she said.

Ms Howey said South Australia had set a good example with its safe drinking water Act that involved audits and licensing for water providers.

"If we don't have safeguards in place we continue to have incidents of drinking water scarcity or contamination with no recourse for residents of communities," she said.