

**INQUIRY INTO COSTS FOR REMEDIATION OF SITES
CONTAINING COAL ASH REPOSITORIES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

As a resident of Lake Macquarie, and formally Mannering Park I am very concerned about the pollution and potential contamination of future generations of the land as neither the Vales Point or Eraring ash dumps have dam liners to prevent leaching and the contamination of groundwater. These areas are environmental trigger points for groundwater and concentrations of the following metals have been identified at Vales Point and Eraring: arsenic, cadmium, selenium, chromium, lead, mercury, copper, zinc and nickel. Heavy metals bio-accumulate and magnify up food chains, impairing the reproduction of native bird and fish species, which some people in the community eat. The consumption of Mud Crab, Blue Swimmer Crab from Lake Macquarie could result in over-exposure to cadmium, and children are at risk of over-exposure to selenium from Fin-fish consumption. These issues have and will continue to impact more communities and people as with the changing climate there are more risks of contamination through storm damage. Have these companies that are making huge profits clean up their mess!!