

Part E – your letter of 22 May 2012

E.1 – Concrete Column C18 Remnants

In paragraph 4 of your letter of 22 May 2012 you wrote:

“We note, in particular, that column C18 was not at the Burwood landfill and therefore was unable to be tested by our client’s experts. This is not explained by your advice that the concrete samples were disposed of.”

The Department has checked with Clark Hyland and he has provided the following information:

- Column C18 was first tested on site. The investigators had trouble taking test core samples. CERA contractors cut the column out and it was transported to OPUS International Consultants Limited’s laboratory, where cores were extracted for testing. Several core samples were taken from this column.
- Normal laboratory practice is for samples to be disposed of following testing. Clark Hyland was aware of this, and asked that the column remnants be retained. Unfortunately, he was later advised that the samples had been disposed of, in line with the laboratory’s normal practice.
- Photographs of the core samples can be made available, should your client wish to see them.

E.2 – Paragraph 8 of your letter of 22 May 2012

In paragraph 8 of your letter of 22 May 2012, you asked me to confirm that there are no further documents falling within the scope of request 8(e) of your letter for records of any meeting of the Expert Panel after 21 October 2011.

I can confirm that the last Expert Panel meeting was held on 20 October 2011. The Expert Panel’s subsequent work was done via an exchange of emails and discussions of drafts of the reports.

Copies of the emails between members of the Expert Panel will by now have been released to you by the Royal Commission, on the conditions set by the Royal Commission. Please advise whether you wish to have any of the emails formally released to you under the Official Information Act.