**Annexure F
(Advertisement)**

**Katherine Contamination Class Action**

A Class Action has been commenced in the Federal Court of Australia by Mrs Kirsty Bartlett and Mr Anthony Bartlett (**Applicants**)against the Commonwealth of Australia (**Respondent**), in relation to alleged damages by persons who owned property within a specified area around Katherine as at 23 November 2016 as a result of contamination of groundwater, surface water, soil and biota by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (**PFAS**) in Katherine from the use of Aqueous Film Forming Foam (**AFFF**) by the Commonwealth at RAAF Base Tindal.

The class action previously also sought compensation on behalf of persons who were business owners but not landowners in respect of damage to business values, but the Applicants no longer intend to make those allegations so no compensation will be payable to business owners within the specified area (unless they otherwise own land within the specified area). Those group members should also seek independent legal advice immediately as their rights to bring a separate claim may be affected by time periods.

Shine Lawyers is acting on behalf of the Applicants. Some Group Members have entered into Funding Agreements with IMF Bentham Ltd, which is funding the class action, but many Group Members have not done so. Some Group Members may not be aware a class action has been commenced on their behalf.

The Federal Court has ordered that this notice, and a long-form notice (which is available from the sources detailed below) be published to provide information to persons who might be Group Members in the class action, including that the Court has directed that Group Members should decide whether they wish to: (1) remain part of the class action by 19 July 2019; or (2) opt out of the class action by 19 July 2019. The long-form notice also provides information about how the class action is being funded, and how that impacts on you.

1. **The funding arrangements for the class action** – the Applicants plan to ask the Court to make an order that group members who have not already signed funding agreements with IMF Bentham should be bound to contribute to the costs of the class action and pay commission to IMF Bentham from any judgment or settlement sum (more detail is set out in part 5 of the long- form notice); and

2. **Your ongoing involvement in the class action**– the steps you need to take if you do not want to be bound by the outcome of the class action, and the matters about which you should seek independent legal advice (more detail is set out in part 7 of the long-form notice).

If you are a Group Member, you need to decide whether to opt out of this class action by **19 JULY 2019.**

**If you think you may be a Group Member, you should read this and the long form notice carefully. If there is anything in it that you do not understand, you should seek independent legal advice.**

More information including copies of the long form notice and other relevant documents may be obtained from:

Shine Lawyers (Website: <https://www.shine.com.au/service/class-actions/pfas-contamination-class-actions/katherine-contamination> ; email: KatherineContamination@shine.com.au; Tel: 1800 066 105).

IMF Bentham (Website: https://www.imf.com.au/cases/register/katherine-contamination-class-action-overview; email: 403619@imf.com.au; Tel: 1800 016 464).