

ANNEXURE

FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA NOTICE AS TO THE WRECK BAY PFAS LAND CONTAMINATION CLASS ACTION

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The Court has approved the settlement of the class action for \$22 million.
- If you have not already registered with Shine Lawyers, and wish to participate in the proposed settlement, you must register by 12 July 2023
- The Court will decide on <u>8 September 2023</u> how the settlement should be divided up between WBACC, and eligible group members.
- The Court has appointed Mr Joshua Creamer (an independent barrister) to prepare a report on questions of eligibility to receive distribution from the settlement and a proposed way of distributing the settlement.

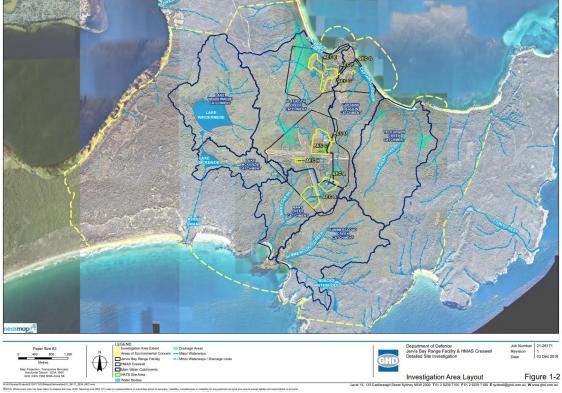
A. What is the Settlement?

- The Court on 19 June 2023 approved a settlement by which the Commonwealth will pay \$22 million (without admitting liability) to settle all claims by class members for property value losses, for inconvenience and distress, and for interference with use and enjoyment of the Wreck Bay land, including on traditional community and cultural usages. All those claims have been released (which means they cannot be brought again).
- 2. The settlement does <u>not</u> prevent any future claim for personal injury being brought.
- 3. Under the settlement, a capped amount of up to \$5 million will go to pay the legal costs of bringing the case, and Shine Lawyers estimate at least \$16.5 million will go to WBACC and community members (after adding interest and then taking out the costs of getting the money to everyone).

B. What is Happening Now?

- 4. The Court needs to work out who are the eligible group members and then consider how the settlement should be distributed between them.
- 5. You are a group member and may be eligible to participate in the settlement if, as at 1 September 2016, you:
 - a) held any interest in the land granted to WBACC (the Wreck Bay Land);
 - b) resided in or occupied any part of the Wreck Bay Land and were either named on the register of members of WBACC or were a spouse or descendant of a current or former WBACC member: or
 - c) resided outside the Wreck Bay Land, but were either named on the register of members of WBACC *or* were a spouse or descendant of a current or former WBACC member.
- 6. The "Wreck Bay Land" refers to the area per the map below:





C. How much will you receive under the settlement?

- 7. No-one knows yet for sure.
- 8. The Court has appointed Mr Joshua Creamer (an independent barrister) as an independent referee to consider any questions as to eligibility to participate, and also how the settlement should be distributed between eligible group members. Mr Creamer will make a report to the Court for it to consider.
- 9. A "Proposed Distribution Notice" as to how the settlement will be distributed, including an estimated settlement distribution amount will be sent to all registered group members after the registration deadline of 12 July 2023.

D. Your Options

If you <u>have</u> <u>already</u> registered with	You do not have to do anything, but you may be contacted to provide further information if it is needed to work out eligibility.
Shine Lawyers	If you want to have a say about how the settlement should be distributed, you can do this after you get the Proposed Distribution Notice
If you have not already registered with Shine Lawyers	You must register by 12 July 2023 , by completing a "Registration Form" either online or by mailing it to Shine Lawyers at the details on the form, if you want to participate in the settlement.



If you register, you will receive a Proposed Distribution Notice, and can then have a say about how the settlement should be distributed.

If you do not register, then you will not receive any compensation even if you are otherwise eligible.

E. Where can you get further information?

- 10. If you want more information or documents, you should not contact the Court but either:
 - a) download documents from https://www.shine.com.au/service/class-actions/pfas-contamination; or
 - b) email Shine Lawyers at pfaswreckbay@shine.com.au, or telephone Shine Lawyers on 1800 325 172.
- 11. Please consider the above matters carefully. If there is anything of which you are unsure, you should contact Shine Lawyers, or seek your own legal advice. Please bear in mind that while you should contact Shine Lawyers for further information as necessary, if you do not require further assistance, it is in the interests of all class members to keep further costs to a minimum.