

Tonkin Park Containment Cell

Council Position

That the Tonkin Park containment cell be remediated and returned to productive use as soon as possible.

Background

The Tonkin Park containment cell, located at Lot 857 Yelland Way, Bassendean, originated in the late 1980s from demolition waste stockpiled during redevelopment of nearby industrial land. It comprises a 4.5-hectare capped mound containing an estimated 500,000 tonnes of material.

In 2017, landowner Ridgepoynnt Pty Ltd advised that the containment cell is a stable landform, EPA-related ministerial conditions had been cleared and detailed soil testing confirmed the material is suitable for reuse as controlled fill for industrial or commercial purposes.

A Remediation Action Plan was completed and independently audited in 2017, with interim advice to DWER indicating conditional approval to decommission the cell once an appropriate reuse destination is identified.

Implementation remains dependent on a viable business case for soil reuse, potentially requiring tax or landfill levy exemptions, with reuse options being explored with stakeholders.

Council considers it timely to progress final remediation to enable the site's return to productive industrial use, delivering economic, employment and rates benefits.

What the Town plans to do

The Town will proactively engage with the State Government and Ridgepoynnt Pty Ltd, as owners of Lot 857 Yelland Way, to facilitate urgent discussions aimed at understanding the status of the contaminated soil and progressing the decommissioning of the containment cell.

This advocacy is intended to ensure a timely resolution of the site's current constraints, enabling the land to be safely remediated and returned to productive use.