



STANDING UP FOR OAKEY

Fighting for a Fairer Deal

A Tim Nicholls-led Liberal National Government will stand up for local landholders dealing with land contamination issues and fight for fair compensation and greater local assistance.

The Problem

From the 1970s until the mid-2000s, the main aviation firefighting foam product used by the Department of Defence at its facilities contained poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), including PFOS and PFOA.

There are a number of sites within Queensland that the Department of Defence is investigating potential contamination from legacy fire-fighting foams containing substances such as PFOS and PFOA.

At Oakey, it is estimated that from 1977 to 2003 a total volume of 1.2 mega litres of firefighting foam concentrate was discharged at the local defence base.

Annastacia Palaszczuk and Labor have been distracted by their call for 'nationally consistent screening guidelines' and have forgotten about helping landholders and local communities dealing with this issue.

Queensland is stagnating, the community is crying out for leadership and we have a government stuck in neutral.

Our Record

The LNP have always backed the rights of landholders and regional communities.

We have a proud record of fighting for a fair go, particularly during Labor's vegetation management debate which attacked the rights of farmers with bad laws that are based on misinformation and spin.

We backed the rights of local sugar cane growers against multinational milling companies that wanted to take greater control over marketing choice.

The LNP also supports the right of primary producers to apply for category H weapons licences and be fairly assessed by the Weapons Licensing Branch.

Our Real Plan

A Tim Nicholls-led LNP Government will stand up for local landholders dealing with land contamination issues and fight for fair compensation and greater local assistance.

The LNP is calling on the Federal Government to give impacted landholders and local communities a fair go by:

1. **Providing fair compensation** for landholders by undertaking hardship acquisitions on impacted properties or those potentially impacted by contamination. These landholders should receive market value for these properties – before they were impacted by contamination.
2. Boosting local medical services with **free health checks for local landholders and residents** who may have been exposed to contaminants, including those who have re-located from potentially impacted areas.
3. Offering **free counselling and legal support services** for local residents who may have been exposed to contamination.
4. **Assisting local governments replace water infrastructure** that is now inoperable due to local water contamination.

A Tim Nicholls-led LNP Government will put its money where its mouth is and **provide \$1 million through a community consultation committee** mechanism, to work with local businesses and residents to promote Oakey as a great place to live, work and visit.

These hard-working Queenslanders deserve a fair go and to be treated with decency and respect.

We'll be a common sense government that listens, plans and acts to Build a Better Queensland.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Are only sites owned by the Department of Defence impacted by this issue?

No. An Australian Senate Committee Report into firefighting foam contamination showed the foam was also used on a number of civilian sites including:

- Brisbane
- Cairns
- Coolangatta
- Hamilton Island
- Mackay
- Maroochydore
- Rockhampton
- Townsville
- Bundaberg
- Eagle Farm
- Mount Isa, and
- Proserpine.

What issues have been experienced in terms of local water infrastructure and supply in Oakey?

Several town water supply bores have tested positive for PFAS believed to have originated from the Oakey

Army Base. These bores have been shut down, including the supply bores for the Oakey Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant, a \$6 million plan that was commissioned in 2008.

The Toowoomba Regional Council report that the inability to operate the Oakey Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant will reduce its regional water supply by 730 megalitres per annum, which requires them to bring forward capital works to make up for this shortfall.

Which Queensland Department of Defence sites are impacted?

The sites in Queensland under investigation include:

- Army Aviation Centre Oakey
- RAAF Base Amberley, and
- RAAF Base Townsville.

What were the results of the Australian Senate Committee Review?

The Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee made 17 recommendations, which were contained in two separate reports (part A and part B).

The Inquiry was into contamination of Australian Defence Force facilities (part A) and the contamination of sites using firefighting foams (part B).

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**Together, Let's
Build a Better
Queensland**