



Hon Tony Kelly MLC  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for Infrastructure  
Minister for Lands  
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council  
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **TESTS FIND NO TRACE OF PCBs ON FORMER HMAS ADELAIDE**

The scuttling of former Australian Navy frigate, HMAS Adelaide, off the Central Coast later this month is on schedule, after independent tests found no traces of PCBs on the vessel.

Minister for Planning, Infrastructure and Lands, Tony Kelly, said Airsafe tested a number of samples from the Adelaide.

“This now puts to bed unfounded claims being spread throughout the local community,” the Minister said.

“These tests were precautionary, as every effort has been made to remove any fittings or materials on the frigate that might potentially contain PCBs.

“Based on documents provided by the Royal Australian Navy, it was expected there would not be any PCBs present in the insulation of the ship.

“However, to completely allay community concerns, independent laboratory testing was undertaken to prove this beyond doubt.

“They follow months of work to prepare the vessel as an environmentally safe dive site.”

Mr Kelly said environmental assessments for the scuttling, carried out by independent consultant Worley Parsons, have also been exhaustive and been overseen by federal and state environmental regulators.

“All potential impacts have been considered, including marine life, flora, fauna, water quality, swell conditions and sediment movement in the bay,” the Minister said.

“The community can feel assured by these painstaking preparations and investigations.”

Mr Kelly said today’s announcement continues the extensive consultation process which has included several advertised public meetings and information sessions.

“The vessel is scheduled to be scuttled off the coast between Terrigal and Avoca on Saturday, 27 March, weather permitting.”

More information about environmental assessments and preparations can be found at [www.hmasadelaide.com](http://www.hmasadelaide.com)