

Mirvac Real Estate Pty Ltd

Confined Spaces Assessment

75 George Street, Parramatta, NSW

28 November 2022

Project Ref: 754-SYDEN228268



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CONFINED SPACES ASSESSMENT

Prepared for
Mirvac Real Estate Pty Ltd

Prepared by
Coffey Services Australia Pty Ltd
Level 19, Tower B, 799 Pacific Highway
Chatswood NSW 2067 Australia
t: +61 2 9406 1000 f: +61 2 9406 1002
ABN: 55 139 460 521

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tetra Tech Coffey Pty Ltd (TTC) was commissioned by Mirvac Real Estate Pty Ltd (the client) to conduct a confined spaces assessment at the office building, located at 75 George Street, Parramatta, NSW. Ben McCann of TTC carried out the audit on 26th October 2022. For the purpose of this audit, the principal definition of a confined space is that described in the *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (NSW)*.

Identified confined spaces were not entered by personnel at the time of the assessment, therefore the risk assessments contained in this report are limited to general observations made. A more detailed task specific risk assessment is required prior to entering any confined spaces identified in this report.

Assessment Findings

The following findings are based on the site inspection, discussions with site personnel, and review of relevant documentation:

- A total of 2 confined spaces were identified at the site.
- The storm water drain in the car park was appropriately signposted, however the unknown pit adjacent to the site vehicle entrance and bin storage area was not signposted.
- All confined spaces appeared to be appropriately secured from unauthorised access at the time of the assessment.
- The Mirvac Confined Space Entry Permit was made available for review. This included a requirement for the isolation of plant and services associated with confined spaces prior to any entry occurring.
- TTC was advised that no recent confined space entries have occurred at the site.

Note: Refer to **Appendix A** for the confined space register and **Appendix C** for photographs.

Recommended Actions

The following actions are recommended, based on the above findings:

- Ensure a task specific risk assessment is conducted prior to commencing any works within confined spaces.
- Ensure the unknown pit adjacent to the site vehicle entrance and bin storage area is appropriately signposted. Ensure the signage complies with *AS 2865:2009 Confined Spaces*, Section 3.2.2. Refer to **Appendix D** for examples of confined space safety signage.
- Ensure all staff and contractors working within areas containing confined spaces at the site are provided with appropriate information, instruction and training to ensure they are able to work safely in these areas. It is recommended that this be managed within the site induction.
- Although it was not possible to access the spaces at the time of the inspection, they have been deemed to be a confined space (in order to take a precautionary approach) and should continue to be treated as such until confirmed as otherwise.
- Avoid entering the confined spaces if possible e.g. conduct cleaning/maintenance activities from outside etc.
- Ensure that the person responsible for the confined space work issues an entry permit prior to any persons entering the confined space.
- Ensure task specific emergency rescue procedures and equipment are available and readily accessible during any confined space work.
- All works and access in relation to confined spaces must be undertaken in accordance with the *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (NSW)*, the *Code of Practice: Confined Spaces (SafeWork NSW, 2019)* and *AS 2865:2009 Confined Spaces*.
- TTC is able to assist the client to implement the above recommended actions.

1. INTRODUCTION

Tetra Tech Coffey Pty Ltd (TTC) was commissioned by Mirvac Real Estate Pty Ltd (the client) to conduct a confined spaces assessment at the office building, located at 75 George Street, Parramatta, NSW. Ben McCann of TTC carried out the audit on 26th October 2022. For the purpose of this audit, the principal definition of a confined space is that described in the *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (NSW)*.

Identified confined spaces were not entered by personnel at the time of the assessment, therefore the risk assessments contained in this report are limited to general observations made. A more detailed task specific risk assessment is required prior to entering any confined spaces identified in this report.

1.1 Site Description

The site consisted of a 6 level (approximately 9,535m²) office building. The building was occupied at the time of the assessment.

2. SCOPE

The objective of the Confined Spaces Assessment was to identify and assess confined spaces at the site, and manage the associated risks to the health and safety of site occupants (including workers, students, visitors and contractors). The assessment included a physical inspection of accessible areas of the site, as well as discussions with relevant site personnel, and a review of relevant systems/documentation.

2.1 Inaccessible Areas

The following areas were not accessible during the inspection:

- Within confined spaces, voids and ceiling spaces.
- Within plant and machinery.
- Lift shafts and pits.
- Below cars and stored items.
- Occupied rooms and tenanted areas.
- Roof areas.

3. WHAT IS A CONFINED SPACE?

The *Work Health & Safety Regulation 2017 (NSW)* defines a confined space as an enclosed or partially enclosed space that:

- a) is not designed or intended primarily to be occupied by a person; and
- b) is, or is designed or intended to be, at normal atmospheric pressure while any person is in the space, and
- c) is or is likely to be a risk to health and safety from:
 - i. an atmosphere that does not have a safe oxygen level; or
 - ii. contaminants, including airborne gases, vapours and dusts, that may cause injury from fire or explosion, or
 - iii. harmful concentrations of any airborne contaminants, or
 - iv. engulfment.

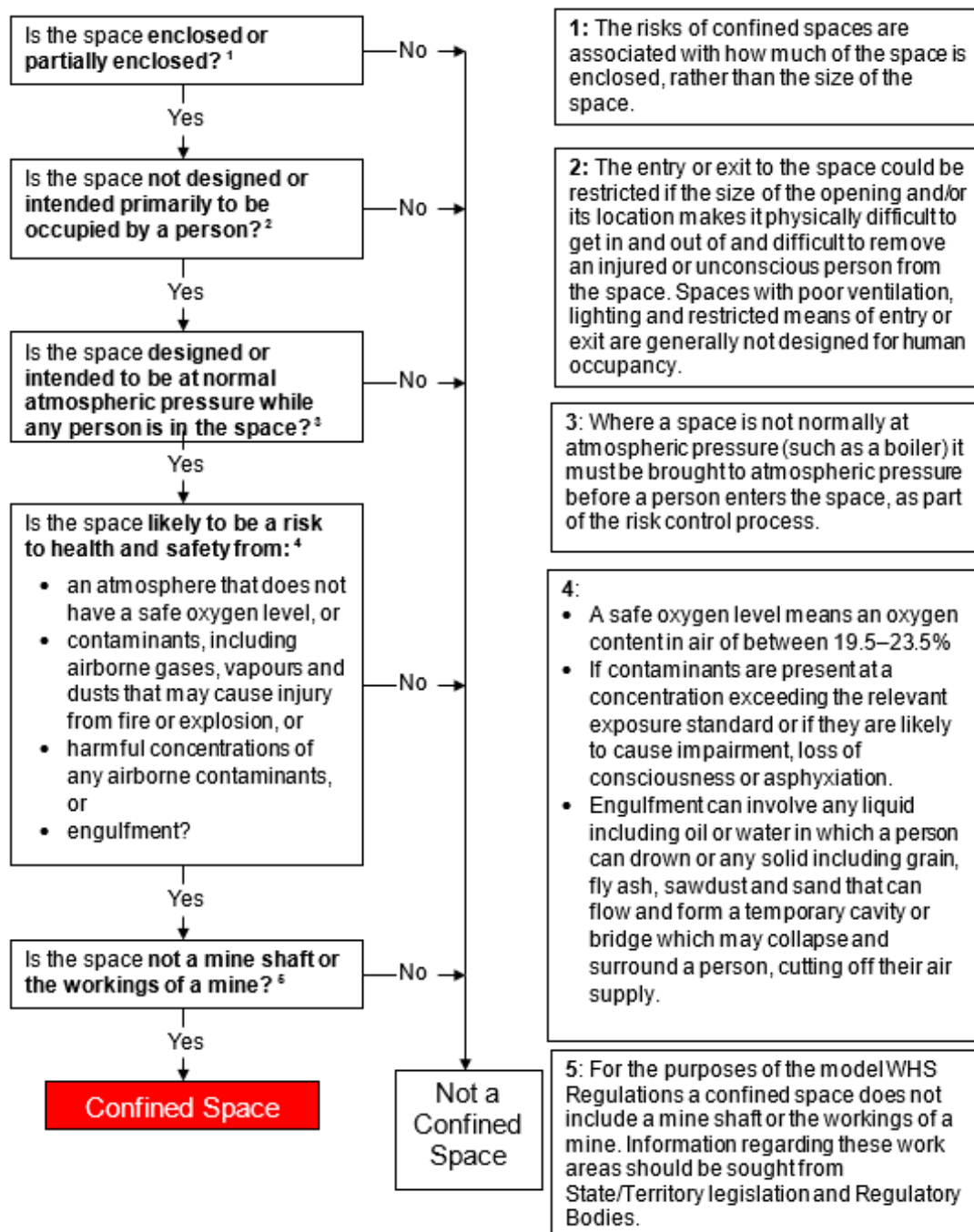
Note: The above definition does not include a mine shaft or the workings of a mine.

Section 66 (1) of the *Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (NSW)* states that 'a PCBU must manage risks to health and safety associated with a confined space at a workplace including risks associated with

entering, working in, on or in the vicinity of the confined space (including a risk of a person inadvertently entering the confined space’.

Section 62 (2) of the Regulations also state that the requirements relating to confined spaces within the Regulations refer to confined spaces that are under the PCBU's management or control. For this reason, confined spaces that are identified on site but that fall under the management or control of another PCBU have not been included in this report. Examples of such confined spaces include storm water drains and sewer pits (managed by the local water authority), and underground electrical substations (managed by the local power authority).

Further explanation of a confined space definition is explained in the figure below:



Source: Compliance Code: Confined Spaces 2019

4. RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk assessments have been conducted for each confined space identified on site. The risk assessments considered the nature of the confined space, including its location, frequency of entry, work performed, the nature of the potential hazards present and the controls currently in place. Each identified potential hazard was risk assessed, based on the likelihood of an event occurring, and the consequence or outcome of that event in general terms. An overall risk rating of Low, Medium, High, Very High or Extreme was then assigned to each hazard using the provided risk assessment matrix (refer to Risk Matrix below). The assessment of the risk is a subjective assessment and is to be used for guidance purposes in relation to selecting and implementing corrective actions.

Risk Matrix					
LIKELIHOOD	CONSEQUENCE				
	Insignificant (No injuries)	Minor (First aid only)	Moderate (Medical treatment)	Major (Extensive injuries, loss of production)	Catastrophic (Fatality / permanent disability)
Almost Certain (Expected in most circumstances)	Medium	High	Very High	Extreme	Extreme
Likely (Will probably occur in most circumstances)	Medium	High	Very High	Extreme	Extreme
Possible (Might occur at some time)	Low	Medium	High	Very High	Extreme
Unlikely (Not likely to occur)	Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
Rare (May occur only in exceptional circumstances)	Low	Low	Medium	High	High

Where the hazards associated with work in particular confined spaces are similar in nature, a group risk assessment has been prepared. Separate space specific risk assessments will be prepared for any confined spaces identified as having unique hazards or risks that are different to the group risk assessment.

Refer to **Appendix B** for confined space risk assessments.

5. FINDINGS

The following findings are based on the site inspection, discussions with site personnel, and review of relevant documentation:

- A total of 2 confined spaces were identified at the site.
- The storm water drain in the car park was appropriately signposted, however the unknown pit adjacent to the site vehicle entrance and bin storage area was not signposted.
- All confined spaces appeared to be appropriately secured from unauthorised access at the time of the assessment.
- The Mirvac Confined Space Entry Permit was made available for review. This included a requirement for the isolation of plant and services associated with confined spaces prior to any entry occurring.
- TTC was advised that no recent confined space entries have occurred at the site.

Note: Refer to **Appendix A** for the confined space register and **Appendix C** for photographs.

6. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The following actions are recommended, based on the above findings:

- Ensure a task specific risk assessment is conducted prior to commencing any works within confined spaces.
- Ensure the unknown pit adjacent to the site vehicle entrance and bin storage area is appropriately signposted. Ensure the signage complies with *AS 2865:2009 Confined Spaces*, Section 3.2.2. Refer to **Appendix D** for examples of confined space safety signage.
- Ensure all staff and contractors working within areas containing confined spaces at the site are provided with appropriate information, instruction and training to ensure they are able to work safely in these areas. It is recommended that this be managed within the site induction.
- Although it was not possible to access the spaces at the time of the inspection, they have been deemed to be a confined space (in order to take a precautionary approach) and should continue to be treated as such until confirmed as otherwise.
- Avoid entering the confined spaces if possible e.g. conduct cleaning/maintenance activities from outside etc.
- Ensure that the person responsible for the confined space work issues an entry permit prior to any persons entering the confined space.
- Ensure task specific emergency rescue procedures and equipment are available and readily accessible during any confined space work.
- All works and access in relation to confined spaces must be undertaken in accordance with the *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (NSW)*, the *Code of Practice: Confined Spaces (SafeWork NSW, 2019)* and *AS 2865:2009 Confined Spaces*.
- TTC is able to assist the client to implement the above recommended actions.

6. REFERENCES

- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (NSW)*.
- *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (NSW)*.
- *Code of Practice: Confined Spaces (SafeWork NSW, 2019)*.
- *Australian Standard 2865:2009 Confined Spaces*.

6. LIMITATIONS

This report and the associated services performed by TTC are in accordance with the scope of services set out in the contract between TTC and the Client. The scope of services was defined by the requests of the Client, by the time and budgetary constraints imposed by the Client, and by the availability of access to the site.

TTC derived the data in this report primarily from visual inspections, examination of available records, and interviews with individuals with relevant information about the site. In preparing this report, TTC has relied upon, and presumed accurate, certain information (or absence thereof) provided by government authorities, the Client and others identified herein. Except as otherwise stated in the report, TTC has not attempted to verify the accuracy or completeness of any such information.

No warranty, undertaking, or guarantee, whether expressed or implied, is made with respect to the data reported or to the findings, observations, and recommendations expressed in this report. Furthermore, such data, findings, observations, and recommendations are based solely upon existence at the time of the assessment. The passage of time, manifestation of latent conditions or impacts of future events (e.g. changes in legislation, scientific knowledge, land uses, etc.) may require further investigation at the site with subsequent data analysis and re-evaluation of the findings, observations, and recommendations expressed in this report.

This report has been prepared on behalf of and for the exclusive use of the Client, and is subject to and issued in connection with the provisions of the agreement between TTC and the Client. TTC accepts no liability or responsibility whatsoever and expressly disclaims any responsibility for or in respect of any use of or reliance upon this report by any third party or parties. It is the responsibility of the Client to accept if the Client so chooses any recommendations contained within and implement them in an appropriate, suitable and timely manner.

APPENDIX A: CONFINED SPACES REGISTER

Confined Spaces Assessment

Confined Spaces Register								
Space ID	Type	Level	Location / Comments	Secure	Signage	Dimensions	Risk Assessment	Photo
001	Unknown pit	GL	Adjacent to site vehicle entrance and bin storage area	Yes	No	Unknown	A	01
002	Storm water drain	GL	Car park, adjacent to parking space 33	Yes	Yes	1.5m ³	B	02

APPENDIX B: CONFINED SPACE RISK ASSESSMENTS

Risk Assessment A: Unknown Pit		
Does the space meet the requirements of a Confined Space? (If the answer to A, B and at least one part of C is yes, then the space is a confined space and requires a risk assessment).		YES
A. Is the space intended to be, or is likely to be, entered by any person?		YES
B. Does the space have a limited or restricted means for entry or exit that makes it physically difficult for a person to enter or exit the space?		YES
C. Is the space likely to be a risk to health and safety from:		YES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an atmosphere that does not have a safe oxygen level? contaminants, including airborne gases, vapours and dusts, that may cause injury from fire or explosion? harmful concentrations of any airborne contaminants? engulfment? 		YES
Works to be completed:	Unknown. Presumed maintenance and/or inspection activities.	
Comments:	The purpose of the pit is unknown. Access within the space was not available at the time of assessment.	
Hazard Types	Risk Rating	Recommended Actions
Restricted entry and egress in an emergency	VH	Wear a safety harness and remain connected to a lifeline at all times. Ensure the standby person remains in constant contact with person(s) entering the space.
Oxygen deficiency whilst work in progress	E	Monitor the atmosphere within the space prior to entering. Only enter the space if oxygen levels are within the safe range (19.5% to 23.5%). Ventilate the space if required. Continually monitor the atmosphere within the space during entry.
Build-up or excess of vapours such as hydrogen sulphide (H ₂ S) or carbon monoxide (CO) to concentrations above the workplace exposure standards (WES)	E	Monitor the atmosphere within the space prior to entering. Purge and ventilate the space if required. Continually monitor the atmosphere within the space during entry.
Build-up of organic vapours to within explosive limits	E	Monitor the atmosphere within the space prior to entering. Purge and ventilate the space if required. Only enter the space if the concentration of any flammable vapours is less than 5% of its lower explosive limit. Continually monitor the atmosphere within the space during entry. Ensure no ignition sources are located within or introduced into the space.
Airborne dust concentrations above the WES	L	No action required.
Radiation (non-ionising and ionising)	L	No action required.
Noise generated at levels above 85 dB(A)	M	Isolate machinery. Wear appropriate PPE (e.g. hearing protection).

Hazard Types	Risk Rating	Recommended Actions
Uncontrolled introduction of substances (e.g. steam, water, gases etc.)	E	Isolate all services within the space. Ensure the standby person is monitoring external weather conditions and any other factors that could impact the confined space.
Engulfment	E	Isolate all inflow pipes into the space. Wear a safety harness and remain connected to a lifeline at all times.
Manual handling of covers, lowering equipment into pits	M	Ensure a two-person lift or lifting device is used when lifting or removing covers. Use a winch to lower equipment into the space.
Mechanical hazards (e.g. entanglement, crushing, cutting, etc.)	L	No action required.
Skin contact with hazardous substances and surface contaminants	M	Wear appropriate PPE (e.g. gloves, long sleeve shirt and pants, boots and eye wear).
Slips and trips	H	Wear slip resistant boots.
Falls from height	H	Wear a safety harness and remain connected to a lifeline at all times.
Electrical hazards	M	Isolate all power sources within the space. Portable electrical equipment should be protected through an RCD, located outside of the space.
Biological hazards (e.g. E-coli)	M	Wear appropriate PPE (e.g. gloves, long sleeve shirt and pants, boots and eye wear). Wash hands and face after exiting the space.
Lack of lighting	M	Use appropriate and safe temporary lighting and/or torch within the space.
Heat and cold stress	L	No action required.
General Recommendations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid entering the confined space if possible e.g. conduct cleaning activities from outside etc. • Ensure access to the confined space remains secure at all times. • Only authorised personnel are to access the confined space. • All works and access in relation to confined spaces must be undertaken in accordance with AS 2865-2009. • Ensure that the person responsible for the confined space work issues an entry permit prior to any persons entering the confined space. • Ensure contractors are appropriately trained to undertake confined space entry and standby duties. • Ensure site specific emergency rescue procedures and equipment are available and readily accessible during any confined space work. • Ensure contractor safe work method statement (SWMS) addresses working at heights and traffic management issues. • Ensure suitable PPE is available and appropriately maintained. • Ensure a task specific risk assessment is conducted within the space prior to commencing any works. • Although it was not possible to access the space at the time of the assessment, it has been deemed to be a confined space (in order to take a precautionary approach) and should continue to be treated as such until confirmed as otherwise. 		

Risk Assessment B: Storm Water Drain		
Does the space meet the requirements of a Confined Space? (If the answer to A, B and at least one part of C is yes, then the space is a confined space and requires a risk assessment).		YES
A. Is the space designed or intended primarily not to be occupied by a person?		YES
B. Is the space designed or intended to be, at normal atmospheric pressure while any person is in the space?		YES
C. Is the space likely to be a risk to health and safety from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an atmosphere that does not have a safe oxygen level? • contaminants, including airborne gases, vapours and dusts, that may cause injury from fire or explosion? • harmful concentrations of any airborne contaminants? • engulfment? 		YES YES YES YES
Works to be completed:	Maintenance and inspection activities.	
Comments:	Access to space is restricted. No access gained during assessment.	
Hazard Types	Risk Rating	Recommended Actions
Restricted entry and egress in an emergency	H	Wear a safety harness and remain connected to a lifeline at all times. Ensure the standby person remains in constant contact with person(s) entering the space.
Oxygen deficiency whilst work in progress	H	Monitor the atmosphere within the space prior to entering. Only enter the space if oxygen levels are within the safe range (19.5% to 23.5%). Ventilate the space if required. Continually monitor the atmosphere within the space during entry.
Build-up or excess of vapours such as hydrogen sulphide (H ₂ S) or carbon monoxide (CO) to concentrations above the workplace exposure standards (WES)	H	Monitor the atmosphere within the space prior to entering. Purge and ventilate the space if required. Continually monitor the atmosphere within the space during entry.
Build-up of organic vapours to within explosive limits	H	Monitor the atmosphere within the space prior to entering. Purge and ventilate the space if required. Only enter the space if the concentration of any flammable vapours is less than 5% of its lower explosive limit. Continually monitor the atmosphere within the space during entry. Ensure no ignition sources are located within or introduced into the space.
Airborne dust concentrations above the WES	L	No action required.
Radiation (non-ionising and ionising)	L	No action required.
Noise generated at levels above 85 dB(A)	L	No action required.
Uncontrolled introduction of substances (e.g. steam, water, gases etc.)	VH	Isolate all services within the space. Ensure no vehicles operate in the vicinity of the entry. Ensure the standby person is monitoring external weather conditions and any other factors that could impact the confined space.

Hazard Types	Risk Rating	Recommended Actions
Engulfment	H	Isolate all inflow pipes into the space. Wear a safety harness and remain connected to a lifeline at all times.
Manual handling of covers, lowering equipment into pits	M	Ensure a two-person lift or lifting device is used when lifting or removing covers. Use a winch to lower equipment into the space.
Mechanical hazards (e.g. entanglement, crushing, cutting, etc.)	L	No action required.
Skin contact with hazardous substances and surface contaminants	M	Wear appropriate PPE (e.g. gloves, long sleeve shirt and pants, boots and eye wear).
Slips and trips	H	Wear slip resistant boots.
Falls from height	L	No action required.
Electrical hazards	M	Portable electrical equipment should be protected through an RCD, located outside of the space.
Biological hazards (e.g. E-coli)	M	Wear appropriate PPE (e.g. gloves, long sleeve shirt and pants, boots and eye wear). Wash hands and face after exiting the space.
Lack of lighting	M	Use appropriate and safe temporary lighting and/or torch within the space.
Heat and cold stress	L	No action required.
General Recommendations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid entering the confined space if possible e.g. conduct cleaning activities from outside etc. • Ensure access to the confined space remains secure at all times. • Only authorised personnel are to access the confined space. • All works and access in relation to confined spaces must be undertaken in accordance with AS 2865-2009. • Ensure that the person responsible for the confined space work issues an entry permit prior to any persons entering the confined space. • Ensure contractors are appropriately trained to undertake confined space entry and standby duties. • Ensure site specific emergency rescue procedures and equipment are available and readily accessible during any confined space work. • Ensure contractor safe work method statement (SWMS) addresses traffic management issues. • Ensure suitable PPE is available and appropriately maintained. • Ensure a task specific risk assessment is conducted within the space prior to commencing any works. • Although it was not possible to access the space at the time of the assessment, it has been deemed to be a confined space (in order to take a precautionary approach) and should continue to be treated as such until confirmed as otherwise. 		

APPENDIX C: PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 01. Ground Level, adjacent to site vehicle entrance and bin storage area – unknown pit.

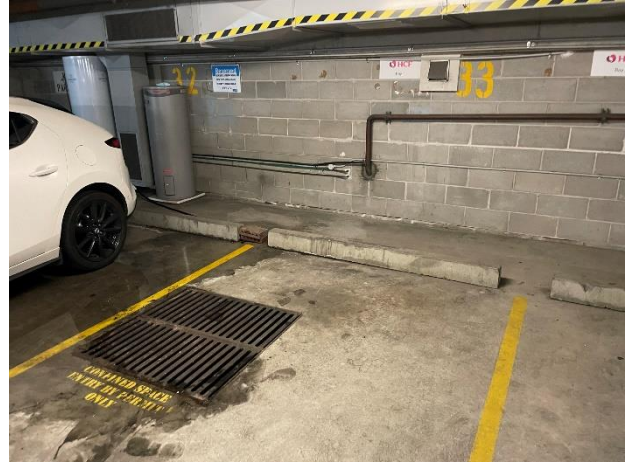


Photo 02. Ground Level, car park, adjacent to parking space 33 – storm water drain.

APPENDIX D: CONFINED SPACE SIGNAGE

Example A: Fixed confined space warning sign that can be established in a prominent position adjacent the confined space or on the access hatch.



Example B: Another fixed confined space warning sign that can be established in a prominent position adjacent the confined space or on the access hatch. The warning signage carries brief information that would need to be listed in the confined space entry permit.



Example C: Mobile confined space warning sign that can be established in a prominent position adjacent the confined space while works are in progress.

