



DEMEX
Demolition | Excavation | Remediation

PALM BEACH TO TUGUN, M1 UPGRADE

FEBRUARY 2021 - AUGUST 2021

CLIENT: SEYMOUR WHYTE

CONTRACT VALUE: \$7.4 M

DEMEX was engaged as a subcontractor to Seymour Whyte to undertake remediation works as part of the Palm Beach to Tugun M1 upgrade project. Initially engaged to remediate a relatively small amount of asbestos contaminated soil, after the extent of contamination was confirmed DEMEX was engaged for extensive remediation works that involved 44,000 tonnes of contaminated soil.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Collaborative approach between principal contractor and DEMEX reflected in exemplary project and issues management for the project's duration
- Innovative method devised to safely place asbestos contaminated soil in truck due to health and safety constraints related to asbestos and site requirements

- Complex and detailed work undertaken over a large work zone, which covered a distance of approximately 5 kilometres
- Managed multiple contractors successfully and received positive feedback from the client for the project team's performance.

PROJECT METHODOLOGY

Originally engaged to complete a small remediation project, after substantial testing by an independent contractor, additional contaminated soil was discovered. This finding resulted in DEMEX undertaking further soil remediation works, including the removal of 44,000 tonnes of contaminated soil.



5km

work zone

44,000

tonnes of
asbestos removed

- 3 x 35t Excavators
- Water Truck
- Truck and Dogs used for cartage (1200) across the life of the project
- Mobile scaffold
- Portable asbestos decontamination zones

100%

Local business

Initially asbestos was identified as bonded, however, after further testing, it was evident that the asbestos was friable, a discovery which resulted in significant changes to the removal methodology. Under the initial methodology, materials were removed by trucks with covered trays. With the discovery of friable asbestos, all materials needed to be wrapped; a factor which added complexity to the project, but which drove innovation on the project.

Portable scaffolding was assembled to sit on either side of the truck's trays. Labourers would then cut plastic and pass this across the truck to labourers on the other side of the tray, who were also standing on elevated portable scaffolding. The Seymour Whyte safety manager and site superintendent requested that DEMEX also formulate a suitable safety procedure to ensure the risk of a worker falling into the tipper was mitigated as best as possible.

Challenges were presented by the work site's proximity to residential properties. With the safety of workers and community at the forefront, every effort was implemented to prevent the cross contamination of asbestos. Communication to community members via letterbox drops was maintained consistently for the duration of the project. A 10 metre exclusion zone was established progressively along the route of the work site, while air monitoring was retained throughout. Daily air monitoring was maintained for the duration of the project.