



MEDIA RELEASE

May 16th 2019

Statement in response to Labor's PFAS policy announcement.

The Department of Defence has polluted thousands of private properties around Australia in their negligent management of toxic fire-fighting foam containing PFAS chemicals.

Those communities cannot drink the water or eat the food off their own land. The value of their properties has collapsed, businesses have closed and most appallingly, you can drive down roads in our communities that have over 50 documented cancer cases.

This contamination is a disaster in slow motion.

Contaminated communities were kept in the dark for decades and have worked tirelessly for over four years to bring attention to this issue.

The solution is simple – the polluter pays.

Not simply for cleaning up their own toxic mess, but for compensating communities to give them back their lives and economic future.

This is what two separate Senate inquiries have instructed the Government to do, but instead \$53m in public funds is being spent on funding Defence lawyers to block residents getting any redress.

Labor's policy announced today may be well intentioned, but it is silent on the most important issue.

Until there is proper and full compensation there is no proper and fair solution.

Ends

For further information please contact:

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Background on CAP.

CAP is made up of representatives from PFAS contaminated communities around Australia.