

Former Waratah Gasworks site – demolition and remediation

Property and Development NSW (PDNSW), the NSW Government's central property agency, is leading and managing the remediation of contaminated properties on the former Waratah Gasworks site, in collaboration with landowners and residents.

PDNSW and its contractor, Enviropacific, will soon start demolition and excavation works at 13 affected properties at Ellis, Turton and Georgetown Roads to remove legacy waste and infrastructure and remediate contaminated soil.

Throughout the remediation works, our aim is to minimise disruption caused and to ensure measures are in place to mitigate any impacts on the community.

Safety remains our highest priority. Security fencing and signage will be erected around demolition areas for public safety purposes.

Once the site is remediated, the contamination associated with the former gasworks will be resolved so the land is to a standard suitable for ongoing residential use.

What is the former Waratah Gasworks?

The gasworks operated on the land from 1889 to 1926. Much of the gasworks' structures and waste were buried onsite at its closure.

The former use of the site as a gasworks was realised in 2016. In 2021 (following initial soil and groundwater investigations), the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) declared the site as significantly contaminated under the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997*.

While the NSW Government did not operate the gasworks, nor was it responsible for the contamination, affected residents were advised that PDNSW would manage the remediation process and work with landholders to determine the best options for remediation.

Since 2021, PDNSW has been consulting with affected property owners, residents, the City of Newcastle, NSW Health and the NSW EPA while developing a plan to remediate the site.

What are the proposed works?

Remediation works will start in September at 2B Ellis Road with the demolition of structures, followed by the excavation of fill and replacement with clean soil at the property.

Demolition and remediation of other affected properties on the southern side of the site (bounded by Ellis, Turton and Georgetown Roads) is expected to start later this year.

This series of works are expected to take up to 12 months to complete, weather and site conditions permitting. Remediation of the remaining properties on the northern side will then commence.

What does this mean for neighbours and the community?

Bus stop relocation:

In the coming months, the footpath along the northern side of Georgetown Road will be closed. Pedestrian access will continue to be provided along Ellis and Turton Roads. As there will be no access to the existing bus stop on Georgetown Road (opposite Coolamin Road, as shown on the *Aerial Map*), the stop will be temporarily relocated to the front of 97 Georgetown Road, Waratah.



Above: *Aerial Map of the former Waratah Gasworks site*

Truck movements and traffic control:

Trucks will enter and exit the remediation site and mobile equipment may be in operation close to the site boundary. Traffic control will be in place to help with pedestrian and vehicle movements.

Access to Ellis Road:

At certain times during the remediation works, access to Ellis Road will be limited to residents only.

Dust and odour control:

Small sprinklers to minimise dust and odour will operate around the boundary of the site during remediation works.

Hours of work:

Demolition work will require heavy machinery and create noise, however, this work will be restricted to council-approved hours between **7am and 6pm Monday to Friday**, and **8am to 1pm on Saturdays**. No works will occur on Sundays or public holidays. We appreciate your patience and will do our best to manage amenity over the coming months.

Want more information?

PDNSW will maintain its close and regular consultation with affected property owners throughout the remediation works. We will keep the community informed of onsite activities and project milestones through letterbox drops.

Further project updates can be found on our website via the **QR code**.

For more information or enquiries about the works, please email us at community.property@dpie.nsw.gov.au



For any urgent or emergency issues that may arise onsite,
Enviropacific can be contacted directly by phoning 0417 197 604.
