Department of
Education, Training and the Arts

Stage 1 Environmental Site Assessment Milpera State High School

Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) was commissioned by the Queensland Government, Department of Education, Training and Arts (DETA), to carry out a Stage 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) at the Milpera State High School (site), located at Chelmer, Queensland.

The site

The site is currently used as an education facility, specifically to cater for English and literacy programs. For the purposes of this report the proposed future land use for the subject site is assumed to remain un-changed.

Investigation findings

Based on the site history review, a site walk over, site interviews and targeted soil sampling the following identified and potential contamination issues were identified:

- Historical searches undertaken for the site identified only one potentially contaminating activity which comprised filling of the site in 1940's and 1950's with ash material from the former Tennyson Power Station, has the potential to introduce contaminates to the site.
- During the site walkover, an additional area of potential fill material included the sound barrier earth mounds along the western boundary of the site. It was also noted that minor chemicals may be used for grass control at the base of fences.
- An area to the west of the school was formerly a council administered landfill which was decommissioned in the 1940's and 1950's
- The presence of suspect asbestos containing materials was also noted in the construction in some older classrooms.

Results and conclusions

- No soil samples submitted for analysis contained contamination levels exceeding the environmental or health based investigation levels.
- Water samples submited for laboratory analysis did not contain any analysed contaminates greater then the Australian Water Quality Guidelines.
- No unusual or significant atmospheric contaminants were identified during site works.
- The site is considered to be suited for its current purpose as a school.
- No further investigations are considered to be necessary to assess environmental contaminates within soil on the site.