VICSES Essendon

Update from the Emergency Services Infrastructure Authority

Project Update | September 2021

- An independent environmental review has concluded that the site is suitable for continued use by VICSES.
- The Sector Coordination Group (SCG) has approved the preferred approach to managing the contaminated soil disposal with relevant stakeholders including the Unit Controller, VICSES Headquarters and Moonee Valley City Council consulted.
- A Quantity Surveyor has assessed and validated the costs involved with the disposal of contaminated soil.
- The SCG has reviewed feedback from stakeholders and the Quantity Surveyor cost validation and has approved construction to recommence, agreeing to include the original hardstand design.



Next Steps

- Continue construction which recommenced on 9 September 2021.
- Finalise revised schedule, noting COVID restrictions of a small construction site allowing maximum 5 workers plus 1 supervisor.
- Commence excavation, civil works and pouring of new slab.
- Commence new building exterior cladding and windows.
- Commence internal services rough-in and internal fit-out.
- Hold regular site meetings to monitor progress, program, and quality assurance.

This update is current at time of distribution, however due to unforeseen circumstances, changes may occur.

Project Timeline

Site identification Complete

Site due diligence Complete

Land acquisition Complete

Concept design Complete

Schematic design Complete

Town planning and zoning approval Complete

Detailed design Complete

Procure and appoint construction firm Complete

Construction commenced April 2021

Construction concludes TBC

Handover of facility TBC







Construction process

Once a builder has been appointed, ESIA's project team plays an important role in managing the contract so that the construction phase runs as smoothly as possible.

ESIA's role

During construction, ESIA's project team is responsible for a range of contract administration and management tasks, including:

- Track and expedite the status of milestones.
- Manage delivery of goods and/or services.
- Manage processing of payments.
- Manage and administer contract variations.
- Assess suppliers and/or industries viability.
- Report contract data.
- Conduct audits and inspection.

How long will it take to upgrade and extend our facility? ESIA estimates that your upgraded facility will take approximately five months to construct. As with any construction project of this size, there may be some unforeseen setbacks, however ESIA and your VICSES regional manager will keep you informed throughout the process.

Can we visit the site while it is under construction? Construction sites are busy places. Many contractors work side-by-side and heavy vehicles come and go so there are a number of OH&S risks that must be considered. ESIA will endeavour to organise an opportunity for you to inspect the construction site at some stage.

- Assess and manage contract management capability.
- Manage suppliers' performance.
- Manage contract stakeholders.
- Manage contract risks and issues.
- Manage contract price reviews.
- Manage probity risks and issues.
- Manage disputes with suppliers.
- Manage contract extensions and end dates.
- Manage consultants and contractor

What happens if the weather impacts the progress of the build? Factors such as inclement weather are considered when the estimated project timeline is determined. However, there may be issues out of ESIA's control that mean the construction will take longer than anticipated.

Can we move into our facility as soon as construction has been completed?

Following practical completion and the certificate of occupancy commissioning of the facility must be undertaken before the unit is operational. This process ensures that new facilities and equipment are ready for occupancy and use, this process can take a few months.

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