

Contaminated Sites Committee

- Summary of Decision
 - Appeal Against Site Classification
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Date of decision	26 August 2011
Type of decision	Determination of an appeal against site classification pursuant to section 82 of the <i>Contaminated Sites Act 2003</i> .
Matter (file no.)	CSC 12/2010
Date lodged	23 August 2010
Appellant	Beruca Pty Ltd
Site name/address	30422 Brand Highway, Dongara WA
Certificate of title no./ Crown reserve no.	Part of Lot 9500 on plan 57285 Certificate of Title volume 2684 folio 167
Background	<p>The site was previously used for sheep dipping. The affected soil was remediated by being removed offsite and replaced with clean fill. This remediation was validated.</p> <p>DEC classified the site <i>remediated for restricted use</i> on 28 July 2010 with restrictions on the use of groundwater.</p> <p>Technical reports by Golder Associates undertook groundwater investigations in 2010 and found the groundwater exceeded Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and Department of Health Guidelines for domestic non-potable groundwater use, however concluded that the exceedances were in compounds such as ammonia and salts that were a likely reflection of regional groundwater quality and conditions in the area. They noted the compounds detected in groundwater testing were not the components of sheep dip.</p> <p>Taking into consideration the technical information and background salinity levels in groundwater in that area, DEC altered its view and considered “decontaminated” was an acceptable classification for the site.</p>
Committee’s decision?	Appeal Upheld: reclassify to DECONTAMINATED

Reasons for decision	<p>The soil affected by sheep dip contamination had been successfully remediated. Therefore the remaining issue was the groundwater.</p> <p>Based on the technical information provided by the Appellant it appeared clear the groundwater merely reflected background concentrations of components, and was not impacted by the sheep dip contamination.</p> <p>The Committee concluded the classification of <i>Decontaminated</i> without restrictions on the property use or groundwater was appropriate. The remainder of the property should remain not classified.</p>
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