

STATES OF JERSEY



JERSEY AIRPORT: FIREGROUND REMEDIATION – DEED OF SETTLEMENT (P.176/2004) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 23rd November 2004
by the Environment and Public Services Committee**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

1. The pollution control measures in place at the old Fire Training Ground (FTG) set up were unsound in that they relied upon a soakaway arrangement to dispose of fire fighting residues. Irrespective of the additional contamination caused by the fire fighting foam the arrangement would not be deemed satisfactory today for the disposal of fire residues.
2. Pollution and harm has been caused by the release of pollutants from the FTG and this has been mitigated by connecting affected properties to mains water supplies where the householder has agreed to this course of action.
3. The main pollutants of concern, Perfluorooctyl sulphonate (PFOS) and Perfluorohexyl sulphonate (PFHS) are persistent in the environment and the attenuation of their concentration in groundwaters is likely to be very slow.
4. The remediation measures to deal with the pollution were reasonable and were approved by the regulator.
5. The proposed settlement should relate entirely to the costs incurred by Jersey Airport and should not, therefore, preclude further action by individuals in relation to their exposure to the pollutant.
6. As long as the reinstated FTG site is operated within its design parameters and no further pollutants move outside the site into controlled water, including surface water and groundwater, the site will be compliant with the provisions of the Water Pollution (Jersey) Law 2000.