

**INQUIRY INTO PFAS CONTAMINATION IN WATERWAYS  
AND DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES THROUGHOUT NEW  
SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

# Submission to NSW Parliament Inquiry into PFAS Contamination

By

Ph:

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To Whom It May Concern.

My family, parents and brother moved to a property at Gumly Gumly in 1971 called . This property encompassed what is known as the Gumly Wetland. A major source of water to hydrate the wetland comes from run off out of nearby Forest Hill to the east of . My family owned until 2018 and over the years increasing volumes of run off water came out of Forest Hill as the Wagga Wagga City Council allowed more and more housing subdivision and increasing activity from the RAAF base.

All this water had to pass through Gumly wetland on its way to Marshalls Creek and ultimately the Murrumbidgee River.

I was 12 years old when we moved to and from that time had a lot of interaction with the water in the wetland – playing in it, walking through it, grazing cattle in it which again often involved wading through the water to move the livestock. On many occasions when I had to enter the wetland and I saw a brown sludgy foam in the water ways but had no idea what it was. No one ever mentioned PFAS to us.

It was a healthy environment when we first got there with many frogs – Gumly Gumly I understand means place of many frogs – ducks, water birds, goannas etc. As property owners we were very conscious of this treasure and so ensured our management had a very light touch on the wetland which entailed light grazing, maintaining tree cover and improving habitat over the years. Around the year 2000 this appeared to change with wild life diminishing.

It was not until the RAAF's use of PFAS became public knowledge that I began to wonder if it had had an effect on both, or either, the environment and my health.

Over the years I have had many different health issues which may have been genetic, or was going to happen anyway but were these exacerbated by PFAS? For I had over 40 years of potential exposure.

Of even greater concern is the impact it may have had on the future health of my children who also interacted with the water in the Wetland.

I noted this with the early RAAF community engagements but received no feedback. To this day I have no idea of the impacts of PFAS on health, not even being offered a blood test. Who knows after 8 years since I moved on from any body retention may have dissipated.

I my case, my name never appeared on any Title Deeds as owner but I was the 'worker' on the property, maybe this is why, I and others in my situation have been overlooked for example; our neighbour .

So, I am wondering where we stand on this issue.

Thank you for receiving this submission.

Yours sincerely