

EVALUATION PANEL REPORT
Environmental Consultant to undertake Site Assessment works
at Wentworth Park

Evaluation Panel Meeting : 8 June 2004, 2 – 3:30 pm

Evaluation Panel

Coleen Cole - Senior Environmental Officer, Environment Division
Joseph Tranter - Environmental Officer, Environment Division
Ron Vanderwal - Senior Environmental Health Officer, Clarence City Council
Martin Dicevskis - Senior Medical Officer, DHHS

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The Expressions of Interest and a Call for Quotes was sent to:

- E-Systems Pty Ltd (Tasmanian office)
- Sinclair Knight Merz Pty Ltd (Tasmanian office)
- URS (Australia) Pty Ltd (Melbourne office)
- IT Environmental (Melbourne office) - merged with Coffey Geosciences Pty Ltd
- Earth Tech Engineering Pty Ltd (Sydney and Brisbane offices)

E-Systems and Earth Tech Engineering were unable to submit a proposal as they are unable to meet the required time-frame for the works.

The remaining three consultants submitted proposals on Friday 4th June 2004 and these were assessed by the Evaluation Panel on Tuesday 8th June 2004.

Evaluation Criteria and Methodology

Evaluation Criteria were developed to assess the experience of the consultancy team in fields of:

- Landfill assessment
- Groundwater bore installation and interpretation
- Soil vapour/landfill gas measurement
- Health risk assessment (HRA)
- Hazard assessment
- Community consultation

In addition, the panel assessed whether the scope of works addressed the project objectives and assessed the proposed methods of investigation in areas of the:

- Desktop study
- Fieldwork, including sampling methods and Quality Control / Quality Assurance procedures
- HRA
- OH&S issues

Comparative scores were allocated for each of the above criterion. The evaluation panel discussed how each of the proposals met the criteria, followed by a general discussion regarding the salient factors in each proposal that influenced the final decision.

These factors included: strength and relevant experience of the project team, technical methodology, and how well the scope was targeted to the project objectives.

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Comparative Assessment

All three consultancy firms were able to work within the specified timeframe and all team members from the three companies possess relevant technical expertise to undertake the project. However, there were some relative strengths in their proposals, which relate to the evaluation criteria and are summarised below.

URS have a very strong and experienced team and put forward a professional scope of works, which covered all aspects of the project brief. The proposal is technically strong in relation to the proposed approach and methodology. Members of the URS team also have known experience in community consultation and landfill assessment. It was felt that a few more sampling locations might be required than was proposed in their initial sampling plan, but this can be addressed in further consultation with them. A few more locations will result in a minimal increase in cost to their quote.

URS Score: 78/100

SKM focused on community consultation and were thorough in the approach to address community concerns, which was a strength in their proposal. The project manager also has experience in landfill assessment. However, their proposal was weaker comparatively to the other two in the technical approach and in detailing methodology of the HRA. All members of the team have the relevant experience to undertake this task but it was felt they lost merit on the technical aspects of their scope of works.

SKM Score: 76/100

IT Environmental / Coffey Geosciences provided little detail on their approach and on how they would address the project objectives, but their technical methodology was strong. IT Environmental also have a strong professional team but there was less confidence, or knowledge of the Contaminated Sites Unit, in the relevant site contamination experience of the local personnel who would be involved in the fieldwork, interpretation and report writing in comparison to the other two consultancy firms.

IT Environmental Score: 63/100

Recommendation

The Evaluation Panel believe that URS (Australia) Pty Ltd offered the most professional and technical scope of works for the purposes of the project.

The Evaluation Panel therefore recommends that URS be awarded the contract for the ESA and HRA at Wentworth Park.

Coleen Cole

Joseph Tranter

Ron Vanderwal

Martin Bicevskis

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Environmental Site Assessment of Wentworth Park historical landfill, Howrah, Tasmania

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Expressions of Interest and Quotes are called for by the Department of Primary Industries, Water & Environment, Tasmania (DPIWE) to carry out an Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) on the former Howrah tip, Wentworth Park, Tasmania.

This project is to be coordinated by the Environment Division within DPIWE, but other agencies involved in consultation and overseeing the project are the Public & Environmental Health Service in the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) and Clarence City Council.

The ESA will involve testing of soil, landfill gas/soil vapour, groundwater and surface water and interpretation of results and identification of any likely exposure pathways.

Assuming contaminants and/or wastes deposited in the tip and exposure pathways are identified, a Health Risk Assessment is also to be undertaken in relation to any identified environmental exposures. Objectives of the project and scope of works are further detailed below.

1 Background

1.1 Site location

The site is an active sports ground and recreational area in a residential area, approximately 4 km from Hobart CBD and 13 km from Hobart Airport (see the attached site map).

The estimated area of the reclaimed area and former tip is approximately 10 hectares.

1.2 Site History

Prior to the tip operation, the area was a lagoon. Reclamation occurred progressively between 1962 and 1968 in order to construct a sports ground and recreational area. Tipping of refuse occurred in the uncontrolled tip during this time and the building of residential properties adjacent to the tip occurred from 1966 onwards.

The majority of material likely to have been deposited in the tip are household wastes. However, given the uncontrolled nature of the tip, it is possible that other wastes may have been deposited. Thus the potential contaminants of concern may include a broad suite of analytes.

A review of information that is held on government files has been prepared and is available to Environmental Consultants as further background information and history of the site.

1.3 Community Concerns

A member of the public who lived adjacent to the tip since a year before tip closure has notified various government agencies that she was concerned that contaminants in the tip may have been related to the development of diseases, including cancer and illness in her family and amongst her neighbours.

Other families have come forward with similar views and the ESA is being undertaken to address these community concerns and identify any likely exposure pathways.

1.4 Public Submissions

To assist with the design of the testing program, the Environment Division has invited residents, former residents or users of the former landfill to submit relevant information in relation to wastes deposited there and information that might assist in identifying potential exposure pathways.

This information will assist in developing the sampling plan that directly addresses the concerns of the community and will ensure that the investigation is as thorough as possible.

2. Objectives of the Project

1. Determine contaminant concentrations in soil, landfill gas/soil vapour, surface water and groundwater in the vicinity of the tip.
2. Determine the likely exposure pathways of the contaminants in the tip to:
 - Children playing and residents living near the tip during and after active tipping operations, and
 - Recreational users of the park after tip closure.
3. Based on results of contaminant testing and identification of exposure pathways, evaluate past, current and future health risks to residents or former residents in the vicinity of the tip, and to recreational users of the park.

PART 2: SCOPE OF WORKS – STATEMENT OF REQUIREMENTS

3. Proposed Environmental Site Assessment Process

The Environmental Site Assessment, and Health Risk Assessment if undertaken, must comply with the guidelines in the *National Environment Protection Measure (Assessment of Site Contamination)*, *National Environment Protection Council, 1999*. The Scope of Works that are to be undertaken are as follows:

Stage 1 Desktop study to develop the sampling plan

- the review of all existing data on relevant government files (this process will be assisted by the review of information document prepared by the Environment Division) and public submissions received, further investigation into the extent of the tip, wastes deposited there and other potentially contaminating activities that may have been conducted at the tip;
- the development of a sampling plan, based on the desktop study and including sample density, locations, depths, analytes to test for, chain of custody, quality control and quality assurance protocols, etc; and
- submission of the sampling plan to DPIWE to ensure the sampling plan meets community concerns.

Stage 2 Field work

- drilling, monitoring well installation;
- soil, ground water, soil vapour/landfill gas and, if present, surface water sampling; and

- submission of samples to the Analytical Services Tasmania Laboratories (AST).

Stage 3 Interpretation of Results

- identification of any contaminants above guideline levels; and
- identification of any current or past likely exposure pathways to residents and users of the former tip.

Stage 4 Health Risk Assessment

- if contaminant levels are identified above guideline levels, or if there is evidence to suggest that contaminant levels in the past may have caused a health risk, and likely exposure pathways are thought to be complete, a Health Risk Assessment is to be undertaken in relation to any identified environmental exposures. The consultant is to advise whether a quantitative or qualitative risk assessment should be undertaken on receipt of all information from Stages 1 to 3.

Stage 5 Reporting

- The ESA, HRA, and recommendations for further work if required to be reported in a draft report.
- Draft report to be submitted to DPIWE, DHHS and Clarence City Council for review.
- Final report to be submitted.

4. Quotes

The anticipated cost is between \$40,000 and \$50,000. Please note that the call for quotes is not to include analytical costs.

In addition to a total quote for all works, please report the cost for Stages 1 to 3 (and reporting of those works) separately to the cost for the HRA in Stage 4 (and HRA reporting).

5. Analytical Services

AST will undertake all analytical work on samples collected by the consultant. Therefore the quote for works is to exclude all analytical costs.

6. Liaison

The consultant must consult with the DPIWE on the sampling plan (Stage 1) prior to sampling being undertaken. This can be in a fairly informal letter format rather than a full report and proposal.

The consultant must also consult with the DPIWE (who will then consult with DHHS and Clarence City Council) on the draft report, including results of the HRA, prior to submission of the final report.

A steering committee will be formed with members from each of the agencies involved to assist with flow of information held on government files and the logistics of field work (e.g. the timing of fieldwork in relation to sports events, access to the site, permission to drill, etc).

7. Timeframe

It is proposed that development of the sampling plan (Stage 1) be completed 2 weeks after the consultant is awarded the contract. Once approval from DPIWE is given regarding the sampling plan, sampling is to start immediately afterwards (i.e. 2-3 weeks after being awarded the contract).

Estimated timing for works:

Date	Task
Friday 21 May	Scope of Works sent to suitable Environmental Consultants for a call for quotes
Friday 4 June	Call for Quotes closed
Friday 11 June	Award contract to Environmental Consultant Provide further background information to Environmental Consultants to prepare sampling plan.
Friday 25 June	Sampling plan developed and submitted to DPIWE (who will submit it to other agencies) for review and approval
Week commencing Monday 28 June	Field work and sampling to commence
End of July	Sampling completed
July to mid August	Analytical work undertaken
mid August	HRA commenced
end September	Draft report submitted for review and approval
end October	Final report

PART 3: OTHER INFORMATION

8. Media release

There are likely to be regular media releases coordinated by the office of the Minister for Environment and Planning in order to inform the public on the progress of the project.

9. Public meeting

A public meeting may be held at the completion of the project in order to present the results of the final report. This public meeting would be convened by the consultant, but please do not include this aspect of the project in your quote, as a separate quote will be obtained if a public meeting is required.

10. Independent peer review

The State will reserve the right to have the draft report peer reviewed.

11. Copyright

The final report will be available for public review and held in public libraries. The information within the final report may be developed into an Information Bulletin to inform the public of the study and the findings. Thus, DPIWE is to retain intellectual rights and copyright.

12. Insurance

It is mandatory that the successful consultant has professional indemnity and public liability insurance to undertake this project. A standard Contract for Services will be drawn up which details this requirement further.

13. Response

Expressions of Interest and Quotes are to be submitted to the Environment Division in writing before 4 June 2004. Submissions are to be marked 'Wentworth Park' and forwarded to:

The Director of Environmental Management
Environment Division
Department of Environment, Water & Planning
GPO Box 44
Hobart TAS 7001

In preparing an Expression of Interest, please indicate the relevant experience in relation to this project.

If you require further information or have any queries regarding any aspect of this project and the requirements of DPIWE, please contact Coleen Cole in the first instance on (03) 6233 2811.

Attachment

Site map

Site Map Wentworth Park, Howrah

