

## STATEMENT

29 November 2017

### OFFSITE GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATIONS, GROUNDWATER BORE RESULTS

IFAP has completed testing groundwater samples collected in an area directly to the west of its North Lake site on Farrington Road in order to establish potential concentrations of per- and poly-fluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS).

The results from the groundwater tests showed that concentrations of PFAS in the groundwater were either below the limit of laboratory detection or below the Australian Drinking Water Standards indicating that there are no health concerns with current use of groundwater.

Residents and other land owners who own and operate a groundwater bore have been advised that they may continue with their use of groundwater in line with the Department of Health's (DOH) guidelines. These guidelines state that scheme water is recommended to be used for drinking water purposes.

The testing included sampling a total of nine groundwater bores from residential properties, City of Cockburn irrigation bores and other neighbouring land users. These samples were collected by trained environmental field scientists, and analysed by NATA accredited laboratories ensuring reliability of the results.

The groundwater samples were analysed for concentrations of PFAS due to its historic use during fire-fighting training activities on the IFAP North Lake site from the mid-1990s. A drilling, sampling and testing program carried out on the IFAP site has established that there is some detection of PFAS in groundwater on the site's western boundary, with one location returning a result that is slightly above regulatory guidelines.

IFAP is continuing to plan a drilling program in the area to the west of the IFAP site over the coming weeks to further investigate if PFAS has migrated beyond its boundary. These additional investigations will be undertaken in close consultation with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) and the Department of Health.

IFAP will provide updates on the results of these additional investigations to residents as they become available.

Further information on PFAS can be found at:

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

-ENDS -

**About IFAP**

IFAP (Industrial Foundation for Accident Prevention) is an independent, not-for-profit, member-based organisation governed by a Board of Directors. The organisation has been at the leading edge of workplace health and safety since 1962. IFAP is a training organisation that provides nationally and internationally recognised public and corporate courses. With two training centres located in Western Australia, IFAP trains and educates more than 16,000 people annually across a host of disciplines. It also offers integrated health and safety consulting services, information resources and safety products as well organising industry networking events and conferences.

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