



5 June 2019

CH7 TODAY TONIGHT

COCKBURN CEMENT MARINE OPERATIONS KEY FACTS AND QUOTE

Purpose and importance to WA

- Shellsand is the natural resource for Cockburn Cement's lime manufacturing operation at Munster. Lime is a key ingredient in the daily operation of some of Western Australia's most important industries in terms of export revenue and employment, particularly alumina processing and gold extraction.

Location of operations

- Shellsand is extracted from the seafloor of an area known as Owen Anchorage, a considerable distance from the shoreline (see map). Cockburn Cement works under a State Agreement and Ministerial Approval that allows it to operate in these areas because of the importance of lime to the WA economy.
- Shellsand is transported back to Woodman Point (see map) to be washed and transported via pipeline to Cockburn Cement's operations at Munster.
- Marine operations are approved by the WA Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). The activities are monitored and regulated by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, and subject to annual reporting, audit and review.

Sediment movements (including beach sand)

- Sediment in the marine environment operates in well-known and scientifically recognised 'sediment cells'. Owen Anchorage is within the 'sediment cell' known as RO6D. This is a different 'cell' to the coastline north of Fremantle Harbour. There is very little connection in sediment movement between the different cells found along our coast. The development of Fremantle Inner Harbour has further restricted any movement between the cells.
www.transport.wa.gov.au/mediaFiles/marine/MAC_R_CoastalSedimentCellsReport.pdf

Quotes attributed to Cockburn Cement

"The shoreline at Cottesloe has been assessed and monitored by independent experts commissioned by the Town of Cottesloe. A number of reports are publicly available, in which there have been no findings linking Cottesloe coastal changes to Cockburn Cement's marine operations."

"The Environmental Protection Authority has approved our marine operations and they have been closely monitored and regulated on an annual basis by the State Government for many years, with no evidence there is a connection with Perth's northern beaches."

For further information:

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