



MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS

House of Representatives

Parliamentary Question

Question Number: 693
Question Date: 21 October 2021
Table Office Due date: 20 December 2021

Terri Butler MP asked the Minister for Veterans' Affairs in writing, on 21 October 2021:

In respect of the Minister for the Environment now declaring the proposed demolition and sale of the former Australian Red Cross Hall in Greenslopes a controlled action under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act):

1. What action are you taking to manage any risks arising from contamination, including asbestos, while the EPBC Act assessment and approval processes are underway?
2. What assurances will you provide the Greenslopes community that the property will be adequately secured while those processes are underway?

Minister Gee has provided the following answer to the Member's question:

Monitoring for airborne asbestos against all 4 boundaries was undertaken on 5 different days in September 2020. There was no indication of airborne asbestos escaping the site.

Organochlorine pesticides, such as those contaminating the soil at the site, are located close to the buildings where they were applied, have very low solubility and degrade very slowly.

Access to the site is restricted with temporary fencing and locked gates. In addition, the site is patrolled 4 times per day by a security company. Visitors to the site are briefed on protocols to prevent transference of ground based contamination from the site.