

Sydney's population is set to increase by another one million people over the next 10 years. The NSW and Australian governments are building public transport and roads infrastructure now to prepare for this growth.

Work is underway on the \$500 million WestConnex M4 Widening. The Rizzani Leighton Joint Venture (RLJV) has been contracted to design and build this section of the WestConnex Motorway.

What is happening on site now?

Activities undertaken as part of the M4 Widening Project include the excavation and removal of soil, some of which contains asbestos. The presence of asbestos material was identified in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project, and appropriate controls have been identified and implemented as part of the project approval, Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and Workplace Health and Safety Management Plan.

What materials are present?

Asbestos is usually classed as either bonded or non-bonded. Bonded asbestos is firmly interwoven within a material and, under normal circumstances, is unlikely to become airborne. Examples include cement sheeting and vinyl floor tiles.

Non-bonded asbestos can be crumbled or reduced to powder by hand pressure when dry and is easier to release into the air when disturbed. Examples include sprayed insulation on boilers and structural beams.

To date, mostly bonded asbestos fragments have been found within soil in the project boundary. Should any non-bonded asbestos be identified during construction, it will be dealt with according to the CEMP and Workplace Health and Safety Management Plan.

How is this material being managed?

Any asbestos on site is being managed in accordance with the Asbestos Management Strategy, part of the CEMP, and site specific management plans.

In accordance with these plans, soil impacted with bonded asbestos will either be taken to a licensed waste facility or be managed on site by encapsulation. Soil impacted with non-bonded asbestos will be removed from site and taken to a waste facility licensed to accept this type of waste.

Additionally, the CEMP includes an Unexpected Finds Procedure for managing asbestos in locations that may not have been identified in the EIS.

What is encapsulation?

The Asbestos Management Strategy identifies opportunities to minimise waste to landfill and manage soils impacted with bonded asbestos by encapsulating the material onsite.

Encapsulation is a method used to consolidate and contain asbestos in an isolated area. The material is contained within an embankment or beneath the road pavement in a designed structure with an encapsulating layer.

Any asbestos encapsulated onsite will be subject to ongoing monitoring and maintenance.

What safety procedures are place for asbestos contaminated material?

WestConnex has worked, and will continue to work, with the EPA and WorkCover NSW to ensure we appropriately manage this work and meet our environmental and health obligations. The work complies with the requirements of the NSW EPA Waste Guidelines and our obligations under the WorkCover NSW Regulations for asbestos management and removal.

The following safety procedures will apply:

- Air quality will be continuously monitored.
- Signs, barriers and temporary fencing will be installed around stockpiles containing asbestos.
- Water spray will be applied to suppress dust.
- Material containing asbestos will be handled by specially trained and licenced personnel who will dispose of the material safely.



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What planning and environmental licenses are in place?

The M4 Widening Project was approved by the Department of Planning and Environment in December 2014. All works are being carried out in accordance with the Environment Protection License issued to Leighton Contractors by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in 2015.

Who is undertaking the work?

The identification, testing and management of asbestos is being supervised by appropriately qualified hygienists, assessors and licenced contractors on behalf of RLJV.

What are the work hours and site access arrangements?

This site is licensed to operate Monday to Friday between 7am and 6pm and on Saturdays between 8am and 1pm.

Construction work outside of these hours is permitted in accordance with the project out-of-hours protocol and residents will be notified.

How long will the work take?

Management of asbestos material will continue for the duration of the project, which is scheduled to be open to traffic in 2017.

Who can I talk to if I have an enquiry or complaint?

If you would like further information about the work, please contact the project team on 1300 660 248 (24 hours) or email community.info@rljv.com.au.



We speak your language

English

Learn more by visiting

www.westconnex.com.au/yourlanguage

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Arabic

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Chinese

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Hindi

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परियोजना के बारे में वीडियो देखें और वेस्टकॉनेक्स के बारे में
और अधिक सामग्री पढ़ें। यदि आपको दुभाषिया चाहिए तो अनुवाद व
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Greek

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βίντεο του έργου στα ελληνικά και να διαβάσετε περισσότερα
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Italian

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www.westconnex.com.au/yourlanguage, dove potrà
guardare i video del progetto in lingua italiana e trovare maggiori
informazioni su WestConnex. Se ha bisogno di un interprete,
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and Interpreting Service) al numero **131 450**.

Korean

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Vietnamese

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