Media Release Environment Protection Authority



17 July 2015

Renewal SA to start environmental assessments

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has written to residents in Clovelly Park and Mitchell Park advising them of the upcoming environmental assessment program that will be undertaken by Renewal SA.

This follows the EPA's comprehensive environmental assessment program from last year that identified four potential source areas of groundwater contamination on industrial land between South Road and the Tonsley rail corridor.

EPA Director Operations Science, Assessment and Planning Peter Dolan said that these sources still require further testing to improve an understanding of the nature and extent of groundwater contamination.

"The testing will be done by the Government's urban development agency - Renewal SA as the current owner of the Tonsley site," Mr Dolan said.

Renewal SA is facilitating the redevelopment of the Tonsley site, which was previously owned by car manufacturer, Mitsubishi.

"The EPA in its role as the environmental regulator will oversee Renewal SA's environmental assessment program in accordance with a formal regulatory agreement," Mr Dolan said.

"Renewal SA has appointed an independent EPA accredited site contamination auditor and will soon commence the environmental assessment program in Mitchell Park and Clovelly Park."

The program will include testing to determine the nature and extent of groundwater contamination to the west and north of the Tonsley site with the environmental assessment program to take place over the next six months.

Renewal SA has written to all residents and property owners in the area informing them of the scope of the works, expected timing and ongoing communications process.

The EPA continues to advise residents and commercial property owners in the area not to use bore water (groundwater) for any purpose until further notice.

"We're encouraging anyone with a groundwater bore on their property located to north of the 2014 EPA assessment area, to contact the EPA," Mr Dolan said.

Mains water provided by SA Water and water from rainwater tanks are not affected by this issue.

For further information contact Chris Metevelis: 0439 137 641